Testimony:
NYC Department of City Planning
Public Scope Meeting – Domino Sugar Rezoning
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My name is Bea Hanson and I live at 330 Wythe Avenue in Williamsburg. I am testifying in opposition to the Proposal called the "Domino Sugar Rezoning" for its clear ignorance of the needs of the Williamsburg neighborhood.

I have lived in Williamsburg for twenty years, and, in that time, have witnessed the remarkable increase in development in our neighborhood. At first, seeing abandoned buildings turned into housing brought new life into existing structures and into the community; but lately I have seen long-time residents being displaced by soaring rents, and old buildings torn down to make way for new luxury condominiums.

The greatest tragedy is that this proposed Domino Sugar Rezoning is pitting Williamsburg residents against each other as if those wanting affordable housing are not the same as those who want to preserve the character of our neighborhood. Why is the price we have to pay two 300 and two 400 foot skyscrapers in order to get some affordable housing in the neighborhood? In this scenario the only winner is the developer. Surely we have the ability to build affordable housing AND preserve our neighborhood.

I have two additional points I want to raise:

1) Our subway lines (L, and J/M/Z) are bursting at the seams with no possibility for expansion – adding nearly 7,000 residents in this project, not to mention all of the other developments in the neighborhood makes this project more than untenable.

2) The National Trust for Historic Preservation declared the Brooklyn waterfront one of America's eleven most endangered historic places. The proposal to dwarf the Domino Sugar Factory by surrounding it with towering skyscrapers further destroys our waterfront.

I think we can do better and urge you to oppose this Domino Sugar Rezoning. Thank you for listening.