



Legislation Text

File #: Res 0319-2004, **Version:** *

Res. No. 319

Resolution calling upon the Council of the City of New York to support the Kingsbridge Heights community in its efforts to play a decisive role in the utilization of the Kingsbridge Armory.

By Council Members Baez, Barron, Brewer, Koppell, Lopez, Rivera, Sanders, Seabrook and Jackson

Whereas, The Kingsbridge Armory (the Armory), located at the intersection of Jerome Avenue and West Kingsbridge Road was completed in 1917; and

Whereas, Until 1994 it had been the home of 258th Field Artillery Unit of the National Guard; and

Whereas, The building has remained largely unused for much of the last decade and New York City, the owner, has invested in stabilizing certain building elements, such as the roof, that may forestall additional deterioration; and

Whereas, The Armory occupies four city blocks in the heart of Kingsbridge Heights neighborhood, which is part of Bronx Community District 7 (BCD 7); and

Whereas, The total population of BCD 7 is approximately 140,000 persons and the total area is significantly “under-retailed” in that less than 12% of BCD 7's area is devoted to commercial and retail uses, including mixed uses; and

Whereas, The Armory site borders Bronx Community District 8 (BCD 8) which has a total population of approximately 100,000 persons and BCD 8 is also substantially “under-retailed” in that only 5% of the total area is devoted to commercial and retail uses a even when accounting for mixed uses.

Whereas, The demographics of Kingsbridge Heights have resulted in a public school system in the immediate vicinity that is well over intended capacity, and; as a result the community surrounding the Armory has independently advocated for its use as an educational facility; and

Whereas, Ultimate utilization of the Armory should factor in the educational, recreational and business interests of the community, with space being allotted on the Armory's grounds for educational purposes. Space should be recreational facilities such a theaters and gyms, for the development of businesses that enhance the community and do not compete with the local mom and pop shops, now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Council of the City of New York supports the Kingsbridge Heights community in its efforts to play a decisive role in the utilization of the Armory.

LS# 975
DgD
April 30, 2004