

Michael Blaise Backer Statement
Before City Council Finance Committee
October 22, 2014

Good morning Chair Ferreras and members of the Finance Committee. I am Michael Blaise Backer, Deputy Commissioner of Neighborhood Development at the Department of Small Business Services (SBS). I am joined by my Assistant Commissioner, James Mettham.

As required by law, the West Shore Business Improvement District (BID) Steering Committee mailed the summary of the City Council Resolution to the following parties:

- each owner of real property within the proposed district at the address shown on the latest City assessment roll,
- such other persons as are registered with the City to receive tax bills concerning real property within the district, and
- tenants of each building within the proposed district.

In addition, SBS arranged for the publication of a copy of the summary of the resolution in the City Record.

We would like to report on the result of the objections filed with the City Clerk against the establishment of the proposed West Shore Business Improvement District (BID). At the conclusion of the objection period at 5:00 PM on October 10, 2014 and taking into consideration any objections postmarked by that date, no objections were filed with the City Clerk.

Due to zero objections being filed, this is within our acceptable threshold needed to advance the bill for a favorable consideration by the full City Council.

The Department of Small Business Services supports the establishment of the West Shore BID. In our judgment, the BID will improve business conditions and quality of life in the West Shore industrial area, making it a better place to do business and laying the groundwork for further neighborhood development activities on the West Shore of Staten Island.

I would like to acknowledge that the BID Steering Committee is represented here today by the Staten Island Economic Development Corporation in case there are any questions about the specifics of the BID plan.

At this time, we are happy to take any questions.

Thank you.

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

Name: Michael Blaise Backer (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: _____

I represent: SBS

Address: 110 William Street, 9th Flr

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms