



Department of
Housing Preservation
& Development
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Maria Torres-Springer
Commissioner

Office of the Commissioner
100 Gold Street
New York, N.Y. 10038

SEP 18 2017

Honorable Melissa Mark-Viverito
Speaker of the Council
City Hall
New York, New York 10007
Attention: Jonathan Ettricks

Re: Block 1944, Lot 36
Manhattan, Community District No. 10
Council District No. 9

Dear Madame Speaker:

The referenced property ("Exemption Area") contains one multiple dwelling which provides rental housing for low income seniors.

Canaan Baptist Housing Development Fund Corp. ("HDFC") developed the project under the Section 202 Supportive Housing Program for the Elderly, with financing and operating subsidies from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development ("HUD") and tax exemption from the City. In 2006, the HDFC refinanced its original HUD mortgage under Section 223(f) of the Housing Act of 1961 to fund needed repairs, decrease debt service, and meet other financial obligations. In conjunction with the 2006 refinancing, the HDFC and HUD executed a Use Agreement which, among other things, required that the HDFC would continue to operate the Exemption Area on terms at least as advantageous to existing and future tenants as the terms required by the original Section 202 loan agreement, any Section 8 rental assistance payments contract or any other rental housing assistance contract, and all applicable federal regulations. The HDFC also entered into a regulatory agreement with the City of New York Department of Housing Preservation and Development ("HPD") in connection with the 2006 refinancing which, inter alia, required the Exemption Area to remain subject to the terms of the Use Agreement for thirty-five (35) years.

The HDFC now wishes to refinance its current Section 223(f) insured mortgage with a new Section 223(f) insured mortgage loan, which will allow the HDFC to make additional repairs. The HDFC and HPD will also enter into a new regulatory agreement establishing certain controls upon the operation of the Exemption Area.

On May 10, 2006 (Resolution No. 304), the Council of the City of New York approved a tax exemption for the Exemption Area, as amended by Resolution No. 474 on August 16, 2006 ("Prior Exemption"). In order to facilitate the Project, the Prior Exemption must be terminated and replaced with a new exemption from real property taxation that is coterminous with the new 35-year mortgage loan.

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:

1. For the purposes hereof, the following terms shall have the following meanings:
 - a. "Effective Date" shall mean the date of repayment or refinancing of the HUD Mortgage.
 - b. "Exemption Area" shall mean the real property located in the Borough of Manhattan, City and State of New York, identified as Block 1944, Lot 36 on the Tax Map of the City of New York.



- c. "Expiration Date" shall mean the earlier to occur of (i) a date which is thirty-five (35) 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.
 - d. "HDFC" shall mean Canaan Baptist Housing Development Fund Corp. or a housing development fund company that acquires the Exemption Area with the prior written consent of HPD.
 - e. "HPD" shall mean the Department of Housing Preservation and Development of the City of New York.
 - f. "HUD" shall mean the Department of Housing and Urban Development of the United States of America.
 - g. "HUD Mortgage" shall mean the Section 223(f) insured mortgage made by HUD on October 13, 2006, to the HDFC in connection with the Section 202 Supportive Housing Program for the Elderly, which loan was secured by a mortgage on the Exemption Area.
 - h. "New Exemption" shall mean the exemption from real property taxation provided hereunder with respect to the Exemption Area.
 - i. "Owner" shall mean the HDFC.
 - j. "Prior Exemption" shall mean the exemption from real property taxation for the Exemption Area approved by the Council of the City of New York on May 10, 2006 (Resolution No. 304), as amended by the Council of the City of New York on August 16, 2006 (Resolution No. 474).
 - k. "Regulatory Agreement" shall mean the regulatory agreement between HPD and the Owner entered into on or after the Effective Date establishing certain controls upon the operation of the Exemption Area during the term of the New Exemption.
 - l. "Shelter Rent Tax" shall mean the sum of (i) \$196,571, plus (ii) an additional amount equal to twenty-five percent (25%) of the amount by which the total contract rents applicable to the housing project for that year (as adjusted and established pursuant to Section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937, as amended) exceed the total contract rents which are authorized as of the Effective Date.
2. The Prior Exemption shall terminate upon the Effective Date.
 3. 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, commercial or community facility 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 the Expiration Date.
 4. Commencing upon the Effective Date, and during each year thereafter until the Expiration Date, the Owner shall make real property tax payments in the sum of the Shelter Rent Tax. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the total annual real property tax payment by the HDFC shall not at any time exceed the amount of real property taxes that would otherwise be due in the absence of any form of exemption from or abatement of real property taxation provided by an existing or future local, state, or federal law, rule or regulation.



5. Notwithstanding any provision hereof to the contrary:
- a. The New Exemption 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, (iv) any interest in the Exemption Area is conveyed or transferred to a new owner without the prior written approval of HPD, or (v) the construction or demolition 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 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 New Exemption shall prospectively terminate.
 - b. The New Exemption shall apply to all land in the Exemption Area, but shall only apply to a building on the Exemption Area that exists on the Effective Date.
 - c. Nothing herein shall entitle the HDFC, the Owner, or any past 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.
 - d. All previous resolutions, if any, providing an exemption from or abatement of real property taxation with respect to the Exemption Area are hereby revoked as of the Effective Date.
6. In consideration of the New Exemption, prior or simultaneous with repayment or refinancing of the HUD Mortgage, the owner, for itself, its successors and assigns, shall (i) execute and record a Regulatory Agreement, and (ii) waive, for so long as the New Exemption shall remain in effect, 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,



Maria Torres-Springer

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