

Statement by Tyler Cassell,* President, North Flushing Civic Association to Queens Borough President's hearing, Date: February 19, 2009:

Good morning Borough President, Helen Marshall, staff, and other guests. As a homeowner in the area designated as the North Flushing Rezoning, and the president of the North Flushing Civic Association, I am very pleased that our community is being rezoned. We have been subjected to out-of-place, oversized home building for several years. The new rezoning will bring that under more control. Our civic association members are also in favor of the rezoning.

All meetings on the North Flushing rezoning have been met with overwhelmingly favorable support by those attending.

On January 18th 2009, I co-chaired a joint Community Board committee hearing on the North Flushing Rezoning proposal at Holy Cross High School in Flushing. This rezoning covers territory in both community boards. Queens City Planning presented the rezoning plan, and some questions were asked and answered. Committee members unanimously approved the rezoning as presented, and the newly created R1-2A text. A motion was also made that evening and approved in support of the Broadway Flushing Homeowners Association to get the landmarking status that they have been requesting from the City.

On January 29th, 2009, a public hearing on the North Flushing Rezoning was held at Holy Cross High School. City Planning again presented the rezoning plan. About 200 members of the community and of both community boards attended the meeting. All four public speakers spoke in favor of the rezoning and the R1-2A text.

On Feb 2, 2009, Community Board 11 voted on the North Flushing Rezoning. The vote was 35 to one in favor of the rezoning plan, and 36 to zero in favor of the R1-2A zone text. The only negative vote said that he voted that way out of principal because the Department of Buildings wouldn't enforce it anyway.

On the evening of Feb 9th 2009, Community Board 7 voted on the North Flushing Rezoning plan. The vote was 41 in favor of the rezoning with zero against it, and 41 in favor of the R1-2A text and zero against it.

This plan is now before your office here at Borough Hall. The communities involved are overwhelmingly in favor of the rezoning plan. We urge you to approve the rezoning plan exactly as presented by City Planning, and the R1-2A zoning text as presented without delay.

Thank you very much.

Also, Member of Community Board 7, Vice-President Queens Civic Congress; Member Queens Zoning Task Force