



Contact: Julia Watt-Rosenfeld, Coalition for Community Advancement: [917.572.1303](tel:917.572.1303)

****Media advisory for Thursday, 8/10/17, 7:30am, Broadway Junction, 2440 Fulton Street, Brooklyn, NY 11207****

East New York Re-zone community leaders call out Economic Development Corporation and developers: Community Benefits or No Development.

Community leaders of the Coalition for Community Advancement: Progress for East New York/Cypress Hills (the Coalition) will demand that in all new developments in East New York (ENY) that there is robust local hire, use of local suppliers, inclusion of community facilities, discounted commercial space for local retailers/services, reinvestment of developer's fees in ENY and meaningful involvement of local nonprofits. They will call on the NYC Economic Development Corporation (EDC) to require that applicants to their Office Anchor Strategy RFP, due August 18, detail how their plan will benefit the community, including: a jobs plan detailing what jobs will be created, wage levels, local hiring and training plan; a plan for use of local suppliers and subcontractors and minority and women owned businesses and enterprises; plans for ground floor commercial uses and how local retailers, entrepreneurs, and service establishments will be integrated into project and offer discounted rents; and how applicants will address facility needs of the community. They will call on EDC to postpone the deadline for the RFP by four months, allowing time for applicants to gather community feedback and form community benefits agreements with the Coalition.

“The community was not consulted about the vision for the Junction as an office and commercial hub. In Deputy Mayor Glen’s Side Letter to Council Member Espinal, April 2016, the City promised Council Member Espinal and the neighborhood they would do a study first of the Broadway Junction (the Junction) area that would engage the residents of East New York/Brownsville/Bed-Stuy in envisioning the future of this critical transit hub. This study has not taken place nor started,” says Bill Wilkins of the Coalition.

“We have serious concerns about redeveloping the Junction as an office and commercial hub. The community has just accepted a tremendous amount of new density through the East New York rezoning plan and to pave the way for even further growth without community input and specific and enforceable community benefits is unacceptable. There are no requirements in the RFP that the selected developer or the office and commercial tenants hire local residents or provide living wage employment to the community. East New Yorkers do not want more minimum wage retail jobs at the Junction -- we already have a big shopping mall in the community. We need a real neighborhood jobs plan that prioritizes living wage jobs and includes job training and local workforce development groups,” says Michelle Neugebauer of the Coalition.

“We have not been consulted about which HRA offices will be relocated to the Junction. We want to participate in the decision of which HRA offices are relocated to the Junction and we want to know who has these HRA jobs now - Where do these employees live? What is their race and residency (which boroughs or Long Island)? What skills are required for the civil



service jobs and what is the turnover rate? What civil service tests are required for these jobs and what can the City do to prepare ENY/Brownsville/Bed-Stuy residents to fill these jobs?" asks Al Scott of the Coalition.

WHAT: Press Conference and rally, where East New York Re-zone Coalition will call on EDC to require community benefit from all new local development

WHEN: Thursday, August 10, 7:30am-8:30am

WHERE: Across from 2440 Fulton Street at the Broadway Junction, East New York, Brooklyn

WHO: 30-40 residents of East New York: Tenants, homeowners, small business owners, and young people with posters, chants and testimony

###