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Thomas J. Grech, *President & Chief Executive Officer*

September 14, 2023

Chair Dan Garodnick
City Planning Commission
120 Broadway, 3rd Floor
New York, NY 10271

RE: Support for City of Yes for Economic Opportunity

Dear Chair Garodnick,

The Queens Chamber of Commerce is the oldest and largest business association in Queens, representing more than 1,400 businesses and more than 150,000 Queens-based employees. Our mission is to foster connections, educate for success, develop and implement programs, and advocate for members' interests.

We are writing to express our support of Mayor Eric Adams' proposed City of Yes for Economic Opportunity proposal. This common-sense proposal would change zoning citywide to support new and growing small businesses, create family-sustaining jobs for New Yorkers, and promote an inclusive and more equitable economic recovery for the city. The four pillars of the proposal - revitalizing our commercial corridors, filling vacant storefronts, investing in key growth industries, and modernizing use regulations - will catalyze the revitalization of our city and help current and future business owners across the five boroughs succeed.

The small businesses we represent create jobs in every corner of the World's Borough and add to the unique character of each of our neighborhoods. The City of Yes for Economic Opportunity initiative will remove outdated regulations, allowing these businesses to grow and thrive, ensuring that economic opportunity reaches all New Yorkers.

We are grateful for the efforts of Mayor Eric Adams and the City Planning Commission for their work on the City of Yes for Economic Opportunity proposal. We hope our local elected officials vote to approve this initiative that will modernize regulations and help ensure New York City continues to provide opportunity for entrepreneurs and business owners.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Thomas J. Grech'.

Thomas Grech, President/CEO