



# Queens Civic Congress

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November 29, 2007

Robert LiMandri, P.E.  
Deputy Commissioner  
NYC Department of Buildings  
280 Broadway, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10007

Dear Commissioner LiMandri:

Thank you for attending our open to the membership Queens Civic Congress executive committee meeting, November 19, 2007. You provided some very valuable and encouraging developments regarding Department of Buildings initiatives. These will help provide the tools for better enforcement of both the Zoning Resolution and Building Code. Your answers to questions were complete and direct and brought important information to our members. The Queens Civic Congress will continue to be the vigilant eyes and ears of our neighborhoods, as you encouraged, so that those who ignore or violate our laws can be identified and sanctioned.

As your agency knows, too many blocks in too many neighborhoods face the scourge of unsafe and inappropriate, if not illegal development at any cost. This out-of-character development remains a huge problem throughout Queens and in many other New York City neighborhoods. The Queens Civic Congress is heartened at DOB's response that is it improving efforts to ensure compliance through training and technology and improvements in deployment of personnel

As indicated at the meeting, it is important that DOB provide the Queens Civic Congress and our member civics with a means of reporting multiple violators in some written or E-mail format. Reporting 20 or 30 violators via 311 is not only time consuming but nearly impossible. A single violation using the present 311 system can often take 15 or 20 minutes.

Thank you for explaining the best way to get an emergency – STOP WORK ORDER – response to dangerous construction practices in progress: Call 311 and identify the condition as being a danger to human life or indicate the imminent destruction of private property. The ability to get an emergency STOP WORK ORDER plays an important role in the protection of our property and the safety of nearby residents as well as for the protection of the workers on the construction site.

The Queens Civic Congress and its Legislation Committee chaired by Paul Kerzner and its Zoning and Code Enforcement Committee chaired by Joseph Amoroso and Harbachan Singh will continue work closely with you and your agency in the continued quest to improve compliance and safety. Mr. Kerzner will follow up shortly on legislative policy initiatives; Our [CIVIC 2030](#) Platform includes many DOB reform initiatives. The Queens Civic Congress also appreciates the assistance and cooperation of Anthony Luliano and Steven Figueiredo of the Intergovernmental and Community Affairs office who both work closely with the Zoning and Code Enforcement Committee and many of our member civics.

The Queens Civic Congress looks forward to continuing our dialogue.

All the best.

Sincerely,

*Corey Bearak*

COREY B. BEARAK

President

- c. Hon. Michael Bloomberg, Mayor  
Commissioner Patricia Lancaster  
Joe Amoroso, Zoning and Code Enforcement Co-Chair, Queens Civic Congress  
Harbachan Singh, Zoning and Code Enforcement Co-Chair, Queens Civic Congress  
Paul Kerzner, Legislation Chair, Queens Civic Congress  
Queens Commissioner Derek Lee  
Anthony Iuliano and Steven Figueiredo, DOB Intergovernmental Affairs - Queens

### **Queens Civic Congress Members**

Association of Old Forest Hills ♦ Auburndale Improvement Association ♦ Bayside Civic Database ♦ Bayside Clear-Spring Council ♦ Bayside Hills Civic Association ♦ Bayswater Civic Association ♦ Bay Terrace Community Alliance, Inc. ♦ Bellaire-Bellville Civic Association ♦ Belle Harbor Property Owners Association ♦ Bellerose Commonwealth Civic Association ♦ Bellerose Hillside Civic Association ♦ Bell Park Manor Terrace Community Council ♦ Bowne Park Civic Association ♦ Briarwood Community Association ♦ Cambria Heights Civic Association ♦ Civic Association of Utopia Estates ♦ C.O.M.E.T. (Communities of Maspeth-Elmhurst Together) ♦ Concerned Citizens of Laurelton ♦ Cornucopia Society ♦ Creedmoor Civic Association ♦ Deerfield Area Association ♦ Doug-Bay Manor Civic Association ♦ Douglas Manor Association ♦ Douglaston Civic Association ♦ Dutch Kills Civic Assn. of Long Island City ♦ East Flushing Civic Association ♦ Federated Block Associations of Laurelton ♦ Federation of Civic Associations of Southeast Queens ♦ Floral Park Community Council ♦ Flushing Heights Civic Association ♦ Flushing on the Hill Taxpayers Association ♦ Forest Hills Chamber of Commerce ♦ Forest Hills Crescents Association ♦ Forest Hills-Van Court Association ♦ Fresh Meadows Homeowners Association ♦ Georgetown Mews ♦ Glendale Civic Association of Queens ♦ Glen Oaks Village Owners, Inc. ♦ Greater Astoria Historical Society ♦ Greater Whitestone Taxpayers Civic Association ♦ Harding Heights Civic Association ♦ Hillcrest Estates Civic Association ♦ Hilltop Village Co-Op #1 ♦ Hilltop Village Co-Op #2 ♦ Hilltop Village Co-Op #3 ♦ Hilltop Village Co-Op #4 ♦ Hollis 11423 Block Association ♦ Hollis Hills Civic Association ♦ Holliswood Civic Association ♦ Hollis Park Gardens Civic Association ♦ Holly Civic Association ♦ Hyde Park Gardens Cooperative ♦ Jackson Heights Beautification Group ♦ Jamaica Estates Association ♦ Jamaica Hill Community Association ♦ Juniper Park Civic Association ♦ Kew Gardens Civic Association ♦ Kew Gardens Hills Homeowners Association ♦ Kew Gardens Improvement Association ♦ Kissena Park Civic Association ♦ Little Neck Bay Civic Association ♦ Little Neck Pines ♦ Long Island City Alliance ♦ Malba Civic Association ♦ Meadowlark Gardens Owners ♦ Middle Village Property Owners Association ♦ Mitchell Linden Civic Association ♦ Neponsit Property Owners Association ♦ Newtown Civic Association ♦ North Bellerose Civic Association ♦ North Flushing Civic Association ♦ North Hills Estates Civic Association ♦ Northwest Clearview Homeowners Association ♦ Norwood Civic Association ♦ Oakland Terrace/ Gardens Community Council ♦ Off Broadway Homeowners Association ♦ Our Neighborhood Improvement Association ♦ Our Neighbors Association of Ozone Park, Inc. ♦ Parkway Village Historical Society ♦ Queensboro Hill Neighborhood Association ♦ Queens Colony Civic Association ♦ Queens Community Civic Corp. ♦ Queens Village Civic Association ♦ Ramblersville-Hawtree Civic Association ♦ Richmond Hill Historical Society ♦ Ridgewood Property Owners and Civic Association ♦ Rockaway Park Homeowners/ Residents ♦ Rocky Hill Civic Association ♦ Rosedale Civic Association ♦ Royal Ranch Association. ♦ Southeast Queens Concerned Neighbors ♦ South Ozone Park West Civic Association ♦ Springfield/Rosedale Community Action Association ♦ Station Road Civic Assoc. of Auburndale ♦ Sunnyside Gardens/Harrison Place Homeowners ♦ Surrey Estates Civic Association ♦ Union Turnpike Merchants Association ♦ United Forties Civic Association ♦ United Neighbors Civic Association ♦ Waldheim Neighborhood Association ♦ Wayanda Civic Association ♦ West Cunningham Park Civic Association ♦ Westmoreland Association ♦ Woodside Community Council