

## City of New York DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING PRESERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT 100 GOLD STREET, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10038 nyc.gov/hpd

VICKI BEEN Commissioner

OCT 1 6 2015

Honorable Melissa Mark-Viverito Speaker of the Council City Council City Hall New York, NY 10007 Attention: Gary Altman

Re: Mixed Income Program
Jamaica Crossing
148-02 Archer Avenue-Block 9998/Lot 101 and Part of
Lot 95
Queens, Community District No. 12
Council District No. 27

## Dear Madame Speaker:

The referenced property ("Exemption Area") is the site for the proposed development of an affordable housing project under HPD's Mixed Income Program.

Under HPD's Mixed Income Program, sponsors construct or rehabilitate multifamily buildings in order to create affordable rental housing with a range of affordability. Construction and permanent financing is provided through loans from private institutional lenders and from public sources including HPD, New York City Housing Development Corporation ("HDC"), the State of New York, and the federal government. Additional funding may also be provided from the syndication of low-income housing tax credits. The newly constructed or rehabilitated buildings provide affordable rental housing to the targeted income groups.

The Exemption Area is owned by the Jamsta II Housing Development Fund Corporation (the "HDFC"), a not-for-profit corporation organized pursuant to Article XI of the Private Housing Finance Law. Under the proposed project, the HDFC will be the legal owner and CJ Plaza Two LLC, a New York limited liability company, or an affiliate, (the "LLC") will be the beneficial owner and will operate the Exemption Area. The HDFC and the LLC (collectively, the "New Owner") will demolish the buildings currently on-site and construct one mid-rise building containing a total of 129 rental dwelling units plus one superintendent unit, approximately 17,912 square feet of community facility space, and approximately 11,746 square feet of parking. This project will be part of the Jamaica Crossing development which also include a building on an adjacent lot containing 449 rental dwelling units plus one superintendent unit. A separate Article XI tax exemption request for that building has been submitted.

In order to facilitate the project, HPD respectfully requests that the Council approve, pursuant to Section 577 of the Private Housing Finance Law, an exemption from real property taxation as follows:

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- 1. For the purposes hereof, the following terms shall have the following meanings:
  - (a) "HDC" shall mean New York City Housing Development Corporation.
  - (b) "HDFC" shall mean Jamsta II Housing Development Fund Corporation.
  - (c) "HPD" shall mean the Department of Housing Preservation and Development of the City of New York.
  - (d) "LLC" shall mean CJ Plaza Two LLC or an affiliate.
  - (e) "New Owner" shall mean the HDFC and the LLC or any future owner of the Exemption Area.
  - (f) "Exemption" shall mean the exemption from real property taxation provided hereunder.
  - (g) "Effective Date" shall mean the later of (i) the date of conveyance of the Exemption Area to the HDFC, and (ii) the date that HPD and the New Owner enter into the Regulatory Agreement in their respective sole discretion.
  - (h) "Exemption Area" shall mean the real property located on the Tax Map of the City of New York in the Borough of Queens, City and State of New York, identified as Block 9998, Part of Lot 95 and Lot 101.
  - (i) "Expiration Date" shall mean the earlier to occur of (i) a date which is forty (40) years from the Effective Date, (ii) the date of the expiration or termination of the Regulatory Agreement, or (iii) the date upon which the Exemption Area ceases to be owned by either a housing development fund company or an entity wholly controlled by a housing development fund company.
  - (j) "Project" shall mean the construction of one multiple dwelling building on the Exemption Area containing approximately 129 rental dwelling units plus one unit for a superintendent, approximately 17,912 square feet of community facility space, and approximately 11,746 square feet of parking space.
  - (k) "Regulatory Agreement" shall mean the regulatory agreement between HPD and the New Owner establishing certain controls upon the operation of the Exemption Area during the term of the Exemption.
- 2. All of the value of the property in the Exemption Area, including both the land and any improvements (excluding those portions, if any devoted to business or commercial use) shall be exempt from real property taxation, other than assessments for local improvements, for a period commencing upon the Effective Date and terminating upon Expiration Date.
- 3. (a) Notwithstanding any provision hereof to the contrary, the exemption from real property taxation provided hereunder shall terminate if HPD determines at any time that (i) the Exemption Area is not being operated in accordance with the requirements of Article XI of the Private Housing Finance Law, (ii) the Exemption Area is not being operated in accordance with the requirements of the Regulatory Agreement, (iii) the Exemption Area is not being operated in accordance with the requirements of any other agreement with, or for the benefit of, the City of New York, or (iv) the Exemption Area is conveyed to a new owner without the prior written consent of HPD, or (v) the demolition or construction of any private or multiple dwelling on the Exemption Area has commenced without the prior written consent of HPD. HPD shall deliver written notice of any such determination to the Owner and all mortgagees of record, which notice shall provide for an opportunity to cure

- of not less than sixty (60) days. If the noncompliance specified in such notice is not cured within the time period specified therein, the Exemption shall prospectively terminate.
- (b) Nothing herein shall entitle the Owner to a refund of any real property taxes which accrued and were paid with respect to the Exemption Area prior to the Effective Date.
- (c) The Exemption shall not apply to any building constructed in the Exemption Area which does not have a temporary certificate of occupancy by December 31, 2017 as such date may be extended in writing by HPD.
- 4. In consideration of the Exemption, the New Owner (i) shall execute and record the Regulatory Agreement, and (ii) for so long as the Exemption shall remain in effect, shall waive the benefits of any additional or concurrent exemption from or abatement of real property taxation which may be authorized under any existing or future local, state, or federal law, rule, or regulation.

HPD recommends approval of this matter and requests that it be referred to the appropriate committee at the next scheduled meeting of the Council.

Sincerely,

Vicki Been

**Enclosures**