



Patrick J. Foye  
Executive Director  
The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey  
225 Park Avenue South  
New York, NY 10003

February 5, 2014

Dear Mr. Foye:

We are writing on behalf of our constituents who are very concerned about the closure of the Stile's Market on the west side of Ninth Avenue between West 41<sup>st</sup> and West 42<sup>nd</sup> Streets. The closure of this longstanding community operation adds to an already serious lack of affordable, fresh foods grocers on Manhattan's West Side.

The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey has played an important role in the development of Manhattan's West Side; from ensuring that our roads, tunnels, and transportation terminals are funded and safe, to partnering in the creation of a greener and cleaner west side. As a community partner, we are sure that you will share in our concern with this impending matter.

Since 1987, Steve Stile has operated the Stile's Farmers Market, which provided fresh foods at affordable prices for residents of the Clinton/Hell's Kitchen neighborhoods. On December 31, 2013, developers issued an eviction notice to Mr. Stile forcing him to close his market immediately so they can develop on the southern portion of the West 42<sup>nd</sup> Street lot. The closure of this market shut a vital supply line of affordable, fresh food to these neighborhoods. Since then we have received an outpouring of community support to secure a new location for this market near their former location on Ninth Avenue.

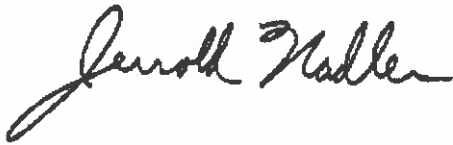
We write to request a meeting with you to discuss the feasibility of securing a viable location for Stile's Farmers Market in Hell's Kitchen. We are interested in discussing the possibility of utilizing the property at 551 Ninth Avenue, which is owned by the Port Authority and was the former space for Project Find's Senior Center until 2012.

We are committed to securing a space for an affordable grocery store near West 42<sup>nd</sup> Street to ensure the health and well-being of residents along Manhattan's West Side. We understand that Mr. Stile is ready to sign a lease of up to 10-years, and to begin operating with the approval of the Port Authority.

We look forward to scheduling a time to meet with you to discuss how we can work together to ensure that residents in our community have access to affordable, fresh foods in the coming years. Please contact Matt Green in Councilmember Corey Johnson's office to schedule the meeting at 212-564-7757 or [mgreen@council.nyc.gov](mailto:mgreen@council.nyc.gov).

We appreciate your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Jerrod Nadler  
10<sup>th</sup> Congressional District (NY)



Brad Hoylman  
State Senator



Richard N. Gottfried  
Assembly Member



Corey Johnson  
Councilmember, 3<sup>rd</sup> District