



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Patricia Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick

Senator Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick Calls on Empire State Development to Fulfill Promises to Elmont Community

PATRICIA CANZONERI-FITZPATRICK July 24, 2025

| ISSUE: **BELMONT REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT**

(Elmont, NY) – **Senator Patricia Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick** today sent a **letter** to Empire State Development (ESD) demanding immediate action regarding the long-promised Elmont Community Center, expressing the frustration of local residents over ESD's lack of community engagement regarding the Belmont redevelopment project.

In the letter, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick highlighted that it has been more than a year since ESD last convened a Community Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting, despite repeated requests for updates on the community center, which was a key benefit negotiated as part of the Belmont project.

“It is unacceptable that Elmont residents have been left in the dark about the future of their promised community center,” **said Senator Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick**. “This project was supposed to deliver real, tangible benefits to the families who live here. Empire State Development should immediately provide a full status update regarding the community center, reconvene the Community Advisory Committee, and establish a consistent meeting schedule.”

The original agreement between ESD and New York Arena Partners stipulated a five-year timeline to deliver the community center or face a \$5 million penalty. In November 2024, ESD granted a six-month extension, but it remains unclear whether a site has been identified or if further extensions were issued.

Senator Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick concluded, “The residents of Elmont deserve better. They deserve transparency and to finally have the community center they were promised.”