



CITY OF NEW YORK

MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD 10

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CICELY HARRIS
Chairperson

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RESOLUTION

Increasing the Black Representation in New York State Real Estate Appraisal Industry

WHEREAS, real estate appraisals by law should not display individual bias of any kind and;

WHEREAS, African Americans across the nation are experiencing unexplained inflated and deflated property values often the result of biased appraisals, and

WHEREAS, the property values that are recorded in a sales transaction are used to calculate assessment values which are then tax (ad valorem); and

WHEREAS, racial disparities in property values are the root of the property tax issue and;

WHEREAS, addressing the property values appraisals provide, will also show results in property tax;

WHEREAS, there are two vacant seats on the New York State Real Estate Appraisal Board, appointments are by the New York State Speaker Carl E. Heastie and;

WHEREAS, real estate courses are not affordable and, there is no financial aid available to take the course online and;

WHEREAS, New York City provided vouchers for such courses which is no longer in place and;

WHEREAS, there is a lack of access to this education in urban communities and currently, travel is always required if one would like to take appraisal courses;

WHEREAS, minorities are having a hard time finding appraisers to train under and general appraisers are not comfortable training them and;

WHEREAS, minorities face a difficult time trying to locate an appraiser to train under due to industry shrinkage and, many pass their skill and business to their heirs and;

WHEREAS, minorities may be certified but unable to complete training for more than 5 years and, there is a yearly fee to maintain an assistant appraiser's license while acquiring the training needed to become a general appraiser and;

WHEREAS, minorities find themselves paying to renew a license that does not benefit them because they are not chosen to be trained and, if they do not renew the license for 5 consecutive years, they must start all over again;

WHEREAS, this call of action directly responds to include economic sustainability, education, health, criminal justice, political action and youth engagement and;

WHEREAS, Manhattan Community Board 10 and the Manhattan Community Board 10 Housing Committee remain undeterred and vigilant in its crusade for justice and equality;

THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED, that Manhattan Community Board 10 supports Real Estate Appraisal Reform.

THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that we implement a taskforce to collect the research date, encourage New York State Assemblymember/ Speaker Carl E. Heastie and Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to appoint members of the New York Real Estate Appraisal Board, advocate for minorities to get certified and licensed in the real estate appraisal industry and remove the two - year requirement of training, and remove the five year limit on how far back in time certifications can be used, lobby elected officials to create policy that will bring real estate appraisal education to urban communities and support Real Estate Appraisal Reform in the state and nationally.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that on September 7, 2021, Manhattan Community Board 10 passed this Resolution to support the increasing the Black Representation in New York State Real Estate Appraisal by a unanimous vote of **(39)** Yes **(0)** No **(0)** Abstentions.

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