

December 12, 2002

Hon. Tony Avella
New York City Council
City Hall
New York, NY 10007

Dear Councilman Avella:

On behalf of the over one hundred civic associations who are members of the Queens Civic Congress, I want to thank you for your courageous vote against the 18% increase in Real Estate taxes. The failure of the Mayor and the City Council to consider various other alternatives tax proposals which could have generated similar revenues is shortsighted. As you know between the increased valuation and use taxes real property owners have contributed more tax revenue than any other sector of the economy.

Your stand on this issue and your leadership on the changing the Zoning Resolution's community facilities provisions and legislative initiatives on restrictive deed registration at the Department of Buildings are to be commended and will not be forgotten by the civic community throughout Queens.

Very truly yours,

SEAN M. WALSH
President

[Also sent to Council Members Dennis Gallagher and Alan Jennings]