Chair and Board Members,

Dear LMDC Board Members:

I urge you to reject the current proposal because it fails to deliver on the LMDC's promise to provide substantial affordable housing in Lower Manhattan. The current proposal requiring merely 25% of the units to be affordable goes against the will of the community and elected officials and ignores the dire housing crisis we face. We can and must do better.

The community has fought for over two decades to build deeply affordable housing that would promote diversity and give 9/11 survivors & first responders a home in the neighborhood they helped rebuild.

Public land must serve the public good, not the pockets of luxury real estate developers. As a public agency, you have a duty to address the needs of the State by demanding more affordable housing at this site.

Respectfully,

Paul Mokhiber
Chair and Board Members,

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Respectfully,
Vittoria Fariello
Chair and Board Members,

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Cade Bryant
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Karen Hopkins
Chair and Board Members,

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Kelly Garbato
Chair and Board Members,

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Michael Prete
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Jacqueline Seltzer
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Miriam Berkley
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Fern Schlesinger
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William Sarovec
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Nancy D'Angelo
Chair and Board Members,

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Stephanie Cuellar
Chair and Board Members,

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Ting Barrow
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Cathy CRONIN
Chair and Board Members,

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Ashley Hanshaw
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Patrick Mielke
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Joan Farber
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Ella Lasky
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A.L. Steiner
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Respectfully,

Melissa Shiffman
Chair and Board Members,

We need affordable housing for low and middle income people. We need housing for artists so NYC can remain the cultural capital of the world. Many, many people are moving out of the city. They cannot afford living here! We do not need market rate housing! What do you not understand!? And this is public land?! Outrageous!

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Donna Hooker
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Coree Spencer
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Respectfully,
Linda Vartoogian
Chair and Board Members,

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Bernadette Belcastro
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Robert Banov
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We should urge our members of Congress and our Senators to approach HUD Secretary Fudge for Federal funds.

This would be an excellent example of affordable housing in a high income neighborhood with support from the community.

Respectfully,
Carol Lamberg

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Chair and Board Members,

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Dennis Hough
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Respectfully,

Michela Santacroce
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Kitty Savage
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Respectfully,

Marsha Smith
Chair and Board Members,

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Respectfully,

michele campo

m. campo
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Respectfully,

Oren Sachs
Chair and Board Members,

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Respectfully,

Amy Harlib
Dear LMDC Board Members:

This city must create more affordable housing that prioritizes PEOPLE BORN IN NYC AS WELL AS LONG TERM RESIDENTS OF NYC.

As a Native New Yorker, I’m appalled by the lack of affordable housing in general and specifically for long term residents of NYC.

Affordable housing units must be increased to more than 25%.

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Jessie Dessus
Chair and Board Members,

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Lise Brenner
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Kristopher Burrell
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Linda Marsanico
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I agree with this letter but the problem goes back to elected officials who want to keep the money flowing and their reelection guaranteed. And so all decisions favor the wealthy and large corporations. How else could gun control legislation fail and abortion become illegal when the overwhelming majority of Americans want both?! Want to take a wild guess? Give up?!

Nothing will get better until we get money out of politics and reform the formerly Supreme Court.

Respectfully,

Robert H. Feuchter
To Whom It May Concern:

The proposed plan allows developers to build 900 luxury units on public land in a neighborhood that is already saturated with luxury apartments - hundreds, if not thousands of white are sitting empty while we have a housing shortage in Lower Manhattan!

The Lower Manhattan community has fought for over two decades to build deeply affordable housing at 5WTC that would promote diversity and give 9/11 survivors & first responders and their children a home in the neighborhood they rebuilt. It is unconscionable that the LMDC and the City and NYS are abandoning the very people who sacrificed their lives and their health to rebuild after 9/11/2001.

The area around 5WTC is a high opportunity area with excellent schools, gorgeous parks, a public transportation hub and is a walk away from jobs on Wall Street and the Civic Center.

The LMDC promised affordable housing downtown. They must deliver.

Regards,

Justine

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Respectfully,

Christopher Scholz
Chair and Board Members,

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Carla Cherry
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The community has fought for over two decades to build deeply affordable housing that would promote diversity and give 9/11 survivors & first responders a home in the neighborhood they helped rebuild.

Public land must serve the public good, not the pockets of luxury real estate developers. As a public agency, you have a duty to address the needs of the State by demanding more affordable housing at this site.

Respectfully,

Scott Korman
Dear LMDC Board Members,

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Respectfully,

Edward Rengers
Chair and Board Members,

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Respectfully,
Renee Greene Levitt

Renee Levitt
Chair and Board Members,

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Respectfully,

Mariama James
Chair and Board Members,

Dear LMDC Board Members:

I urge you to reject the current proposal because it fails to deliver on the LMDC’s promise to provide substantial affordable housing in Lower Manhattan. The current proposal requires merely 25% of the units to be affordable goes against the will of the community and elected officials and ignores the dire housing crisis we face- 25% is a drop in the bucket, but a big deposit in the developers bank account- NO! We can and must do better.

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Respectfully,

Additionally:
It is outrageous to think that yet another luxury building- on land owned by the city- PUBLIC LAND, that a private developer, who thinks only on profit motive, could think of getting away with only saving a ‘minimal’ number of apartments considered affordable. What is a ‘minimal’ 25% is less than minimal and is not acceptable- NOT GOOD ENOUGH. EVERY building these days must be a minimum of 50% ‘affordable’ and ‘affordable’ needs a better definition. That 50% should be divided in half by income limit and the other half needs to be specifically for lower income/voucher level. High profit motives should eliminate lots of developers- they can afford to start anew- buy land and build- but PUBLIC land should not be an easy option for any of them to spin into gold.

This city cannot continue to exist if it is too expensive to house all of the people it needs to run and thrive. We have PLENTY of luxury housing- much of which is not used by people (lights out in many buildings is a cue), or can’t be afforded by more than half the population- and many of which are not used or owned by city residents/workers/taxpayers. That does not help build or maintain a vibrant city. We need to STOP thinking only luxury and start thinking about real people who build lives and families in our city. That doesn’t give license to creating sub-par crap and used as selling points and absolutely no ‘poor’ doors.

Who is controlling the Lower Manhattan Development Council and what has the private developer promised? To me, this sounds more like Percoco and the Buffalo Billion- a corrupt boondoggle…..Cuomo is gone, his grifters- if still there- need to be booted from the board. If Governor Hochul has continued in that tradition, then that needs to be investigated too- BEFORE any project moves forward. (So much for Hochul’s promise to work for the people- the voters who put her in office) If Mayor Adams appointed people- look under their sheets to see the corruption….So far in his administration, no one is squeaky clean or honest and none of them are working for the people of this city! Their (Hochul and Adams) combined approach and acceptance of a potential windfall for the developer is not OK- it is troublesome. I looked on the LMDC website, and cannot find a section talking about a building with a potential 900 units. Is it hidden from public review? Why? The only listing that I thought could be this development is called SB (it does not fit the description of 900 units at all- BUT even Site SB sounds sketchy- what is a ‘meaningful’ level of affordable housing? I didn’t know ‘meaningful’ had a % definition!). If Site SB is supposed to keep people happy, with only 163 units better assorted for affordability, then why hide a building of 900 from the website? And IF Site SB can be brought about with nearly 50% labeled ‘affordable’, then why isn’t the 900 unit building? We already have an unacceptable level of inequality in this city- with every deal like this, it will get worse, and the city will suffer. NO! Do not move forward on this ‘deal/project’.

Regards, from a city resident and taxpayer,
Stacy Rauch- I would love a detailed response from the LMDC Board!

Site SB description from website:

This new mixed-use development project will consist of market rate condominiums, commercial retail space, and a mixed-income residential rental building. The residential rental building will be a mid-rise building facing Greenwich Street above a two-story retail base and underground parking. Prior to September 11, 2001, Site SB had been planned as an entirely a commercial project. However, shortly after September 11, 2001, the City reexamined its vision for Lower Manhattan and determined that Site SB was better suited for a mixed-use development that was largely residential, with a goal to include meaningful affordable housing. LMDC funds would be provided to subsidize the planning and design of the residential housing tower, including related portions of the building base, and interior fit out of the affordable housing units.

The residential rental component of the project will include affordable housing. HDC will administer the Mixed Income Program to ensure that the development will meet the following affordability targets. Of the total 163 units in the residential rental component, 85 will be market rate units, 44 will be middle-income units serving households below 175% AMI; 33 will be low-income units serving households at or below 50% AMI, and one will be a superintendent unit.
Chair and Board Members,

Dear LMDC Board Members:

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Respectfully,

Renace (Renee) Monrose
Chair and Board Members,

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Respectfully,

Elaine Linet
Chair and Board Members,

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Respectfully,

Lorraine Avallone
Chair and Board Members,

Dear LMDC Board Members:

I strongly urge you to reject the current proposal because it fails to deliver on the LMDC's promise to provide substantial affordable housing in Lower Manhattan. The current proposal requiring merely 25% of the units to be affordable goes against the will of the community and elected officials and ignores the dire housing crisis we face. We can and must do better.

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Respectfully,

Alice Shields
Chair and Board Members,

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Respectfully,

Ric Evans
Chair and Board Members,

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Respectfully,

Xoxenia Harris
Chair and Board Members,

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Respectfully,
Elizabeth Mow
Chair and Board Members,

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Respectfully,

Grant Neale
Chair and Board Members,

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Respectfully,

Glenda Lilling
Chair and Board Members,

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Respectfully,

Marie Garescher
Dear LMDC—

As a member of this community which has fought for over two decades to build deeply affordable housing that would promote diversity and give 9/11 survivors & first responders a home in the neighborhood they helped rebuild, I'm asking that you deliver on your promise to provide affordability downtown by including much more affordable housing in 5 WTC. I've lived downtown for over forty years and watched as this community has become less and less diverse. I miss this diversity, and now you have an opportunity to do something about it. We don't need more luxury housing, nor do we need to line the pockets of real estate developers. Do the right thing.

Ellen Novack

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Chair and Board Members,

Dear LMDC Board Members:

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The city is glutted with high end housing units, many of which sit empty or serve as cash reserves for rich overseas owners. The only housing needed now is low income housing and housing for the homeless. We are sick and tired of developers taking public land for their profits and in most cases not paying their fair share of taxes so that the public subsidizes their big profits. It is time to take those empty apartments and use them for the needs of those who are not housed.

Respectfully,
Lucy Koteen
Lucy Young
Chair and Board Members,

I urge you to reject the current proposal because it fails to deliver on the LMDC’s promise to provide substantial affordable housing in Lower Manhattan. The current proposal requiring merely 25% of the units to be affordable goes against the will of the community and elected officials and ignores the dire housing crisis we face. We can and must do better.

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Respectfully,

Maureen North
Chair and Board Members,

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Jan Emerson
Chair and Board Members,

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Respectfully,

Remy Kothe
Chair and Board Members,

Dear LMDC Board Members:

Please consider the affordable housing shortage in NYC!!!

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Respectfully,

Rebecca Hutcheson
Chair and Board Members,

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Daniel Morrison
Chair and Board Members,

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Craig Shipler
Chair and Board Members,

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Respectfully,

Sharon Goel
Chair and Board Members,

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Respectfully,

Arlene Schutz

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Respectfully,

Karen Stamm
Chair and Board Members,

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Respectfully,

Alice Ross
Chair and Board Members,

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Suzanne Kirby
Chair and Board Members,

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Respectfully,

Banjo ettinger
Chair and Board Members,

Dear LMDC Board Members:

I urge you to reject the current proposal respecting 5WTC because it fails to deliver on the LMDC’s promise to provide substantial affordable housing in Lower Manhattan. The current proposal requiring merely 25% of the units to be affordable goes against the will of the community and elected officials and ignores the dire housing crisis we face. We can and must do better.

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Respectfully,

Lora Tenenbaum
Deeply saddened

Patricia Towers - [redacted]  
Yesterday, 9:29 PM  
Public Comment

... by the proposed plan to build luxury housing on public lands! I understand the LMDC had promised affordable housing here. Please don't break that promise!
And let's follow the money for sure!

Patricia Towers
Chair and Board Members,

Dear LMDC Board Members:

I urge you to reject the current proposal because it fails to deliver on the LMDC's promise to provide substantial affordable housing in Lower Manhattan. The current proposal requiring merely 25% of the units to be affordable goes against the will of the community and elected officials and ignores the dire housing crisis we face. We can and must do better.

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Respectfully,

Kim Beck
Chair and Board Members,

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Respectfully,

Anthony Jannetti

m. campo
Chair and Board Members,

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Respectfully,

Ellen Fox
Chair and Board Members,

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Respectfully,

Robert Roberts

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Chair and Board Members,

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Respectfully,

Shawna Perrin
Chair and Board Members,

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Respectfully,

Mary Kenny
Chair and Board Members,

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Respectfully,

Phillip Hope
Chair and Board Members,

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Phillip Hope
Chair and Board Members,

I urge you to reject the current proposal because it fails to deliver on the LMDC’s PROMISE to provide substantial affordable housing in Lower Manhattan. The current proposal requiring merely 25% of the units to be affordable goes against the will of the community and elected officials and IGNORES THE DIRE HOUSING CRISIS we face. We can and must do better.

The community has fought for over two decades to build deeply affordable housing that would promote diversity and GIVE 9/11 SURVIVORS AND FIRST RESPONDERS a home in the neighborhood they helped rebuild.

PUBLIC LAND must serve the PUBLIC GOOD, not the pockets of luxury real estate developers. As a public agency, YOU HAVE A DUTY to address the needs of the State by demanding more affordable housing at this site.

Respectfully,

Mary Lou Bailey-Smith
Chair and Board Members,

I urge you to reject the current proposal because it fails to deliver on the LMDC’s promise to provide substantial affordable housing in Lower Manhattan. The current proposal requiring merely 25% of the units to be affordable goes against the will of the community and elected officials and ignores the dire housing crisis we face. We can and must do better.

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Public land must serve the public good, not the pockets of luxury real estate developers. As a public agency, you have a duty to address the needs of the State by demanding more affordable housing at this site.

Respectfully,

Francisco Velez
This city needs affordable housing and that includes minimum wage workers, like those who are in our homes as nannys and home health workers, in local stores and restaurants. This is an area that is NOT fighting low income people joining in our neighborhood and still we can't get this done. Honestly, this could help integrate our schools.

I am a disappointed voter.
Maryanne Palmieri Braverman
Living in 10280, where we pay extra to BPCA to give NYC money for affordable housing since 1987 AND where did that money go??
Affordable housing must be built.

It is an absolute necessity.

It is unconscionable to have people living on the street.

Tax dollars, not from the wealthy who pay from very little to nothing, but from working people.
More affordable housing

Sheila Geist <s

Yesterday, 10:59 PM

Public Comment

Sent from my iPhone
Chair and Board Members,

Dear LMDC Board Members:

I urge you to reject the current proposal because it fails to deliver on the LMDC’s promise to provide substantial affordable housing in Lower Manhattan. The current proposal requiring merely 25% of the units to be affordable goes against the will of the community and elected officials and ignores the dire housing crisis we face. We can and must do better.

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Respectfully,

Acadia Cutschall
Chair and Board Members,

Dear LMDC Board Members:

I urge you to reject the current proposal because it fails to deliver on the LMDC's promise to provide substantial affordable housing in Lower Manhattan. The current proposal requiring merely 25% of the units to be affordable goes against the will of the community and elected officials and ignores the dire housing crisis we face. We can and must do better.

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Respectfully,

Nicholas Farfan
Chair and Board Members,

Dear LMDC Board Members:

I am writing about a matter of great concern. I urge you to reject the current proposal because it fails to deliver on the LMDC's promise to provide substantial affordable housing in Lower Manhattan. The current proposal requiring merely 25% of the units to be affordable goes against the will of the community and elected officials and ignores the dire housing crisis we face. We can and must do better.

The community has fought for over two decades to build deeply affordable housing that would promote diversity and give 9/11 survivors & first responders a home in the neighborhood they helped rebuild.

Public land must serve the public good. Public land is not meant to be developed to make money for luxury real estate developers. As a public agency, you have a duty to address the needs of the State by demanding more affordable housing at this site.

Sincerely,

Lisa Corn
Chair and Board Members,

Dear LMDC Board Members:

I urge you to reject the current proposal because it fails to deliver on the LMDC’s promise to provide substantial affordable housing in Lower Manhattan. The current proposal requiring merely 25% of the units to be affordable goes against the will of the community and elected officials and ignores the dire housing crisis we face. We can and must do better.

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Public land must serve the public good, not the pockets of luxury real estate developers. As a public agency, you have a duty to address the needs of the State by demanding more affordable housing at this site.

Respectfully,

Lisa Corn
Chair and Board Members,

Dear LMDC Board Members:

Please: I urge you to REJECT the current proposal for 5 WTC because it fails to deliver on the LMDC’s promise to provide substantial affordable housing in Lower Manhattan. The current proposal requiring just 25% of the units to be affordable goes against the will of the community and elected officials and ignores the dire housing crisis we face. We can and must do better.

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Public land must serve the public good, not the pockets of luxury real estate developers. As a public agency, you have a duty to address the needs of the State by demanding more affordable housing at this site.

Respectfully,

Jerise Fogel
Chair and Board Members,

Dear LMDC Board Members:

I urge you to reject the current proposal because it fails to deliver on the LMDC’s promise to provide substantial affordable housing in Lower Manhattan. The current proposal requiring merely 25% of the units to be affordable goes against the will of the community and elected officials and ignores the dire housing crisis we face. We can and must do better.

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Respectfully,

Michele Ortolano
Chair and Board Members,

Dear LMDC Board Members:

I urge you to reject the current proposal because it fails to deliver on the LMDC’s promise to provide substantial affordable housing in Lower Manhattan. The current proposal requiring merely 25% of the units to be affordable goes against the will of the community and elected officials and ignores the dire housing crisis we face. We can and must do better.

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Respectfully,

Joshua Harrison
Chair and Board Members,

I urge you to reject the current proposal because it fails to deliver on the LMDC’s promise to provide substantial affordable housing in Lower Manhattan. The current proposal requiring merely 25% of the units to be affordable goes against the will of the community and elected officials and ignores the dire housing crisis we face. We can and must do better.

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Respectfully,

Alison Gerson
Chair and Board Members,

Dear LMDC Board Members:

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Respectfully,

Ned Durkovic
Chair and Board Members,

Dear LMDC Board Members:

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Respectfully,

Rachel DeSario
Chair and Board Members,

Dear LMDC Board Members:

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Respectfully,

Justine Cuccia
Chair and Board Members,

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Respectfully,

Sara Kimbell
Chair and Board Members,

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Respectfully,

Tine Byrsted
Chair and Board Members,

Dear LMDC Board Members:

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Respectfully,

Enid Cardinal
Chair and Board Members,

Dear LMDC Board Members:

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Respectfully,

Sharron Clemons
Chair and Board Members,

Dear LMDC Board Members:

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Respectfully,
Ann Marie Romanczyk

Ann Romanczyk
Chair and Board Members,

Dear LMDC Board Members:

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Respectfully,

Sarah O'Neill

Lisa Corn
Chair and Board Members,

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Respectfully,

jane lee
Chair and Board Members,

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Respectfully,

Marion Riedel, President Grand Street Dems
Chair and Board Members,

I urge you to reject the current proposal because it fails to deliver on the LMDC’s promise to provide substantial affordable housing in Lower Manhattan. The current proposal requiring merely 25% of the units to be affordable goes against the will of the community and elected officials and ignores the dire housing crisis we face. We can and must do better.

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Respectfully,

Mary Anderson
Chair and Board Members,

I urge you to reject the current proposal because it fails to deliver on the LMDC’s promise to provide substantial affordable housing in Lower Manhattan. The current proposal requiring merely 25% of the units to be affordable goes against the will of the community and elected officials and ignores the dire housing crisis we face.

I live downtown in the Lower East Side, and in my zip code (10002), ‘market rent’ housing is essentially ‘luxury’ housing, because the average market rate rents would take up 100% of the median income in our zipcode. We need to view housing as a public good, like roads, mass transit, healthcare, and services such as the police, fire department, and sanitation. Without a stronger public commitment to housing, we will end up with more and more people on the street, with the concomitant rise in both crime and mental illness.

Public land must serve the public good, not the pockets of luxury real estate developers. As a public agency, you have a duty to address the needs of the State by demanding more affordable housing at this site.

Respectfully,

William Ferns
Chair and Board Members,

Dear LMDC Board Members:

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Respectfully,

Thomas Cali
I would like to add my voice in favor of Affordable Housing for the entire World Trade Center site. This community does not need more luxury housing, at minimum the development should have at least 50%.

Susan Cole
Resident Financial District and CB1 member
Chair and Board Members,

Dear LMDC Board Members:

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Respectfully,

Owen Waite
Chair and Board Members,

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Respectfully,

Garland Hunter

Garland Hunter
Chair and Board Members,

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Respectfully,

ELIZABETH WEISS
Chair and Board Members,

Dear LMDC Board Members:

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Respectfully,

Michael Pryor
Chair and Board Members,

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Respectfully,

Kim Gerstman
We need affordable housing! Change your plans.
The mass of New Yorkers are enraged.
Dr. H Fraad
Chair and Board Members,

Dear LMDC Board Members:

I urge you to reject the current proposal because it fails to deliver on the LMDC's promise to provide substantial affordable housing in Lower Manhattan. The current proposal requiring merely 25% of the units to be affordable goes against the will of the community and elected officials and ignores the dire housing crisis we face. We can and must do better.

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Respectfully,

kim wurster
Chair and Board Members,

Dear LMDC Board Members:

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Respectfully,

Marisa

Marisa Fox
Chair and Board Members,

I urge you to reject the current proposal because it fails to deliver on the LMDC’s promise to provide substantial affordable housing in Lower Manhattan. The current proposal requiring merely 25% of the units to be affordable goes against the will of the community and elected officials and ignores the dire housing crisis we face. We can and must do better.

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Respectfully,

m. campo
What better way to honor those most affected by 9/11 than by making it possible to have preference and affordable housing on the site that changed their lives that sad day. Many of us decided to stay and rebuild the neighborhood we love. Sadly, that neighborhood has become one of the least affordable places to live. Many are sick. Many are wondering what's next. Your decision could make worldwide headlines saying New York actually cares.
Chair and Board Members,

Dear LMDC Board Members:

LMDC promised to provide substantial affordable housing in Lower Manhattan, yet the current proposal only requires 25% of affordable units which is not in line with the will of the community and elected officials and fails to take into account the current housing crisis in NYC.

The community has fought for over two decades to build affordable housing designed to promote diversity and give 9/11 survivors & first responders a home in the neighborhood they helped to rebuild.

Public land should be used to provide the housing needed by the majority of the public rather than supporting the development of luxury housing for a minority. We are facing an affordable housing crisis. As a public agency, your duty is to address the needs of the State and demand more affordable housing at this site. Please do the right thing. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Cressida Wasserman
Chair and Board Members,

Dear LMDC Board Members:

I urge you to reject the current proposal because it fails to deliver on the LMDC's promise to provide substantial affordable housing in Lower Manhattan. The current proposal requiring merely 25% of the units to be affordable goes against the will of the community and elected officials and ignores the dire housing crisis we face. We can and must do better.

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Respectfully,

Josephine Pizzino
Chair and Board Members,

Dear LMDC Board Members:

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Respectfully,

dawn kenyon
Chair and Board Members,

I urge you to reject the current proposal because it fails to deliver on the LMDC’s promise to provide substantial affordable housing in Lower Manhattan. The current proposal requiring merely 25% of the units to be affordable goes against the will of the community and elected officials and ignores the dire housing crisis we face. We can and must do better.

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Respectfully,

Eleanor

Eleanor Guardino
Hi

I live in the neighborhood and support 100% affordable housing at WTC.

Maggie

Sent from my iPhone
Chair and Board Members,

Dear LMDC Board Members:

I urge you to reject the current proposal because it fails to deliver on the LMDC's promise to provide substantial affordable housing in Lower Manhattan. The current proposal requiring merely 25% of the units to be affordable goes against the will of the community and elected officials and ignores the dire housing crisis we face. We can and must do better.

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Respectfully,

Maggie Dallal

Maggie Dallal
Chair and Board Members,

Dear LMDC Board Members:

Public land must serve the public good. Build more affordable housing at this site.

Respectfully,

Sean Dugan

Sean Dugan
Chair and Board Members,

Dear LMDC Board Members:

I urge you to reject the current proposal because it fails to deliver on the LMDC’s promise to provide substantial affordable housing in Lower Manhattan. The current proposal requiring merely 25% of the units to be affordable goes against the will of the community and elected officials and ignores the dire housing crisis we face. We can and must do better.

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Respectfully,

Mia

Mia Marais
Chair and Board Members,

Dear LMDC Board Members:

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Respectfully,

Katie Fenton
Dear LMDC Board Members,

I urge you to reject the current proposal because it fails to deliver on the LMDC’s promise to provide substantial affordable housing in Lower Manhattan. The current proposal requiring merely 25% of the units to be affordable goes against the will of the community and elected officials and ignores the dire housing crisis we face. We can and must do better.

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Respectfully,
Colleen Moran

Colleen Moran
Chair and Board Members,

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Respectfully,
Declan Moran
Chair and Board Members,

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Respectfully,

Gigi Vera Petez
I am a full member of Manhattan Community Board 1, and a member of the New York State Democratic Party Democratic State Committee. I am a resident of the Financial District in lower Manhattan, having lived here since 2010. I also have a law practice in the same community, and on 9/11/01 my office was located across from the ground zero site of the World Trade Center Twin Towers. I have a 7 year old child who attends a local public school.

Living and working in Downtown Manhattan, I have seen the area change so dramatically, particularly over the past 20 years, as more and more buildings are torn down and replaced by luxury housing beyond the reach of even middle income folks. Many people and families have been and are continuing to be priced out of their homes. In order to maintain the character and particularly the diversity of the community, we need real affordable housing downtown, and the last thing we need is more and more super luxury apartments which only the very few can afford.

I think I speak for many of my fellow Lower Manhattan residents, when I say that Downtown needs a fully affordable SWTC and not a plan that ignores the needs of the community.

Morton S. Minsley
Member, MCB1

Sent from my iPhone
Chair and Board Members,

I urge you to reject the current proposal because it fails to deliver on the LMDC's promise to provide substantial affordable housing in Lower Manhattan. The current proposal requiring merely 25% of the units to be affordable goes against the will of the community and elected officials and ignores the dire housing crisis we face. We can and must do better.

The community has fought for over two decades to build deeply affordable housing that would promote diversity and give 9/11 survivors & first responders a home in the neighborhood they helped rebuild.

Public land must serve the public good, not the pockets of luxury real estate developers. As a public agency, you have a duty to address the needs of the State by demanding more affordable housing at this site.

Respectfully,

Meredith Kent-Berman
Dear LMDC Board Members:

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Respectfully,

Cheryl Cannon
Chair and Board Members,

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Respectfully,
Caroline Laskow,
District Leader, AD65, part A
Grand Street Democrats

caroline laskow
Chair and Board Members,

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obie hunt
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Greg Rieves
Chair and Board Members,

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Paul Schupp
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Respectfully,

Kathryn Freed
Chair and Board Members,

Dear LMDC Board Members:

If you don’t make these units 100% affordable, there will be blood on your hands. You will have worsened the housing crisis, and our city. We will reject you and the power of the people will win.

I urge you to reject the current proposal because it fails to deliver on the LMDC’s promise to provide substantial affordable housing in Lower Manhattan. The current proposal requiring merely 25% of the units to be affordable goes against the will of the community and elected officials and ignores the dire housing crisis we face. We can and must do better.

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Not Respectfully,

Mr. Zoe

Zoe Hart
Chair and Board Members,

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Respectfully,

Kathrine Jason
Chair and Board Members,

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Hal Pillinger
Chair and Board Members,

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Respectfully,

jenny dubnau
Chair and Board Members,

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Jane E Blackstein
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Melissa Carty
Chair and Board Members,

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Barbara Chasin
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Livvie Mann
Chair and Board Members,

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Respectfully,

Victoria Hillstom
Chair and Board Members,

Dear LMDC Board Members:

Everyone deserves a decent place to live in regardless of who they are. How can we as decent people even think of turning any of this land over to the wealthy?

I urge you to reject the current proposal because it fails to deliver on the LMDC’s promise to provide substantial affordable housing in Lower Manhattan. The current proposal requiring merely 25% of the units to be affordable goes against the will of the community and elected officials and ignores the dire housing crisis we face. We can and must do better.

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Mary Ellen Manz

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Respectfully,

Yvette Yasui

Yvette Yasui
Statement to the Lower Manhattan Development Corporation on 5 World Trade Center from Kathryn E. Freed

On September 11, 2001, I was standing on Greenwich Street, between Warren and Murray Streets, next to P.S. 234, a school I helped create, it was Primary Day, and I was handing out palm cards with several people, urging a vote for a slate of candidates. We first heard the plane and then watched it as it approached us flying much too low. I followed the flight of the plane, turning with it as it flew overhead and then crashed into the North Tower of the World Trade Center. At the time I was the City Council Member for Lower Manhattan.

I'm sure everyone knows what happened next. I lived at 40 Harrison in Independence Plaza, just 4 blocks north of where I had been standing when watching the plane, at that time, and like many others I threw myself into efforts to preserve and then rebuild Downtown. Most of that rebuilding has gone forward with 5 World Trade Center as the only major site left to develop.

So, I must say that I am not just disappointed, but outraged, by the proposal to build mostly luxury income housing at 5 WTC. After everything Lower Manhattan has been through, it is time for the State to step up and give back. Many residents of Lower Manhattan have been forced to move due to the effects of 9/11 and the everraising costs of living in New York, especially the costs of housing. Unless you have been on Mars, not just New Yorkers, but the entire country, knows we have a housing crisis.

New York desperately needs Affordable Housing. We aren't building any, except a few dribbles here and there but not enough to make a dent in the needs of the City. A large Coalition of residents of Lower Manhattan have been working for years to make 5 WTC into 100% Affordable Housing. I support that proposal. All of the currently Elected Officials for Downtown support either 100% Affordable Housing, or some version of it that produces many more units of Affordable Housing than the paltry 25% that is being offered. Even more exceptional, is that here is an entire section of Downtown pushing for Affordable Housing with a site and a do-able plan to produce it and what do we get? Crickets.

It is appalling, given the desperate needs of our City, that this proposal delivers even more luxury housing to an already over saturated market Downtown. We have luxury buildings setting nearly empty with large inventory not selling, or being bought by people with too much money so they need to buy apartments as investments. This doesn't help our City and certainly doesn't help the people who helped build Downtown to find affordable homes before they are forced out.

Luxury Housing begets more luxury housing. We need affordable homes to retain our residents. Residents who are invested in growing our neighborhoods and our City.

It is simply wrong, and terrible public policy, to build more unnecessary and unmarketable luxury Housing on publicly owned land. Everyone talks about the Middle Class being the backbone of America. Well, we aren't going to have one left in Manhattan if we don't actually start building homes they can afford to live in. I say actually, because so many of the proposals for “Affordable Housing” that have been pushed were nothing better than bait and switch cons, which have yet to produce more than a handful of affordable units.

At 5 World Trade Center we have an opportunity to build Affordable Housing on publicly owned land. It is akin to malfeasance for New York not to do so. The funding can be done with revenue available for affordable housing. It could even have low income housing along with differing levels of affordability. This can be done. In fact, it must be done. This is public land, why must we maximize profits when we should be providing for the needs of our residents and our City?

Please use this incredible opportunity to look to the desperate needs of our City and our fellow New Yorkers. Please keep so many people who are facing relocation because they can't afford to continue to live in a city that has been their home, probably for decades. They can't afford the City, but the City, even moreso, can't afford to lose them.

Don't think about the money, think about the people in need. Please reject this proposal and give us Affordable Housing. It can be done.

Thank you,
Kathryn E. Freed
Hello,

Attached please find written comments regarding the development of 5 World Trade Center from Assemblymember Deborah Glick, for review by the LMDC Board of Directors before tomorrow’s Board Meeting.

Thank you,
Tracy

Tracy Jackson
Chief of Staff
NYS Assemblymember Deborah J. Glick
District 66
jacksont@nyassembly.gov
212-674-5153 office
917-834-3299 cell
Comments of Assemblymember Deborah J. Glick Regarding the Proposed Amendment to the World Trade Center Memorial and Cultural Program General Project Plan and World Trade Center Memorial and Redevelopment Plan and Proposed Disposition of Property in Connection with Development of World Trade Center Site 5

May 12, 2023

I have been the Assemblymember for District 66, which includes parts of Tribeca and the neighborhood surrounding the World Trade Center 5 (WTC 5) site, for over 30 years. In that time, I have witnessed the dramatic transformation of Tribeca from a commercial center whose few residents were largely working- and middle-class artists to a densely populated neighborhood made up largely of families and young professionals, many of whom are wealthy. This transformation has in part been fueled by government investment -- tax breaks and subsidies for the developers of luxury housing, sales of publicly-owned land to those same developers, and the redevelopment of the World Trade Center campus have fueled the revitalization of the neighborhood, but also the displacement of many of the residents who fought to make Tribeca a place New Yorkers would want to live and work, and who maintained the neighborhood in the aftermath of the September 11th attacks.

As I have previously stated throughout the process of considering the development of the WTC 5 site, with this project the state has a unique opportunity to act as a corrective and develop a mixed-used building that includes permanently affordable residential units. Yet, the Empire State Development Corporation (EDC) continues to propose that the site be developed as a luxury tower, with only 300 of the 1,200 apartments built to be affordable, or 360 as income-restricted units. Both scenarios are outrageous and unacceptable. It is my understanding that the EDC has been engaged in sustained dialogue with community stakeholders about the potential to increase the affordability of the building; however, we now see that that dialogue has failed to produce any firm commitments to do so, and in fact, EDC plans to proceed without seeking funding that would support greater affordability. In a neighborhood that is overrun with luxury housing, the use of public land to build apartments that include anything but affordable housing is an abdication of our responsibility to our constituents. Any residential development at the WTC 5 site should pursue every avenue to maximize affordability.

The EDC and developers have argued that because of the high cost of construction in Tribeca, the additional tax subsidies that would be required to build greater affordability at WTC 5 would be a misuse of public funds, which they state could go further in other areas of the city. This argument rings hollow. First, it neglects the fact that often the cost of land is a huge expense, and a barrier, to any public works project, and that in the case of WTC 5 the land is already owned and controlled by government agencies. Second, it posits that we should abandon our commitment to racial and socio-economic diversity based on the cost of construction - that because it is expensive to build in some areas, government should throw our hands up and say that rapid gentrification and the concentration of resources along racial lines is simply not our problem.
And third, it ignores that the EDC has historically found substantial funds to subsidize projects, even robbing those funds from the economically depressed neighborhoods they are meant to serve. For example, the EDC ensured that the Related Companies were able to raise over $1.2 billion through the EB-5 visa program to fund the development of Hudson Yards. The EB-5 program allows immigrants to secure visas in exchange for large real estate investment in economically struggling areas, including those with high unemployment. This was a requirement the area around Hudson Yards does not meet. Rather than allow the funds to be saved for their intended use, the EDC engaged in financial gerrymandering so that unemployment numbers in census tracts including public housing in Harlem could be used to qualify the project, despite it offering no benefit to the same residents of those tracts. Examples like these leave many of us, myself included, hard-pressed to believe that the EDC could not identify adequate funding streams if they were invested in the goal of greater affordability; or that we can trust that the funds in question will actually be used to build affordable housing elsewhere.

Tribeca is a resource-rich neighborhood. While its infrastructure has yet to catch up to its growth in population, the neighborhood offers access to a wealth of transportation options, beautiful open spaces, and high quality schools. It is exactly the kind of neighborhood where we should be investing in affordable housing, offering opportunity to all New Yorkers rather than reserving it for the rich. The concerns by those who have watched the racial and economic diversity in the neighborhood dwindle because of the pressures of the cost of living are real and well-placed, and the fact that many in the neighborhood, elected officials, and the Community Board have coalesced around the historic potential for this site is indicative of the importance of the choice that faces the EDC and the state. We have the chance to take a stand for the public goods that government should embody and promote -- opportunity, equity, and the use of government resources for all and not just the few.

I stand with my colleagues in government who are unanimous in their opposition to ESD’s plan to proceed with public approvals for the proposed development without securing the additional resources necessary to increase affordability at the site, and I implore you to fully maximize affordability, and to only move forward with this proposed amendment and a proposed development with that commitment in place.
Chair and Board Members,

Statement to the Lower Manhattan Development Corporation on
5 World Trade Center from Kathryn E. Freed

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Even more exceptionable, is that here is an entire section of Downtown pushing for Affordable Housing with a site and a do-able plan to produce it and what do we get? Crickets. It is appalling, given the desperate needs of our City, that this proposal delivers even more luxury housing to an already over saturated market Downtown. We have luxury buildings setting nearly empty with large inventory not selling, or being bought by people with too much money so they need to buy apartments as investments. This doesn’t help our City and certainly doesn’t help the people who helped build Downtown to find affordable homes before they are forced out.

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Please use this incredible opportunity to look to the desperate needs of our City and our fellow New Yorkers. Please hold keep so many people who are facing relocation because they can’t afford to continue to live in a city that has been their home, probably for decades. They can’t afford the City, but the City, even moreso, can’t afford to lose them.

Don’t think about the money, think about the people in need. Pleas reject this proposal and give us Affordable Housing. It can be done.

Thank you,

Kathryn E. Freed

Kathryn Freed
Chair and Board Members,

Dear LMDC Board Members:

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Respectfully,

perry harris
Chair and Board Members,

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Juliana Sohn

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Respectfully,

judith ackerman
Chair and Board Members,

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Respectfully,

Judith Ackerman
Sixty years ago the “Radio Row” neighborhood was condemned to make way for the original World Trade Center. Its stated “public purpose” was to create a unified project as a “facility of commerce”.

Building a 75/25 luxury residential building does not represent a “public purpose”. Building a 100% affordable residential building not only serves a “public purpose”, but will serve as a vibrant testimonial to those brave souls who gave their all.

Sincerely,
Michael Kramer
Public Member
Manhattan Community Board One
Dear LMDC Board Members:

I urge you to reject the current proposal because it fails to deliver on the LMDC's promise to provide substantial affordable housing in Lower Manhattan. The current proposal will create 70-75% luxury housing and a minimal 25% to 30% of the units to be affordable goes against the will of the community and elected officials and ignores the dire housing crisis we face. We can and must do better.

The community has fought for over two decades to build deeply affordable housing that would promote diversity and give 9/11 survivors & first responders a home in the neighborhood they helped rebuild. Lower Manhattan needs socio economically diverse housing and this is the last opportunity to make a substantial change and help remediate the thousands of lost affordable units that disappeared in the last 10 years from failed programs.

Public land must serve the public good, not the pockets of luxury real estate developers. Public agencies should not be building luxury housing that essentially become gated private communities as Liberty Park and the Memorial is closed to the public each night. As a public agency, you have a duty to address the needs of the State by demanding more affordable housing at this site.

Respectfully,
Tammy Meltzer