Mr. Michael Avolio January 2019

Empire State Development Corp.

633 Third Avenue, 37th floor

New York, NY 10017

Dear Mr. Avolio:

As a resident of the Incorporated Village of Floral Park, I find it distressing to learn that the Belmont Park Redevelopment Civic and Land Use Improvement Project has grown in scale and scope since it was originally proposed. The UDC Act 6266(1) which the ESD operates under specifically states that the {ESD} “*shall give primary consideration to local needs and desires and shall foster local initiative and participation in connection with the planning and development of its projects*”. With regards to the proposed project, it would seem that our community’s needs and desires are not being met.

Specifically, the DEIS states that approximately 90% of the vehicle traffic will arrive via the Cross Island Parkway and further acknowledges that the Cross Island Parkway does not have the capacity to handle the additional traffic caused by the project. The DEIS states that the applicant proposes no improvements to the parkway. Despite this, the DEIS goes on to assume that vehicles will not use other means to access the site if traffic does not flow rapidly to the site even though This means that the DEIS’s assumption that 90% of the traffic will arrive via the Cross Island Parkway is irrational and has no logical basis. Instead, local roads will suffer greater impacts.

Additionally, the DEIS fails to address any significant mitigation of the increased traffic. Significantly, at the Public Information Session conducted by ESD on December 10, 2017, both of the respondents to the Request for Proposals for this project commented that the transformation of the Belmont LIRR Station into a full time, year-round facility was integral to their proposals. However, despite the fact that the plan proponents identified that a full time LIRR Station at Belmont is essential to this project, the DEIS proposes only adding two extra trains when there are events at the arena. This is clearly insufficient.

As I place significant value on the community, Floral Park, in which I live, I would request that the ESD, in ensuring that they operate under the responsibility that they are given, **secure firm commitments from New York State and the MTA that a full time, year-round train station shall be constructed and operational at Belmont PRIOR to commencement of events at an arena or the addition of any facilities at Belmont.**

Sincerely,

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Signature

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Print Name

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Floral Park NY 11001

cc: State Senator Anna Kaplan

Assemblywoman Michaelle Solages

Assemblyman Edward Ra

Hempstead Town Supervisor Laura Gillen