

From: [Carl Garrison](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Minister Carl Garrison
Date: Tuesday, June 14, 2022 9:43:25 AM

Hello my name is Carl Garrison and I am the minister of homeless outreach at the Manhattan church of Christ.

I am writing to voice my support for the moving forward & completion of the Lirio project for members of our New York Community who live marginally, are low income and or are homeless.

The voices of opposition against units of housing for members of our New York City community who live marginally and or are homeless have been many & frequent, and this has been, and unfortunately have been in many cases backed by powerful interests.

I understand that fear is always a deep motivating factor when concerns of housing for marginal and or homeless populations are brought to bear.
Those feeling of fear are on display specifically during these times.

Many of the guests I try to serve are members of the community who would be benefitted by supportive housing units like the Lirio.

The Lirio would help the the Hell's Kitchen community by creating housing & services for in need, it would help support health care as housing is indeed a health care need & aid by creating a stake in the community for those who would be served by the Lirio.

Now is not the time to be governed by fear , but by a different moral imperative to serve for if one New Yorker is served then all are served.

Please feel free to contact me at my office at anytime to reflect further , I would actually love that dialogue.

"Whoever closes there ear to the cry of the poor will themselves call out and not be answered."

-Proverbs 21:13

Carl Garrison
Community of Hope minister of homeless outreach
Manhattan church of Christ

██████████
NYC 10075
████████████████████

From: [Christopher Murray](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: Sara@openheartsinitiative.org; Bennett@openheartsinitiative.org; [District3](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony: Lirio Building Plans
Date: Monday, June 13, 2022 9:45:00 AM

I'd like to submit the following written testimony concerning the proposed Lirio building in Midtown. I do this in collaboration with the Open Hearts Initiative.

My name is Christopher Murray, I have lived at [REDACTED] for three years. That is the Friedman Residence operated jointly by the Entertainment Community Fund (formerly The Actors Fund) and Breaking Ground. It is a mixed use building and a naturally occurring Senior living residence. I am living with HIV for over thirty years and am 54 years old. I receive benefits, including a rent subsidy from the City's HIV Services Administration. I am strongly supportive of Housing Works' plan to build the Lirio a few blocks from here. Our building is a great example of a mid-income mixed-use building where Seniors, People Living With HIV/AIDS, mid-income folk and people from the entertainment industry live together harmoniously and contribute to the betterment of the community. I for example have been on the Community Advisory Board for the Samuels Clinic within Mt. Sinai Hospital one block north and I currently attend the meetings of the Midtown North Precinct's Community Council.

People who benefit from community contribute to community.

Please support the Lirio and work with Community Board 4 to ensure they swiftly move to supporting the project. Thank you!

Christopher Murray

[REDACTED]
New York, NY 10019
[REDACTED]

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Christopher Murray, LCSW-R

[REDACTED]
[website](#)

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From: [Dennis Griffith](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] The Lirio testimony
Date: Tuesday, June 14, 2022 1:16:48 PM

The Lirio seems like a good project that we should build. It's a shame that it's going to be so small, but I have some friends that got priced out of the neighborhood and would have really appreciated them having better options than moving so far away I never see them.

From: [Harrison Grinnan](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] The Lirio
Date: Tuesday, June 14, 2022 2:03:21 PM

To whom it may concern,

I am writing today to express my support for the affordable housing at the Lirio. It's a great project and the community board voting against it as "too affordable" is yet more evidence that community boards should be abolished.

Regards,

Harrison Grinnan

From: [hugh ystev](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony for housing unit project in hells kitchen
Date: Tuesday, June 14, 2022 8:24:18 PM

Hello and as my testimony i think that That would be a great idea to merge the project within the hells kitchen district to combine the resources of people working together to making a community diverse, productive , and affordable even within the difficult transition of times as we know them as, and we as people can still manifest and come together to join as a unit of one group of equal people to the theater district society of new York city, this can do a great deal to enhance the respond to the homeless people being accepted no matter what their hardships may be, and it may do a lot for their meaning the (homeless people) and the housed communit people living there already) self esteem and help them confidently rebuild their self worth and community worthyness to get involved and improve the community and its internal and external evolving structure of business's and revolving infrastructure's as a new pathway of introduction to opening new door's to new tenants and previous residents alike that are within the waiting on that particular type of setting and community settlement of properties , that's just my food for thought, and thought for food on that combination on / and of a housing planning idea , which is to cojoin the two differences of people and persons alike and different on one appeal to another appeal to the people in the neighborhood to come together as one to another with a motivational positive project for this environmental movement concept, i think its worth a try to see how we can make this happen for the good and betterment of a hope for a best for things to come in the future, for not just one but for all people alike , the homeless, and the housed alike, and that's my say on this housing matter, and justfully so, its a yes for me.

Thank you for caring,
and sharing.

Sincerely
Hugh. Y.

From: [Roberta Barnett](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] 806 Ninth Ave Testimony
Date: Tuesday, June 14, 2022 12:39:00 PM

My name is Bobbi Barnett, and I am an affordable housing professional and resident of Manhattan Community Board 4. I wanted to speak in favor of the proposed project on the MTA Site at 54th and 9th.

After attending several presentations and hearings on project, I am confident that the current iteration of the project meets both the needs of the community and the broader needs of the city's most vulnerable. I was very impressed by the supportive component directed at older, mostly people of color, HIV+ positive individuals in a community that is home to highly specialized healthcare and services. Any proposal that slashes these units would be a loss to our community in terms of diversity and support for those in greatest need.

I urge the City Council to accept the developer's proposal and stand up for supportive housing in our community. Yes, we need middle income housing, but when the market provide comparably-priced units, we should not squander this opportunity to do the most good.

RB

From: [Scout Silverstein](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Affordable Housing for Vulnerable Populations
Date: Tuesday, June 14, 2022 11:25:18 AM

Hello,

My name is Scout Silverstein and I am a born and raised NYC resident. Part of my experience is growing up in foster care and aging out in 2005, at 17 years old. I went from living in a group home in Pennsylvania to living in a 6 bed dorm at [REDACTED]. This was down the block from the first syringe exchange led by Kelly McGowan and Chloe Dzubilo whose main participants were people living with HIV/AIDS, sex workers, unhoused people, and transgender people. Both my living quarters and this service were essential for the public health and well being of New Yorkers. Now, 17 years later, living in NYC is less affordable and less accessible. Our Mayor pushes for more policing and disinvestment from houseless services which is worsening our housing crisis. Housing is a human right and the council has the power to create sustainable infrastructure to support our most vulnerable residents. I hope that this Lirio project passes so that we can give New Yorkers the support they deserve and an opportunity for a better future.

Warmly,

Scout Silverstein
they/themme
[REDACTED]

June 9, 2022

Re: The Lirio (806 9th Ave, Manhattan) Proposed Affordable Housing Development
ULURP Numbers: 220222PPM, 220223PQM, 220220ZMM, 220219ZRM, 220221ZSM

Dear Council Members,

I live at 312 11th Avenue, New York, NY 10001 and I'm writing to express my strong support for The Lirio and to urge the City Council's Subcommittee on Landmarks, Public Sitings and Dispositions to vote in favor of this project.

The Lirio presents a unique opportunity to provide much needed supportive housing to long-term survivors of HIV/AIDS as well as permanent affordable housing for families in Hell's Kitchen. The Hell's Kitchen community faces the threat of rising rents that push out long-term residents and continues to disproportionately struggle with the ongoing HIV/AIDS epidemic. According to NYC DOHMH, the Chelsea/Clinton neighborhood has the highest concentration of residents living with HIV in the City.

As the former Director of a Supportive Housing program in NYC, I know first-hand that supportive housing is the most effective and cost-efficient way to house disabled and homeless individuals. The combination of permanent affordable housing and support services is critical to providing a stable environment in which individuals can address their health concerns and other underlying causes of their homelessness. Residents of the Lirio will not only benefit from stable, affordable housing but will receive personalized, human-centered services and case-management from Housing Works.

I firmly support the proposed affordable housing at The Lirio, which will serve New Yorkers earning up to 80% of the Area Median Income (\$96,080 for a family of three). I ask that you join the support for The Lirio, a transformational project that will provide much needed supportive and affordable housing while contributing to the dynamic and beloved Hell's Kitchen neighborhood.

Thank you,

Sheila Fontanive, MPS, ATR-BC, LCAT

From: [Stephanie Schroeder](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] The Lirio: Support of Housing for My Homeless Neighbors
Date: Monday, June 13, 2022 2:58:34 PM

Dear Land Use Committee,

Hello, My name is Stephanie Schroeder and I live on the edge of Hell's Kitchen. I live in a luxury building I won through the NYC lottery. I need this rent stabilized, low-income rental because I work at a nonprofit agency in a low-paid job. Specifically, I work as a peer specialist at a homeless shelter in Manhattan. I can verify that homeless folks are people like you and me. People with have families, friends, and are also in distress. Distress from not having a place to live. I know it's easy to dismiss all homeless folks with a wide brush as violent predators, crazy people, drunks and junkies, and other things that in this society are negatives. In facts, people living on the street are in grave danger and coming inside would help all of us. The homeless folks I know: clients, personal friends, extended family, are people who've experienced extreme trauma including eviction, rape, robbery, police violence, and so much more. These are our neighbors. Neighbors who are unhoused and in distress. Rent in NYC is exorbitant - too damn high as the saying goes! So are the numbers of people on the street. As I mentioned, I can only afford to live in NYC because I won the housing lottery. I've been in NYC 30+ years and was going to be priced out. I also live with a mental illness. You would never "know" this to look at me. Because I have a home. I have a place to shower, sleep, keep my clothes, fix meals, use the toilet, etc. We must welcome our homeless neighbors - already living in here Midtown, Hell's Kitchen, the Upper West Side, to join us in having homes - apartments of their own. It's the only humane decision.

Thank you,

Stephanie Schroeder

M [REDACTED] W [REDACTED]

E [REDACTED]



June 13, 2022

Dan Garodnick, Chair & Director
City Planning Commission & Department of City Planning
Calendar Information Office
120 Broadway, 31st Floor
New York, NY 10271

Re: The Lirio (806 9th Avenue, Manhattan CD3)
Proposed Affordable Housing Development
ULURP Numbers: 220222PPM, 220223PQM, 220220ZMM, 220219ZRM, 220221ZSM
June 14, 2022 – Public Meeting

Dear Mr. Garodnick,

I live at 234 W 20 St, New York, NY 10011, a resident of Chelsea, I also work in the neighborhood. I write this letter to express my strong support for The Lirio Project and urge the City Planning Commission to vote in favor of this project as it will address the dire need in the city for affordable housing for the lower income families and most importantly, for the most vulnerable constituents of our community and the homeless that need housing the most.

The Lirio site project offers a unique opportunity for the City to use publicly owned site to provide much needed affordable and supportive housing to long-term survivors of HIV/AIDS as well as permanent affordable housing for families in Hell's Kitchen neighborhood. As the City and CD3 community face the prospects of rising rents that drive out long-term residents and working folks and we continue to contend with disproportionate inventory for affordable housing for the ongoing HIV/AIDS epidemic survivors and others, this would be a missed opportunity if we fail to embrace diversity and do the right thing. According to the citywide data (NYC DOHMH), the Chelsea/Clinton neighborhood has the highest concentration of residents living with HIV/AIDS in the City. This must be addressed ASAP. The Lirio project includes supportive housing, a crucial typology needed to counter the ongoing AIDS epidemic and The Lirio provides just that - **housing as healthcare**. The Lirio not only will offer affordable housing but also provide tailored, human-centered services and case-management from Housing Works.

In closing, I reiterate my wholehearted support for the proposed affordable housing at The Lirio, serving New Yorkers who deserve nothing less. As the City faces an immense housing shortage that has only been further exacerbated following the Covid-19 pandemic, we need more affordable housing for all, at all income levels, especially for the most vulnerable New Yorkers. This City was not imagined for the 'privileged few', but rather for the "poor, tired, huddled... masses in need", lest we forget!

I thank you for your continued hard work and urge DCP to expeditiously approve this ULURP application in support of the Lirio Project and housing for all.

Sincerely,



Viren Brahmhatt

From: [William Meehan](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for the Lirio
Date: Friday, June 17, 2022 9:50:13 AM

To the City Council:

I think it is incredibly important that you approve the Lirio's application to provide housing to formerly homeless individuals living with HIV and to low-income families. The Community Board's disapproval of this project is morally repugnant. Why would we need more "workforce housing" when there are so many New Yorkers on the street or severely rent-burdened? Housing subsidies should be targeted at those who really need it, and by that standard, this building is an obvious win for the city. The formerly homeless people living with HIV will benefit hugely from stable housing near existing services. I would rather it be larger to house even more individuals and families who need homes, but the proposed project is still better than what the CB wants. Please support the Lirio.

Thank you,
William Meehan