



OFFICE OF THE BROOKLYN BOROUGH PRESIDENT

October 28, 2005

Ms. Rachel Shatz  
Empire State Development Corporation  
633 Third Avenue  
New York, NY 10017

Dear Ms. Shatz:

Over the last two years, I have given the Atlantic Yards project my enthusiastic support because I recognize the importance of this project for the future of Brooklyn. This project will not only bring benefits of affordable housing and jobs for those that need them most, it will also draw more tourism to Brooklyn, establish a brand new city center for Brooklyn and for New York, create a state-of-the-art arena for world-class events and bring a national sports team back to the borough.

However, as you know, there are many in the surrounding community that oppose the Atlantic Yards project. I have heard their concerns just as you at the Empire State Development Corporation have, and many their concerns, such as traffic, infrastructure, city services and density, are meritorious. In fact, I have included many of them in my attached comments on the draft scope of work, and I will include even more in my response to the Draft Environmental Impact Statement later in the review process. I believe that we must strike a proper balance between realizing the promised benefits of this project and responding to the valid concerns of the community. I am dedicated to making this review process result in a project that will be celebrated by everyone in Brooklyn, so that even those who have now raised their objections will realize that this will be a truly great resource.

On behalf of the Borough Board Atlantic Yards Committee, I would also like to thank you, your staff and your consultants for coming to Borough Hall on October 24<sup>th</sup> to discuss details of the draft scope. We are currently planning a series of public workshops on topics included in the Environmental Impact Statement, and we look forward to working with ESDC staff as this process continues.

From day one, I have supported this project, because I sincerely believe that for this and future generations of Brooklyn, the project will enhance, not diminish, their quality of life. Nobody could love Brooklyn more than I do, and I would never support a project that would do anything other than make Brooklyn an even better place to live.

My comments on the draft scope for the Environmental Impact Statement on Atlantic Yards are attached. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Ellen Oettinger of my staff at (718) 802-3877. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Marty Markowitz', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Marty Markowitz

Cc: Honorable Carl Andrews  
Honorable Velmanette Montgomery  
Honorable Roger Green  
Honorable Joan Millman  
Honorable Bill de Blasio  
Honorable Letitia James  
Honorable Al Vann  
Honorable David Yassky  
Ms. Shirley McRae, Chair, Community Board 2  
Mr. Jerry Armer, Chair, Community Board 6  
Mr. Robert Matthews, Chair, Community Board 8

MM/eo