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Morry Galonoy
Chairperson

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September 23, 2022

Honorable Julie Won
NYC Council Member
37-04 Queens Boulevard, Suite 205
Sunnyside, New York 11104

RE: NEW SHELTER & REPURPOSED SHELTER IN COMMUNITY DISTRICT 2

Dear Council Member Won:

On September 21, 2022 Community Board 2 of Queens received notice from the Department of Homeless Services (DHS) that on the preceding day, September 20, 2022, a new shelter opened in our district at the Days Inn on Queens Boulevard with 78 Units for Families with Children.

In addition, on September 15, 2022 Community Board 2 of Queens received notice that the Delight Stay on Queens Boulevard had been repurposed on September 13, 2022 (two days before notice) from RA to General Male use for approximately 100 adult male clients.

Department of Homeless Services (DHS) also has stated that with the recent lifting of the former federal administration's asylum ban, New York City has experienced a sharp increase in asylum seekers, with approximately 11,000 individuals having entered New York City's shelter system since May.

We are extremely concerned that the community was given no advance notice nor any opportunity to provide feedback or input.

We urge Department of Homeless Services to ensure Community Advisory Board (CAB) meetings are scheduled and that they participate in them with the Community and the Providers. Additionally, we implore the DHS to minimize the negative impact on the community and the unhoused, especially children. We are concerned that changes are being made after the school year started, possibly resulting in students being pulled from schools where they have just gotten adjusted. We also want DHS to ensure that adequate resources have been allocated to serve families and that security and safety concerns are taken into consideration.

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

We look forward to having a dialogue with both the City and the shelter operators to best support shelter residents and the community.

Sincerely,

Debra Markell Kleinert

Debra Markell Kleinert
District Manager, Community Board 2



Morry Galonoy
Chairperson, Community Board 2

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 Krishman, NYC Council Member
Honorable Donovan Richards, Queens Borough President
Fred Kreizman, Mayor's Office of Community Affairs
Gary Jenkins, Commissioner, NYC Department of Social Services
Samuel Clarke, Department of Homeless Services