

THE SENATE
STATE OF NEW YORK



BRIAN A. BENJAMIN
SENATOR, 30TH DISTRICT

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☐ Albany Office:
Room 517
Legislative Office Building
Albany, New York 12247
(518) 455-2441
Fax (518) 426-6809

☐ District Office:
Adam Clayton Powell Jr.
State Office Building
163 West 125th St., Rm. 912
New York, NY 10027
(212) 222-7315
Fax (212) 678-0001

November 16, 2018

Margery Perlmutter, RA, Esq.
Chair
NYC Board of Standard and Appeals 250 Broadway
29th Floor
New York, NY

RE: Mt Sinai Hospital BSA Application

Dear Ms. Perlmutter,

I am writing this letter in support of Manhattan CB 10's Land Use Committees' withdrawal of support for a BSA Application for The Mount Sinai Health Facility located at 160 West 124th Street. The Harlem community members that I represent have shared with me their genuine outrage, frustration and disappointment with Mt. Sinai as it relates to this proposed project. Specifically, the community feels extremely disrespected, as they do not believe or feel that Mt. Sinai has been transparent with them in regards to this project as well as very thoughtful about the current oversaturation in the community regarding health and social service programs and facilities dealing with substance abuse and other similar medical programs. For those reasons, I stand in support of CB10's decision to withdraw its support for this application.

It is a well-known fact that my district is oversaturated with substance abuse and addiction treatment facilities and programs. Harlem is a vibrant, diverse community with a wide variety of needs. Harlem cannot continue to be a target for a duplication of these types of services. These type of medical facilities and programs provide a necessary, valuable and vital service to those in need. However, an oversaturation of these types of services in a community is not beneficial to the overall health and well-being of the community as a whole, as they substantially magnify and add to the public nuisance and safety issues in an area that is already struggling with those issues. More so, other communities are in need of and should be the site of these types of facilities and programs. It is past time for there to be an equitable distribution of these types of facilities throughout the city.

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It is my recommendation that you agree with the communities' position - which is detailed in a correspondence that you have received from CB 10 - and disapprove of the present application. I am available to discuss the contents of this letter as well as any possible alternatives, which may help to alleviate this issue.

Sincerely,

Brian A. Benjamin

Brian Benjamin
New York State Senator
Senate District 30
163 West 125th Street
New York, NY 10027
212-222-7315