

**DONOVAN RICHARDS**  
COUNCIL MEMBER, 31ST DISTRICT, QUEENS

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GENERAL WELFARE  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
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**THE COUNCIL  
OF  
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

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**Greater JFK Industrial Business Improvement District**

**Statement by Council Member Donovan Richards  
November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

I am Council Member Donovan Richards. I represent New York City's 31<sup>st</sup> District which encompasses Rosedale, Laurelton, Springfield Gardens, and Far Rockaway. My district has a number of business corridors which I believe need a lot more support so that they can reflect the beauty of the surrounding communities. For this reason, I appreciate the proposed JFK Industrial Business Improvement District (IBID) and stand in support of it.

The proposed Greater JFK IBID is located within the Springfield Gardens area of Queens. The proposed Greater JFK IBID generally reflects the history of development in close proximity to JFK International Airport. The District is a premier location for air cargo (including freight forwarders and customs brokers) businesses and an important component of the New York City air cargo industry and the regional economy. Although the Springfield Gardens residential community is primarily to the north east of the district's boundary along 147th Avenue, there are residential uses located within the boundaries of the proposed IBID. I feel confident the proposed JFK IBID will well serve the neighborhood and the city, as a whole.

Business Improvement Districts have proven to be valuable additions to the City, improving quality of life in the communities in which they operate. They improve the security and sanitation of their areas. They enhance their neighborhoods with beautification programs. They carry out merchant promotions and social events that increase visibility for businesses that might otherwise not have the means to do it themselves. The proposed JFK IBID would provide a new vibrancy to a neighborhood undergoing transition and development. I am asking that you too support this proposal as we look to enhance our community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Donovan Richards'.

Donovan Richards  
NYC Councilman, 31<sup>st</sup> District

January 22, 2015

Spring Jam Block Association  
145 42 159<sup>th</sup> Street  
Jamaica, NY 11434

JFK IBID Committee

Re: Spring Jam Block Association's Support and Requests re: the JFK IBID Proposal

Dear JFK IBID Committee Members:

The Spring Jam Block Association, as previously indicated in my email to the Committee and other affected parties, has collectively decided to support the proposal for the JFK IBID Project. However, we are also requesting that a second look be taken regarding the targeted services distribution. We would like to see some of the funding be earmarked and/or distributed towards cameras in the area, repaving of the surrounding streets, as well as side streets, unified awnings for the businesses, medians, trees, and other enhancements to beautify the neighborhood.

We would also like to further the discussion and action taken regarding the re-routing of the trucks, address the noise issue in the neighborhood, and possibly work on creating a precinct in the neighborhood and/or a hub.

Although these may not be immediate concerns and/or items that the JFK IBID Committee can immediately address with its current proposed budget and/or agenda, these are some of the concerns and items the Association would like to bring to the table.

Additionally, we would like to be apprised of the qualifications for the position of the Executive Director when the position is posted, providing the proposal is approved, so that we can recommend someone from our immediate community for the position. Also, we would like to utilize the Dough Fund, which is also rooted in our community, in terms of the upkeep of the community, while simultaneously providing jobs for individuals in our community, which was part of the JFK IBID's underlying theme at the public hearings/meetings. We also would like to be fairly represented on the Board of Directors and would like to further discuss, at a later date, what adequate representation would look like by our assessment.

These are just a few our requests, which are derived from our concerns regarding the quality of life in the community and our desire to support as well as work conjointly with the JFK IBID Committee, soon to be the JFK IBID Board of Directors.

Thanking you in advance for all your hard work, dedication, and commitment.

Kim R. Lawton  
President, SJBA



THE COUNCIL OF  
THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
**RUBEN WILLS**

COUNCIL MEMBER 28<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT, QUEENS

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FRANCHISES

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**Member**  
Black, Latino & Asian Caucus

August 9, 2016

Hon. Gregg Bishop  
Commissioner  
Department of Small Business Services  
110 William Street, 7<sup>th</sup> Flr.  
New York, NY 10038

**Re: Proposed JFK Industrial Business Improvement District**

Dear Commissioner Bishop,

Please accept this letter of *conditional* support for the proposed JFK Industrial Business Improvement District (“IBID”).

The boundaries for Section C of the JFK IBID are located in-between my district’s South Jamaica and Rochdale neighborhoods.

In its own conditional recommendation for the approval of the proposal, Queens Community Board 12 (“CB12”) stated its desire for the United Neighbors Civic Association of Jamaica, Inc. (“UNCA”) to be included among the leadership representing the district’s residents.

I share the sentiments expressed by CB12. UNCA is the preeminent civic organization operating in the area, and the group’s members have dedicated themselves to promoting the local quality-of-life, as well as economic development efforts.

To ensure my lasting support, the proposed IBID must result in an assigned role to UNCA that reflects its significance to this community.

Sincerely,

Ruben Wills  
New York City  
Council Member  
28th District, Queens

THE SENATE  
STATE OF NEW YORK



**JAMES SANDERS JR.**  
SENATOR, 10TH DISTRICT

RANKING MINORITY MEMBER  
CIVIL SERVICE & PENSIONS

MEMBER  
BANKS  
COMMERCE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT &  
SMALL BUSINESS  
CULTURAL AFFAIRS  
INSURANCE  
LABOR  
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December 17, 2015

Mr. Gregg Bishop, Commissioner  
NYC Department of Small Business Services  
110 William Street - 8th Floor  
New York, NY 10038

Dear Mr. Bishop,

I am writing to express my support for the proposed Greater JFK Industrial Business Improvement District (JFK IBID) which is to be located in Springfield Gardens, Queens, New York, within the 10<sup>th</sup> Senatorial District that I represent.

As a member of the New York State Senate Commerce, Economic Development and Small Business Committee, I believe that it is imperative to increase opportunities for businesses and area workers alike. Efforts to enhance growth and viability of local businesses must also contain the mutual support of the communities in which they operate. The JFK IBID will not only benefit businesses in the off-airport cargo community district, but also work to increase the quality of life for residents in the area.

The proposed JFK IBID organization is expected to foster partnerships among residents of the community, area businesses, and government agencies in an effort to provide a unified voice to advocate for district needs. With the support of an annual budget of \$500,000, the implementation of programs and services will include, but not be limited to, the beautification of the neighborhood, enhanced public safety and sanitation, and technical, professional, and employment services to district members. Overall, the proposed JFK IBID will work towards strengthening a New York City neighborhood and its relationship to the local economy, as well as the health and welfare of its diverse community.

Once again, I support the Greater JFK IBID proposal and ask that the application be given fair consideration.

Most Sincerely Yours,

*James Sanders Jr (JR)*

James Sanders Jr.  
State Senator, 10th District



**Queens  
Community Board 13**  
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Queens Village, NY 11428  
718.464.9700  
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**Melinda Katz**  
Borough President

**Vicky Morales-Casella**  
Director of  
Community Boards

**Bryan J. Block**  
Chairman

**Mark McMillan**  
District Manager

April 7, 2016

Carl Weisbrod, Chairman  
NYC Department of City Planning  
1120 Broadway, 31<sup>st</sup> Floor  
New York, NY

Dear Chairman Weisbrod:

Queens Community Board 13 had a presentation on the formation of the JFK Industrial Business Improvement District (JFK IBID) before its Land Use Committee on March 7, 2016. At this meeting, the consultant to the IBID, Ms. Barbara Cohen, explained the purpose of the IBID and the process it takes through government before it can become official. There were staff members from your agency, EDC and an owner of four of the businesses residing in that community. After much discussion, the committee took a vote to recommend to the full board approval of the JFK IBID. The vote was unanimously in favor.

At the General Board meeting held on March 21, 2016, the Land Use Committee Chair made the committee recommendation to the full board in a public hearing, to vote to approve the formation of the JFK IBID. A vote was taken with the Queens Community Board 13 approving the JFK IBID by a unanimous vote of 36-0.

As such, Queens Community Board 13 supports – with enthusiasm – the formation of the JFK Industrial Business Improvement District.

Sincerely,

Mark McMillan  
District Manager

**THE PORT AUTHORITY OF NY & NJ**

May 9, 2016

Chairman Carl Weisbrod  
NYC Planning Commission  
120 Broadway – 31<sup>st</sup> Floor  
New York, New York 10271

Ian R. Van Praagh  
*Acting Director*  
*Government & Community Relations, New York*

Re: Greater JFK Business Improvement District  
Springfield Gardens, Queens  
N 160225 BDQ

Dear Chairman Weisbrod and Commissioners:

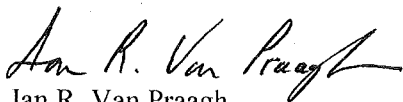
I am writing on behalf of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey in support of the process to establish a Greater JFK Business Improvement District (IBID) in the Springfield Gardens area of Queens, more specifically referred to as the “off-airport” cargo community. The economic impact of the air cargo community in the region is significant. Air cargo is responsible for over 50,000 jobs (15,000 at John F. Kennedy International Airport (JFK) alone and over 8,000 in the off-airport district) and contributes \$3.4 billion in wages annually. JFK is the seventh largest cargo airport in the country, having shipped and received 1.3 million tons of cargo and mail in 2015. As the air cargo industry evolves, the Region and its airport system must implement changes that respond to emerging trends and anticipate future needs of its logistics partners. The **JFK Air Cargo Study** (January 2013) prepared in partnership with NYC Economic Development Corporation identified key trends and highlighted the importance of the logistics industry clustered around Rockaway Boulevard in the “off-airport” district adjacent to the airport.

The study produced an action plan designed to ensure that future development accommodates growth in cargo tonnage, enhances air cargo movement within JFK and its environs, and generates cargo-related employment opportunities within the City of New York. Moreover, it promotes comprehensive regional freight policies and calls for new investment in cargo-related facilities and infrastructure to serve the City and JFK, in order to maximize real estate usage and operational efficiencies within the JFK Study Area. Many action plan items specifically target improving the connectivity of on- and off- airport operations.

The Port Authority has participated along with the property owners, commercial tenants, residents, industry and community groups and other government representatives to develop the IBID plan that outlines ways to bring about positive change to the off-airport district. We respect and support the decision by the IBID Planning Committee to not include the JFK airport single tax lot in the IBID boundary. We understand the concerns regarding the multiple on-airport non cargo related tenants whose issues are somewhat different from the “off-airport” businesses.

The creation of such an IBID is an important step in which we support. We look forward to participating as a non-voting member of the IBID after its establishment.

Sincerely,



Ian R. Van Praagh  
Acting Director  
Government & Community Relations- New York

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New York, NY 10007  
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cc. Commissioner Gregg Bishop, NYC Department of Small Business Services  
Queens Borough President Melinda Katz  
City Councilman Donovan Richards, City Council District 31  
City Councilman Ruben Wills, City Council District 28  
State Senator James Sanders Jr. – Senate District 10  
Assemblywoman Michele Titus - Assembly District 31  
Assemblywoman Vivian E. Cook - Assembly District 32  
General Manager Michael Moran – John F. Kennedy International Airport

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