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Testimony before the New York City Department of City Planning Regarding the Domino Sugar Refinery, Brooklyn. August 9, 2007

Good afternoon, I am Jonathan Rosario, representing the youth of Williamsburg in Brooklyn. I have heard for a great amount of time, about the development of the location where Domino Sugar is located. After researching the facts about the "the new Domino", I for the most part feel really pleased with the proposal. I have lived in the Williamsburg Community for 16years, and feel that utilizing this space is very crucial for many reasons. One very important reason is providing residential space for everyone interested in living in such a wonderful Community like Williamsburg. I would like to express my concern about this project, which is the number of affordable housing being provided on this site. The proposal states 30% of the overall 2,400 units would be affordable, or approximately 720 units .I feel that 30% percent is not enough for our community, and definitely not enough for newcomers who also need affordable housing. Also another worry is that when the term affordable is used I wonder what is affordable to the developers, and affordable to whom? I would be very grateful if at least 50% percent of the homes are affordable. I feel that having at least 50% of the homes affordable would make many people pleased. Most importantly, having 50 percent of the residential space affordable would give homes to many people in need, and a more diverse group of people would enjoy this new project.

Thank You,

Jonathan Rosario