Reeves

BROOKLYN GREENWAY INITIATIVE

July 27, 2007

Mr. Robert Dobruskin
Director, Environmental Assessment and Review Division
NYC Department of City Planning
22 Reade Street, Room 4E
New York, N.Y. 10007-1216

Re: Public Scoping Meeting on the proposed Domino Sugar Rezoning

Dear Mr. Dobruskin:

Brooklyn Greenway Initiative is completing the planning for the Brooklyn Waterfront Greenway in Williamsburg in coordination with Regional Plan Association, NYC DOT, the Brooklyn Navy Yard Development Corporation, NYC Parks and others. The waterfront open spaces, including the esplanade, that result from rezoning will become key elements of the greenway, a 14-mile route from Greenpoint to Bay Ridge and may be complemented by a dedicated bikeway on Kent Avenue.

NYC Parks' Waterfront Open Space Master Plan covering Greenpoint and Williamsburg sets an important precedent and context for the rezoning of this site and its environmental review. Extending the provisions of the Waterfront Open Space Master Plan to South Williamsburg rezoning actions was an important recommendation of the more than 100 residents attending a public planning workshop in May held by Brooklyn Greenway Initiative and RPA.

The new open spaces at the Domino Sugar site should be designed consistently with the Greenpoint/Williamsburg Master Plan, including connections to Grand Ferry Park and South 5th Street.

This rezoning should also provide incentives for the transfer of title to the new waterfront open spaces to NYC Parks & Recreation, as with Greenpoint/Williamsburg, to ensure the long term public character of these public spaces. As with Greenpoint/Williamsburg, construction and maintenance funding should remain the responsibility of the developer.

Please take the greenway into formal consideration, including the pedestrian and bicycle traffic it will carry in the environmental assessment.

Yours truly,

Milton Puryear