



CITY OF NEW YORK

MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR

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COREY JOHNSON
Chair

ROBERT J. BENFATTO, JR., ESQ.
District Manager

August 14, 2013

Seth W. Pinsky, President
New York City Economic Development Corporation
110 William Street
New York, NY 10038

Re: Lease of property to Culture Shed, Inc.

Dear Mr. Pinsky:

Manhattan Community Board 4 (MCB4) supports the leasing of property to the non-profit entity Culture Shed, Inc. for 99-years for \$1 a year.

The Culture Shed building that will be erected is on the Eastern Rail Yards (“ERY”) between Tenth and Eleventh Avenues, West 30th to West 34th Streets, in SHYD Subarea A1. The proposed community facility was originally allocated 200,000 square feet of floor area but in 2010, as part of the Metropolitan Transit Authority’s negotiation with the designated developer for ERY, the Related Companies, the floor area of the community facility was reduced from the 200,000 square feet mandated in the zoning to only 100,000 square feet. The result of that negotiation was that the MTA, not Related, retains the rights to the remaining 100,000 square feet of floor area.

We wrote a resolution in reference to the proposed text amendments for the Culture Shed building on April 5, 2013 and our concerns have since been addressed by the City Planning Commission and the NYC City Council.

Sincerely,

Corey Johnson
Chair

Jean-Daniel Noland
Chair, Clinton/Hell’s Kitchen Land Use Committee

cc: Melanie LaRocca, Harriet Sedgwick - NYC Council Speaker Christine Quinn
Brian Cook, Michael Sandler – Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer
NYS Senator Brad Hoylman
NYS Assemblyman Richard Gottfried
US Congressman Jerrold Nadler