



February 3, 2017

Brooklyn Borough Commissioner Ira Gluckman
New York City Department of Buildings
210 Joralemon St, 8th Floor
Brooklyn, NY 11201

Dear Borough Commissioner Gluckman:

We write regarding construction issues at the former Long Island College Hospital (LICH) site. We have received complaints about this project, including regarding After Hours Variances (AHVs) allowing evening and weekend construction at 339 Hicks Street, as well as security concerns about the 347-349 Henry Street construction site. We urge the Department of Buildings (DOB) to reject any future AHV applications at the former LICH site and ensure Fortis, the developer, complies with safety and security requirements.

It is our understanding that DOB approved seven days of variances for the demolition of 339 Hicks Street. This allowed Fortis to work from 7a.m. - 10p.m. on weekdays and 8a.m. - 10p.m. on weekends. The approved DOB permits describe Fortis's work as "full demolition, portion of scaffolding removal, loading out debris and general housekeeping to maintain site." The construction schedule has led to quality of life concerns and complaints from the community.

As you know, Fortis recently announced it is moving forward with an out-of-context plan for the LICH site, having eschewed good faith community engagement. In addition, demolition is already underway at 347-349 Henry Street and 112 Pacific Street, adjacent to the Cobble Hill Historic District. Community concerns have been raised regarding the entrance to the 347-349 Henry Street site. Constituents have reported that the entrance to the site has frequently been open or unlocked on evenings and weekends when no construction is taking place.

The cumulative impact of the multiple property redevelopment will be significant even without the use of AHVs. Extending the construction hours by allowing AHVs at any of these sites will worsen the impacts. We urge that AHVs not be permitted to further damage the community at the former LICH site, and that DOB ensure safe construction site practices.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please contact Robert Young in Senator Squadron's office at 718-875-1517 or ryoung@nysenate.gov with any questions.

Sincerely,

Daniel Squadron
State Senator

Scott Stringer
New York City Comptroller

JoAnne Simon
State Assemblymember

Brad Lander
City Councilmember

Stephen T. Levin
City Councilmember