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*Morry Galonoy
Chairperson*

*Debra Markell Kleinert
District Manager*

March 15, 2022

Janno Lieber
Chair and CEO
Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA)

Patrick Foster
Director Region 2
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYS DEC)

Nicole Garcia
Queens Borough Commissioner
New York City Department of Transportation

RE: **29th Street Bulkhead Collapse at the Dutch Kills Tributary**

Dear Chair Lieber, Director Foster and Commissioner Garcia:

At the April 7, 2022 meeting of the full board of Community Board 2, a motion was made and seconded to write in strong favor and in support of the Newtown Creek Alliance Letter, (copy attached.) concerning the significant portions of the bulkhead shoreline on 29th Street at the Dutch Kills tributary which have collapsed into the waterway. The vote was all in favor of the motion, with none opposed and no abstentions

Given the ownership of the land by MTA (Block 115, Lot 86); the use of the property as a through street managed by NYC DOT (29th Street); and NYS DEC's regulatory authority regarding waterway pollution and shoreline construction, we write to request that all three agencies address this important, safety issue.

There has been a third round of collapses on this stretch of shoreline in recent years. The Newtown Creek Alliance Superfund Community Advisory Group have been complaining and warning agency representatives of this bulkhead's imminent collapse for years.

"Serving the Communities of Long Island City, Sunnyside, Woodside, and Maspeth"

As a result of the collapse, there is an assortment of dumped tires, concrete blocks and other dangerous, rotting debris that has fallen into Newtown Creek. These unsafe, unstable and unsanitary conditions are just three feet away from a nearby, active, industrial roadway.

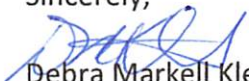
CB2 has great concerns regarding the safety of the public regarding a potential street-collapse, there is also concern about liability and the process for rebuilding this shoreline. Visible cracks on adjacent sections of the shore, that are worsened with every spring tide and rainstorm, make it evident that further collapse is inevitable.

The Community Board 2 Environmental Committee and Transportation Committee's voted to send a letter of support. Community Board 2 is requesting your respective agencies arrange for the following:

- Address the urgent unsafe condition of the bulkhead and adjacent roadway.
- Rebuild a shoreline that incorporates public access to the water.
- Incorporate living shoreline and native habitat restoration in the redesign.
- Remove the abandoned barges at the shoreline.

We thank you for your attention to this important matter and we look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,


Debra Markell Kleinert
District Manager

DMK/mag
Attachment

Cc: Honorable Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, US Congress
Honorable Carolyn B. Maloney, US Congress
Honorable Grace Meng, US Congress
Honorable Nydia M. Velazquez, US Congress
Honorable Michael Gianaris, NY State Senate
Honorable Brian Barnwell, NYS Assembly
Honorable Jessica Gonzalez-Rojas, NYS Assembly
Honorable Catherine T. Nolan, 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
Morry Galonoy, Chair, Community Board 2
Frank Wu, Chair, Environment Committee

Sheila Lewandowski, Chair, Transportation Committee
Thomas Mituzas, Co-Chair Transportation Committee

29th Street Bulkhead Collapse