



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

ALICIA K. GLEN
DEPUTY MAYOR FOR HOUSING AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

June 24, 2014

Michelle de la Uz
Executive Director
Fifth Avenue Committee, Inc.
621 DeGraw Street
Brooklyn, NY 11217

Dear Ms. de la Uz:

Thank you for expressing your thoughts about the City's affordable housing community preference policy and concerns regarding community displacement as a result of large scale rezonings and projects, including Atlantic Yards.

As you know, the City's current policy gives preference for either the sale or rental of 50% of all homes, co-ops, condominiums, and rental apartments it creates or rehabilitates to current residents of the community board district where the homes are located. All applicants must meet the individual program requirements to be eligible and be selected by lottery. The community preference was established to provide greater housing opportunities for long-time residents of New York City neighborhoods.

The Department of Housing Preservation and Development is currently reviewing the City's community preference policy. Once the review has concluded, the City will engage with various stakeholders, including the Fifth Avenue Committee, to get feedback.

With regard to the Atlantic Yards project, the City, consistent with Fair Housing Law, will review the affordable housing lottery preferences and will take into account the surrounding community residents' ties to the neighborhood, including ties of those that were displaced since 2006 when the General Project Plan was first approved. Additionally, any liquidated damages from the project that are deposited into the New York City Affordable Housing Trust Fund will go to fund preservation or development of affordable housing with preference given to projects in Community Boards 2, 3, 6 and 8 in Brooklyn.

We look forward to working with you and others on this important policy.

Sincerely,

Alicia K. Glen