

Community Board No. 2

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Anatole Ashraf Chairperson Debra Markell Kleinert District Manager

October 20, 2025

Honorable Julie Won NYC Council Member District 26 37-04 Queens Boulevard Long Island City, New York 11101

RE: OneLIC Neighborhood Plan - Waterfront Access, Oversight, and Community Priorities

Dear Council Member Won:

As the OneLIC Neighborhood Plan moves toward its final stages, Community Board 2's Executive Board and Land Use & Housing Committee wish to reiterate several urgent community concerns that must be addressed to ensure the plan lives up to its stated goals of affordability, equity, and public access.

Waterfront Access on Con Edison and NYPA Parcels

We are deeply alarmed by recent modifications that exempt the Con Edison and NYPA parcels from the full requirements of the Waterfront Access Plan. While these parcels must now provide a narrow waterfront path, they are no longer obligated to deliver the full suite of public amenities – including upland connections, supplemental public access areas, and visual corridors – that were central to the community's vision for a continuous, welcoming, and safe waterfront. Allowing infrastructure owners to meet only minimal access standards on such significant stretches of the waterfront sets a dangerous precedent. It will result in a long, straight stretch of walkway without adjacent seating, landscaping, and other passive recreation, undermining years of community engagement and planning aimed at creating a truly integrated, accessible greenway from Gantry Plaza to Queensbridge Park. We strongly urge you to oppose these exemptions and push for full compliance with the Waterfront Access Plan vision that was presented to the community.

Need for a Permanent Oversight and Accountability Task Force

To ensure long-term accountability and transparency, we urge the creation of an implementation task force – composed of community representatives, agency staff, and elected officials – to monitor progress on public commitments including affordable housing, open

space, infrastructure upgrades, and arts and cultural facilities. We urge that there must be appropriate and adequate representation on this task force for each of these public commitment areas of focus.

Reminder: CB2's Core Priorities for OneLIC

As a reminder, our board's major priorities for the OneLIC Neighborhood Plan include:

- Deep affordability and local preference in new housing, with strong tenant protections and anti-displacement measures.
- Creation and preservation of public open space, especially on the waterfront and in the Court Square area, including the use of underused publicly owned sites.
- Protection and expansion of space for artists, makers, and nonprofits, including
 affordable production space. Our recommendations include adding non-profit arts
 space to the floor area exemption language that currently only includes schools.
- Support for local businesses and the establishment of a commercial displacement fund.
- Infrastructure investment to match increased density, particularly in schools, transit, and stormwater management.

These priorities are the product of sustained engagement with our constituents and represent the community's shared vision for equitable growth.

We call on you to strongly advocate for these priorities in advance of the subcommittee vote and during final Council deliberations. Please stand with us in demanding that OneLIC delivers not just increased development, but real public benefit and community-led change.

Sincerely,

Anatole Ashraf.

Chairperson, Queens Community Board 2

Christine Hunter

Dr. Rosamond Gianutsos

First Vice Chair, Queens Community Board 2

Christine Hunter

Chair, Land Use & Housing Communitee

Karesia Batan

Chair, Arts & Cultural Affairs Committee

Prameet Kuma

Vice Chair, Land Use & Housing Committee

Debra Markell Kleinert

District Manager, Queens Community Board 2

cc: Honorable Adrienne Adams, Speaker, NYC Council

Honorable Grace Meng, US Congress

Honorable Nydia M. Velazquez, US Congress

Honorable Michael Gianaris, NY State Senate

Honorable Kristen Gonzalez, NY State Senate

Honorable Jessica Ramos, NY State Senate

Honorable Claire Valdez, NYS Assembly

Honorable Jessica Gonzalez-Rojas, NYS Assembly

Honorable Zohran Mamdani, NYS Assembly

Honorable Steven Raga, NYS Assembly

Honorable Robert Holden, NYC Council Member

Honorable Shekar Krishnan, NYC Council Member

Honorable Julie Won, NYC Council Member

Honorable Donovan Richards, Queens Borough President

Hye-Kung Yang, NYC Department of City Planning

Katie Crawford, Department of City Planning

Richard S. David, Con Edison

Ben Goodman, Con Edison Government Affairs

NYPA Government Affairs

Queens Delegation, NYC Council

Nellie Afshar, Executive Committee, Queens Community Boad 2

Ryan Smith, Executive Committee, Queens Community Board 2

Patrick Martinez, Executive Committee, Queens Community Board 2

Michael Zoorob, Executive Committee, Queens Community Board 2

Evie Hantzopoulos, Chairperson, Queens Community Board 1