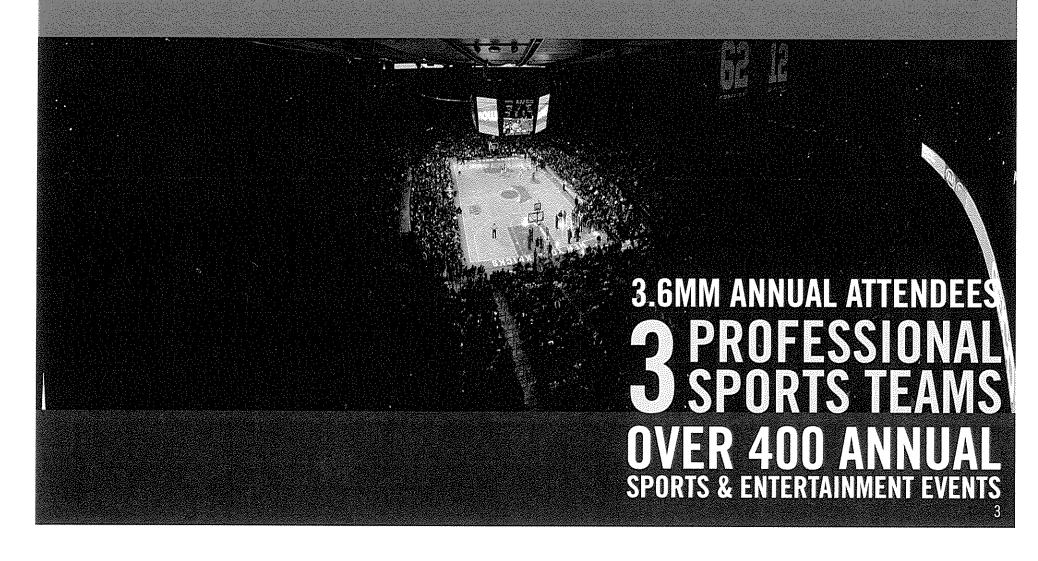
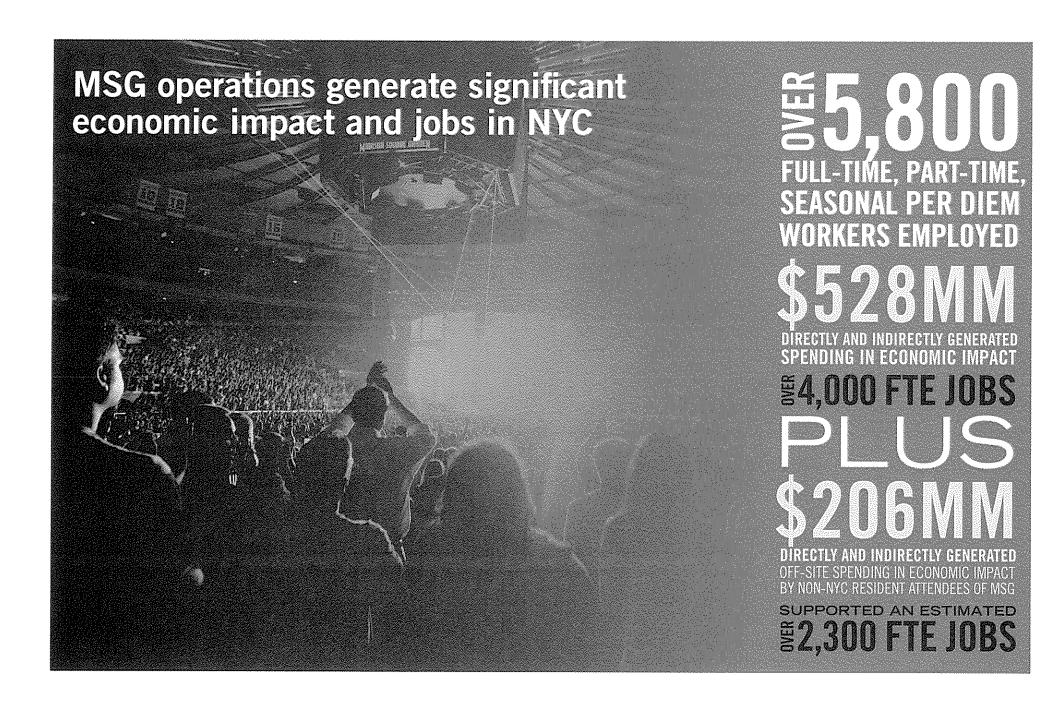




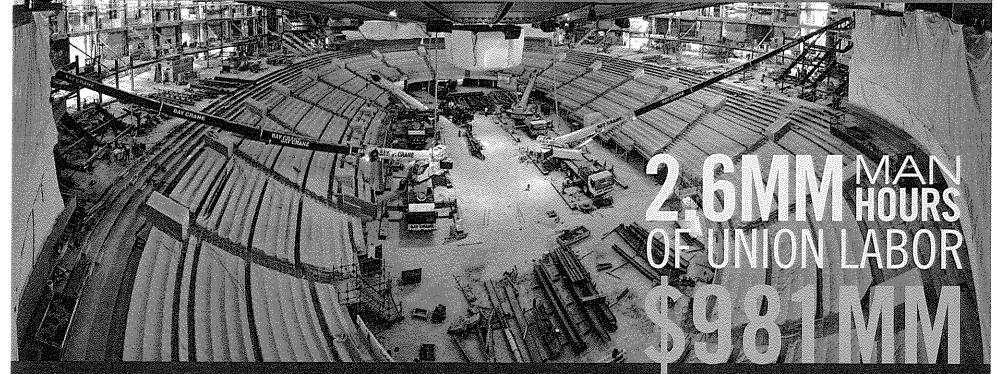


MSG attracts premier events to the heart of New York City

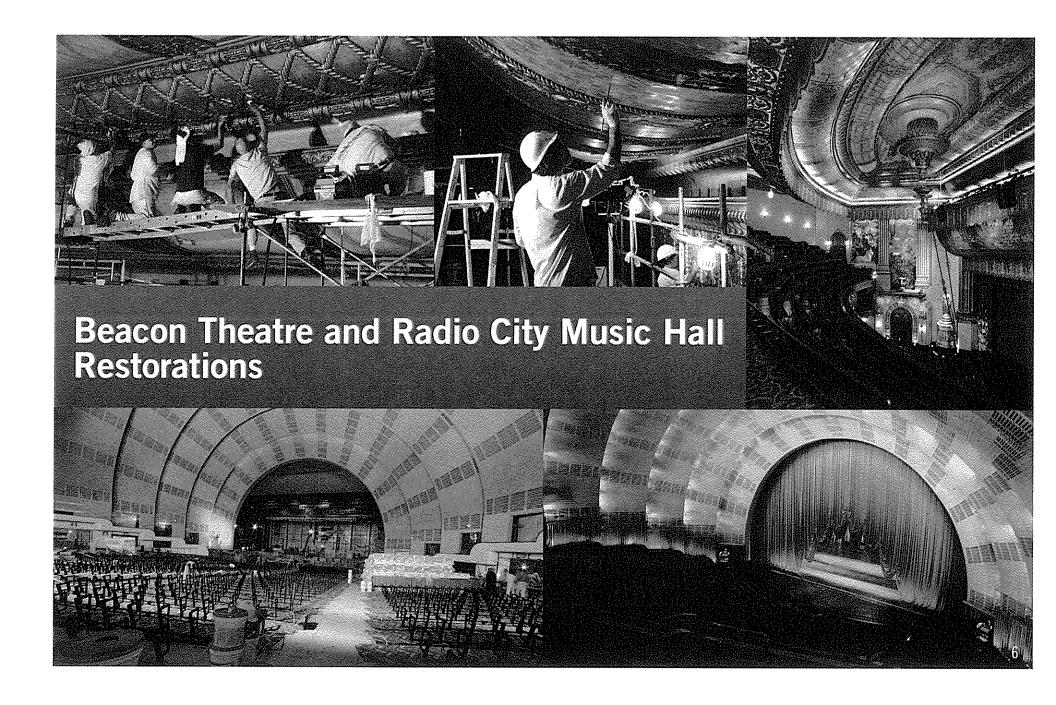


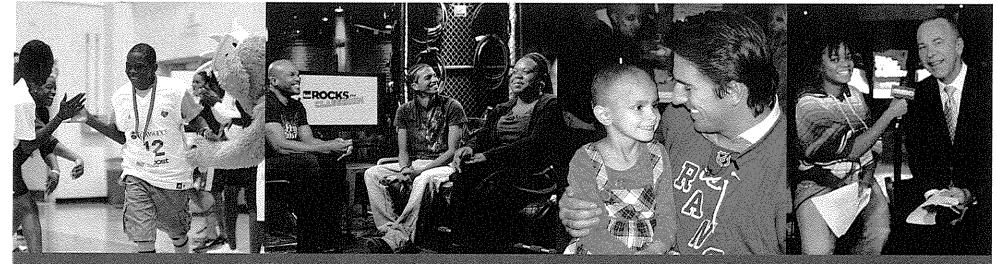


MSG is currently undergoing a nearly \$1 billion self-funded Transformation

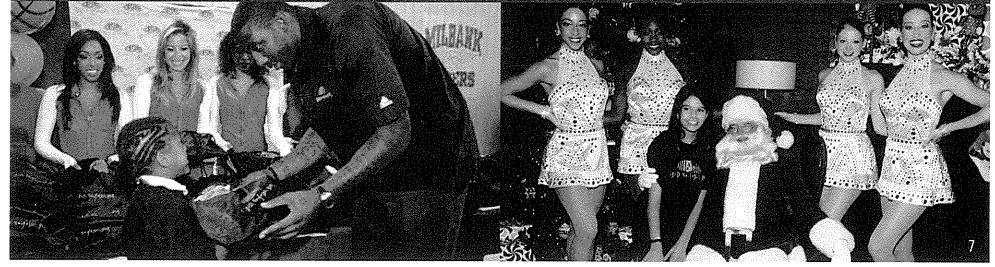


INDIRECT AND DIRECT SUPPORT IN ECONOMIC IMPACT AS A RESULT OF TRANSFORMATION

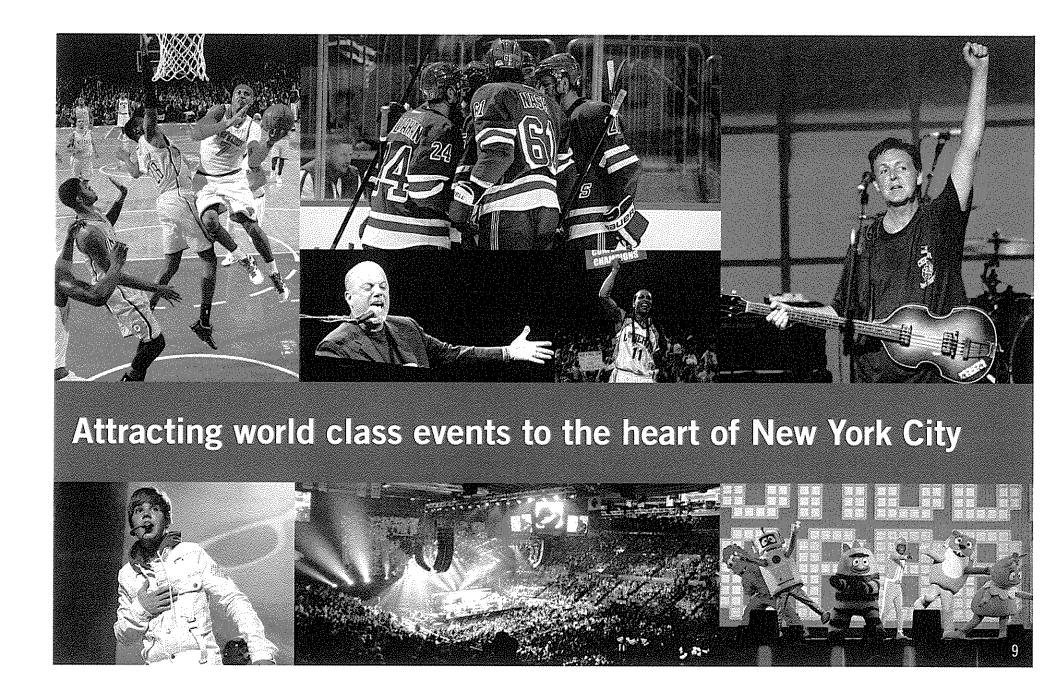




The Garden of Dreams Foundation has positively impacted the lives of more than 225,000 children and their families in just six years









- Create a pedestrian-friendly experience
- Enhance presence as an iconic destination
- Respect existing context of the neighborhood

Enhance pedestrian safety and security

Streetscape Plan & Design

Existing Conditions: 33rd Street and 8th Avenue







Existing Conditions: Private Driveway



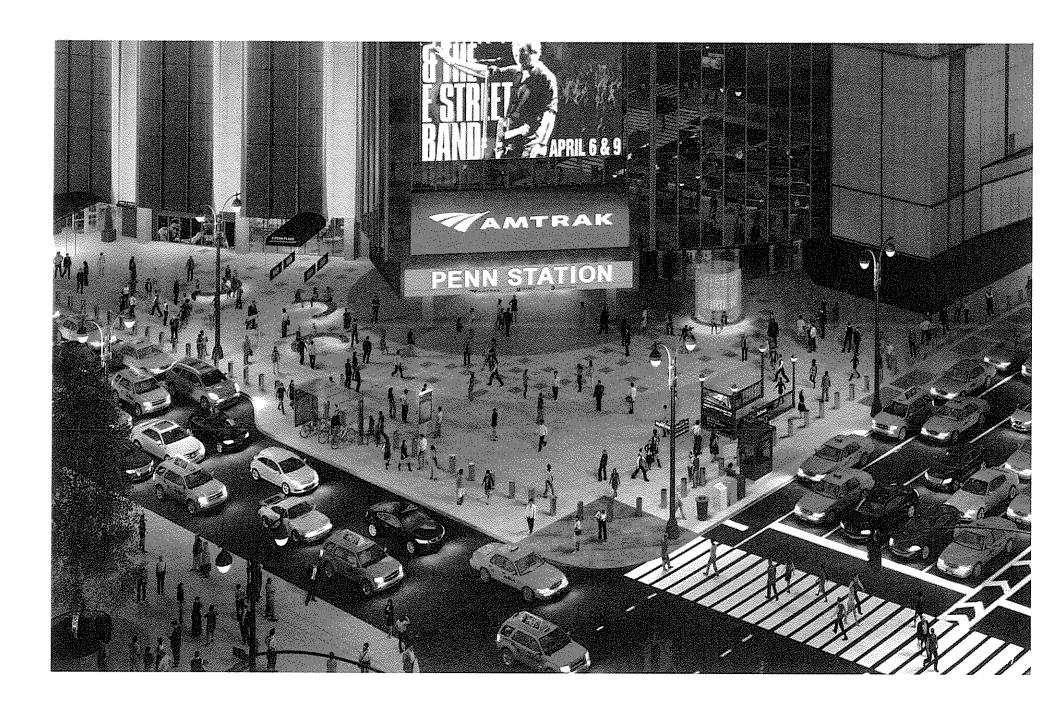


Private Driveway Improvements



Garden of Dreams Pavers

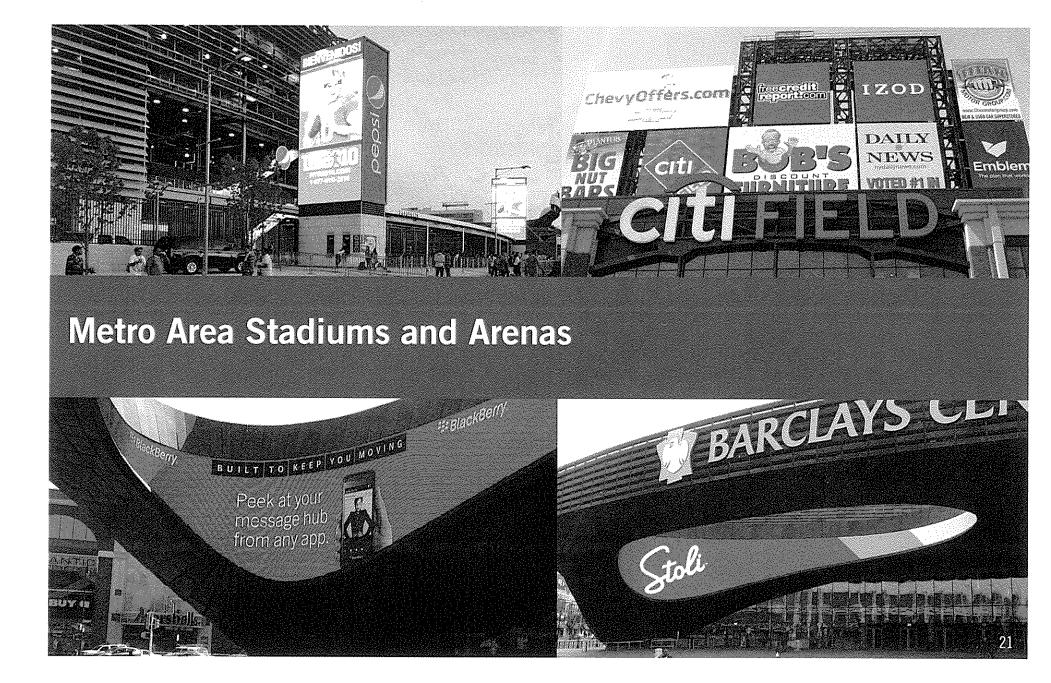
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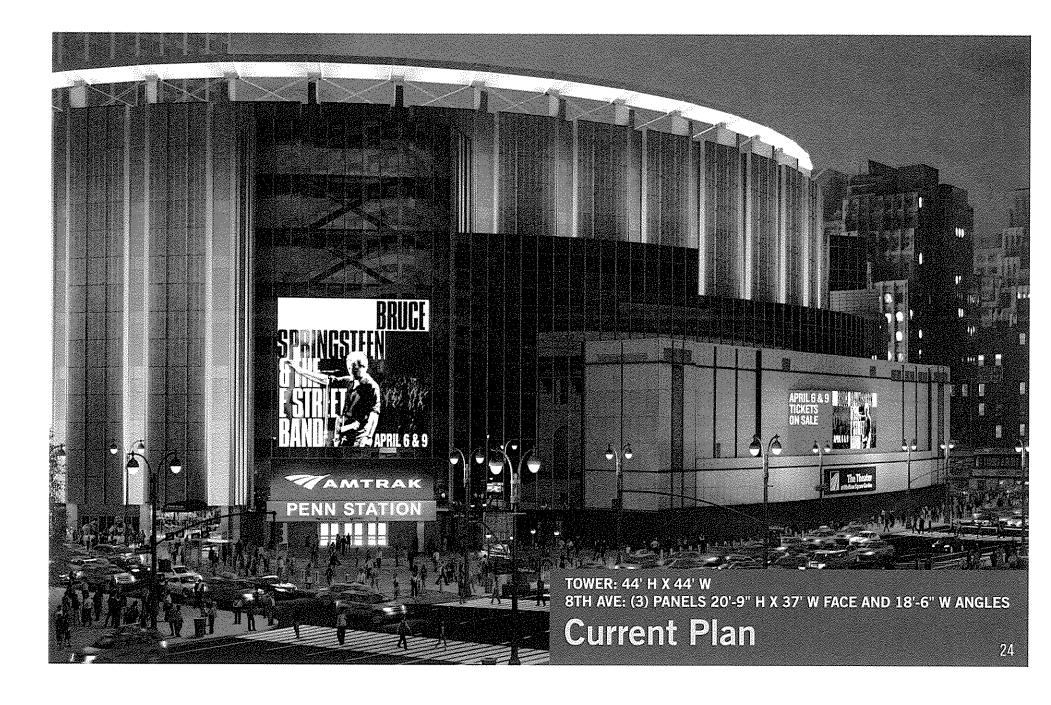




Existing Conditions: 33rd Street and 8th Avenue





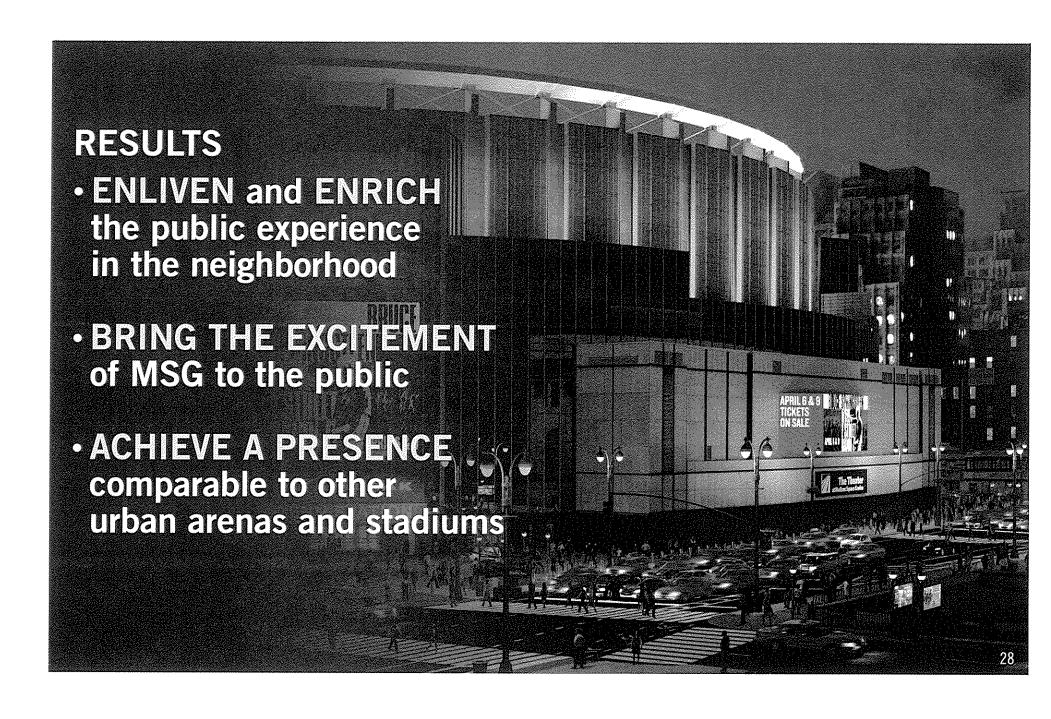


Existing Conditions: 33rd Street and 7th Avenue

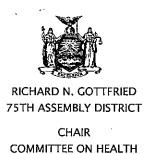












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Madison Square Garden Applications

C 130139 ZSM, C 130140 ZSM, N 1301137 ZRM
Testimony by Richard N. Gottfried
Before the New York City Council Subcommittee on Franchises and Zoning
Wednesday, June 19, 2013

My name is Richard N. Gottfried. I represent the 75th Assembly District, which includes Madison Square Garden as well as the surrounding areas, including Chelsea, Midtown, and Hell's Kitchen. Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony today.

Madison Square Garden (MSG) has applied for an extension, without a sunset clause, of the special permit it received in 1963 to operate an arena. The Garden is also seeking text amendment changes in the Pennsylvania Station Subarea B4 of the Special Hudson Yards District to allow for larger signs than are currently permitted under the zoning and changes to the plazas and public space in the area around the Garden.

Madison Square Garden is a unique facility. It is one of the best-known venues in the world, and is woven into New York's history and identity.

Madison Square Garden sits above the nation's busiest public transportation center. If the Garden were at a site less accessible to public transportation, its operation would have a serious negative impact on vehicular traffic in the City. However, its presence above Penn Station has hampered efforts to re-establish a grand entrance to the train station.

Throughout the discussion of the future of Penn Station, the Garden has been ready and willing to relocate. At one point, the plan was to relocate MSG to the Ninth Avenue side of the Farley Post Office complex, as part of Farley's conversion to Moynihan Station. MSG was prepared to make that move and spent tens of millions of dollars on plans.

The development of the Moynihan project has been long, complex and tedious, to say the least, involving three layers of government, several railroads and transit operators, extraordinary engineering challenges, vehicular and pedestrian traffic problems, zoning and development issues, and landmarks preservation concerns. Some of those issues are still being resolved. The fact that previous relocation efforts for MSG did not succeed may not have been any party's "fault."

The Garden held off making needed renovations and modernizations of the facility.. Rather than move out of town, the Garden chose to stay and modernized in place, spending one billion dollars, which also created 3,700 construction jobs and a welcomed spark to the local economy. While the Garden receives a property tax abatement, like many other developments, it

did not (unlike some other sports facilities) threaten to move out of town if it did not receive more from the government.

Today, MSG does not hold the keys to the lock that would open the way for a grand entrance to Penn Station. Nor is there a location to move to that is readily-available. Any proposed new site for the Garden would certainly generate a variety of objections and involve years of discussion and negotiation.

Special Permit Renewal

MSG is asking the City for approval to continue the business it has done at its current location for the past 45 years. For an arena that has a capacity of 22,000, it is remarkable how small an impact it has on the neighborhood, because most visitors arrive by public transportation.

There are criteria a special permit holder must meet, set out in section 74-41 of the Zoning Resolution. The Garden fully complies with those criteria. I believe it would be inappropriate, if not arbitrary and capricious, to deny the Garden a renewal of its permit. Yet last month the City Planning Commission voted to give MSG an extension of its special permit for only 15 years, apparently to force MSG to leave and free the space above Penn Station. And some argue for renewing the special permit for only ten years.

There was a time when it was common to put sunset clauses in special permits. However, that is rarely done today, except in limited cases that are meant to be temporary operations – not billion dollar world famous sports arenas.

I do not know what this limited renewal would accomplish. It is unlikely that a suitable alternative site will be settled on and approved and running. Yet I don't think anyone is suggesting that the Garden should just close and leave the New York Liberty, the Rangers, the Knicks, and their fans in the lurch. In fifteen years, even if the City refuses to renew MSG's permit, its owners will still have a huge and largely un-amortized investment in the building, and it will still have substantial legal rights at the site.

Discussions of a suitable and feasible new site for the Garden and a suitable and feasible plan for a Penn Station entrance on the east side of Eighth Avenue can and should go forward, whether a special permit is about to expire or will not expire for years. Those discussions will and should depend on suitability and feasibility.

If, however, the City Council determines to impose a sunset on the renewal of the special permit, it ought to be for a more reasonable length of time. A business like the Garden would be expected to amortize its investment over a period of 40-50 years. It would seem appropriate that a renewal be at least in the 25-30 year range.

Signage

Billboards and signage are a New York tradition, especially for entertainment and sports venues. However, I agree with Community Boards 4 and 5 that the proposed "Eighth Avenue Media Wall" is too large. Including media on the 31st and 33rd Street sides, the "Wall" would permit 17,000 square feet of digital media to be projected.

As the community boards have expressed, and the City Planning Commission agreed, projecting this much light onto the Eighth Avenue environs would have a dramatic impact on the neighborhood. This might not make much of a difference in an area like Times Square. But the proposal is out of context here.

The Council should support the Planning Commission's limits on signage.

Public Plazas and Wayfinding

As a weekly passenger on Amtrak going to Albany, I know that the entrance to Penn Station on Eighth Avenue is only a little better marked than the side entrance to an elementary school. The sidewalk area is dull, uninviting, and gives no identity to Penn Station or the Garden. The Garden's plan for the plaza would be a useful amenity. And I agree that the Garden must delay putting up its advertising banner where Amtrak will put a larger Penn Station sign.

Improving the current signage would be welcome, in accordance with the City Department of Transportation's "Wayfinding" signage program.

Conclusion

The west side of Manhattan faces major change. Madison Square Garden should contribute to, benefit from, and grow with that change. But it must be done in a way that both considers and accommodates the best interests of the community, the Garden, and the City in terms of public transportation, appropriate use of open space, and reducing light pollution.

Thank you again for allowing me to submit this testimony.

BRAD HOYLMAN 27TH SENATE DISTRICT

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TESTIMONY BY NEW YORK STATE SENATOR BRAD HOYLMAN BEFORE THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL SUBCOMMITTEE ON ZONING AND FRANCHISES REGARDING MADISON SQUARE GARDEN

(ULURP Application Nos. N 130137 ZRM, N 130138 ZCM, C 130139 ZSM, and C 130140 ZSM by MSG Holdings L.P.)

June 19, 2013

Thank you Chair Weprin for the opportunity to present testimony before the New York City Council Subcommittee on Zoning and Franchises today. I represent New York State's 27th Senate District, which includes parts of the West Midtown Central Business District, where Madison Square Garden (MSG) is located. Although my district's boundaries do not include MSG, I represent the neighborhoods immediately surrounding the arena. Furthermore, the long-term prospects of MSG, Pennsylvania Station (Penn Station), and the vicinity, which are at stake in this hearing, are extremely important to my constituents, as well as all New Yorkers.

As you know, on May 22, the New York City Planning Commission (CPC) passed a resolution recommending the approval of the application by MSG Holdings, L.P for two special permits with modifications.

The modified special permit would limit the continued operation of its 22,000 seat arena in an area zoned to allow an arena of only 2,500 seats to fifteen (15) years unless the three railroads – AMTRAK, Long Island Rail Road, New Jersey Transit – and MSG come to an agreement to improve access and egress, aesthetics and safety for the transit hub. This so-called Improvement Agreement would be subject to approval only by the Director of the Department of City Planning, after which the arena would be allowed to remain atop Penn Station forever.

While I recognize that the Commission did not outright approve the renewal of the arena's special permit allowing its continued operation in perpetuity, I strongly object to this loophole that would, in essence, allow just that. I appreciate that MSG is a major international venue and a significant contributor to the local economy. I also recognize that there are numerous obstacles to the relocation of the facility. However, I believe that we should embrace the unique opportunity

for the possibility of a modern and revitalized transit hub in the heart of Manhattan's West Side as part of the new Moynihan Station. Transportation infrastructure is fundamental to our city's economy, culture and global stature, and ensuring its long-term viability must be a top priority. The type of improvements necessary for Penn Station to remain an efficient transit hub, let alone one befitting a main entrance to the world's greatest city, can only come with a redevelopment of the site currently occupied by MSG. As such, I strongly support the recommendations made by Manhattan Community Board 5 (CB5), the Municipal Art Society and Regional Plan Association that MSG's permit renewal be strictly limited to ten (10) years.

The other special permit CPC recommended for approval would allow new, large LED signs that exceed the surface area and use restrictions of the site's existing zoning. I should note that this proposed new signage would be in addition to existing signage that currently does not comply with the site's zoning. I oppose the type of large-scale LED advertising screens found in Times Square spreading into the West Midtown Central Business District and other neighborhoods. Currently, MSG displays approximately 4,000 square feet of advertising above Penn Station. This special permit would allow for about 17,000 square feet of signage, including a 5,300 square foot series of different-sized display panels along the arena's Eighth Avenue façade. Such signage is not suitable for the neighborhood. I echo the recommendation made by both CB5 and Manhattan Community Board 4 that the special permit for this enlarged signage be denied, and that all restrictions regarding signage in Subarea B4 of the Special Hudson Yards District be enforced.

Thank you for allowing me to testify and for your consideration of my remarks.

MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FIVE

Vikki Barbero, Chair

450 Seventh Avenue, Suite 2109 New York, NY 10123-2199 212.465.0907 f-212.465.1628 Wally Rubin, District Manager

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE CITY COUNCIL REGARDING MADISON SQUARE GARDEN REQUEST FOR RENEWAL OF SPECIAL PERMIT IN PERPETUITY VIKKI BARBERO, CHAIR COMMUNITY BOARD FIVE, MANHATTAN WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19, 2013

My name is Vikki Barbero and I am the Chair of Community Board Five. Let me also mention that I have lived and worked in this central part of Manhattan for over 40 years and have served on the Board for the past 20 years.

During these two decades of volunteer service I can think of no issue that came before CB5 that had a greater importance for the entire City of New York than the subject of today's hearing.

Our thoughts and conclusions regarding Madison Square Garden's request for renewal of a special permit in perpetuity boil down to a few very simple facts:

To begin with, Penn Station is desperately in need of improvements to capacity, access and overall experience. It is an outmoded and embarrassing transit hub for the greatest city in the world. Unless it is physically separated from Madison Square Garden, it will pretty much stay that way...in perpetuity. It simply needs more space in order for it to be modernized and significantly upgraded. The current situation should be totally unacceptable to anyone involved in planning for the future needs of the City.

This point of view was represented by a unanimous vote of the members of CB5.

Secondly, we have a cultural and sports arena that is 45 years old and in need of being replaced by a facility that will rival the finest arenas to be found anywhere in the world. The external architectural statement that is currently Madison Square Garden is not one that any of us should feel proud of. Remaining in its current location will not change that simple reality.

In short, if Madison Square Garden is to remain an envied and vital American icon in the future, we believe a new and spacious location must be found. Otherwise, it will soon become a second-rate cousin to the new and glamorous Barclay Center in Brooklyn.

For these and many other reasons, on behalf of CB5, I would urge the City Planning Commission to accept the wise recommendation by the Borough President, the Municipal Arts Society and the Community Board – just to name a few - that the length of the special permit be restricted to a 10-year period and new discussions undertaken with respect to planning a new and dynamic transit hub for the City and a world-class arena that will build on the great traditions of Madison Square Garden.

Lastly, the loophole that allows the renewal in perpetuity if the three railroads, MSG and the Department of City Planning agree on improvements to Penn Station, cuts the public/community board out of the review of one of the most important transportation issues New York City faces and removes any Council role in the process as well. We believe any renewal of the permit needs to go through the City's Land Use review process and strongly urge removal of this loophole.

Thank you.



GARY Labarberā President AFFILIATED WITH THE BUILDING CONSTRUCTION TRADES DEPARTMENT OF WASHINGTON D.C.

BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL OF NEW YORK STATE

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR OF CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATION

TESTIMONY OF PAUL E. FERNANDES CHIEF OF STAFF BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL OF GREATER NEW YORK

COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK SUBCOMMITTEE ON ZONING AND FRANCHISES PUBLIC HEARING

TESTIMONY ON MADISON SQUARE GARDEN

JUNE 19, 2013

Good afternoon, Mr. Chairman and members of the subcommittee. My name is Paul Fernandes. I am the chief of staff of the Building and Construction Trades Council of Greater New York, an organization that consists of local affiliates of 15 national and international unions representing 100,000 working men and women in the five boroughs of New York City.

We are pleased to testify today in support of granting Madison Square Garden a special permit of substantial duration to allow it to continue operating as the premiere sports and entertainment arena in Manhattan. We oppose a 15 year limit on this permit that would be arbitrary, unfair and not advance the objectives claimed by its advocates.

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For many years, alternative uses for this site and improvements to Penn Station have been discussed. A number of factors have prevented those alternative uses and improvements from coming to be. Granting a special permit limited to 15 years -- which is effectively the situation under which Madison Square Garden has operated for the last 15 years -- will not bring together the confluence of favorable circumstances needed for alternative uses of the site and improvements to Penn Station to advance. The very recent history of the expiring special permit indicates that the duration of the special permit neither positively nor negatively affected efforts to reimagine the future of the site. It has been a non-factor and it will remain a non-factor.

No organization in this city would like to see major commercial redevelopment at this site and improvements to Penn Station become a reality more than the building and construction trades. It would mean an enormous amount of job creation in our industry. Granting a special permit of duration substantially longer than 15 years will do nothing to prevent these plans from being considered and advancing. If it would, we would not be here testifying as we are.

Three years ago our organization negotiated a project labor agreement with Turner Construction Company for nearly \$1 billion of renovations and improvements to Madison Square Garden. This project is creating 3,700 construction jobs for members of our affiliated unions, all of whom are being paid good wages with health insurance, pensions and other benefits.

In addition to employment associated with these renovations and improvements, Madison Square Garden employs members of our affiliated unions in its daily operations for Knicks and Rangers games, concerts, the circus, college basketball games and other major events.

Granting a special permit of only 15 years would severely harm Madison Square Garden's ability to realize a return on its investment -- made at a time of economic difficulty when the city and our industry needed it -- and bring a level of uncertainty to the long-term planning required of such facilities to provide sustained employment opportunities for its workforce.

We therefore again urge the subcommittee and the Council to support a special permit for Madison Square Garden that is substantially longer than 15 years. Thank you.

Testimony of Bob Master

Legislative and Political Director, CWA District One

June 19, 2013

Speaker Quinn, Chairman Weprin, Members of the Council:

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to testify today. My name is Bob Master and I am the Legislative and Political Director of the Communications Workers of America, District 1. We represent 25,000 workers and their families who live in New York City.

Our members love this city. They are sports fans and transit users.

They want New York City to be a world-class leader when it comes to both professional sports and public transportation.

As a result, our members share the concerns expressed by many here today about the future of Penn Station and Madison Square Garden. As riders of the subway, the Long Island Railroad and NJ Transit, they are all too familiar with the shabby, depressing, and constricted terminal that is the current Penn Station. They know

we can do better.

The expiration of Madison Square Garden's special permit provides

New York a unique opportunity to remedy the colossal

architectural, historical and transportation error we made when

the old Penn Station was demolished. Not only is the 50-year old

Penn Station/Madison Square Garden unattractive (even if it is

"iconic" as Madison Square Garden claims), but it is also a totally
inadequate train station.

As someone who unfortunately has to go to Albany fairly regularly,

I can attest to just how bad it is. There simply is not enough space

for all the people and all of the trains.

But if we relocated Madison Square Garden – in the process, making it the world-class arena that New York deserves – we can right these wrongs and improve the travel experience for the half a million people who use Penn Station every day.

That almost certainly will not happen if Madison Square Garden is granted the unlimited operating permit it is seeking. Over the next decade, there will be a critical confluence of developments, including, as Robert Yaro of the Regional Plan Association has testified, the completion of the LIRR East Side Access terminal near Grand Central; the completion of improvements at Moynihan station; and the completion of Amtrak's "Gateway Tunnel" project with two new tunnels under the Hudson River. These developments open a unique window of opportunity to at long last replace the current Penn Station with a world class railroad station appropriate for our world-class city. But that can only happen if Madison Square Garden is moved and the space above the rail center opened up to accommodate the necessities and amenities of a great train transportation hub.

That's why we urge the Council to limit the renewal of Madison

Square Garden's special operating permit to 10 years or less. The

loopholes proposed by the City Planning Commission, which would give Madison Square Garden the ability to extend its permit if arena management strikes a deal with the rail agencies that use Penn Station, are even more problematic. They would give one person, the Director of the City Planning Department, unilateral and unchecked authority to extend the permit forever. Given the magnitude of the issues involved here, that proposal is undemocratic and unacceptable.

MSG is also seeking approval for the installation of massive LED lights on the outside of the arena. While City Planning proposed some important changes to those lights – prohibiting advertising and limiting the size to 40 feet tall – they would still be an exception to the current zoning. Local <u>Community Board 5 voted</u>

36 to 0 against granting the renewal in perpetuity and the new, larger LED signs, and instead proposed that the permit be extended for 10 years. <u>Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer</u>

supported the community board's position.

We urge you to limit those LED lights to what has been allowed by the underlying zoning.

Finally, as you know, MSG has paid no property taxes since 1982, when the Koch administration granted it an exemption to keep the Knicks and Rangers in New York City after they threatened to leave the city. At the time, in the years shortly after the mid-70s fiscal crisis, with infrastructure crumbling, social services faltering, and crime still soaring, the threat of the sports teams leaving the city may have been real. But 30 years later, the Rangers and the Knicks—two of the most valuable and profitable franchises in the world of sports—aren't going anywhere. The late Mayor Koch, as well as others involved in the agreement's negotiations over 30 years ago, believed the tax break was for a temporary period of 10 years and not in perpetuity.

In 2004, Mayor Bloomberg called on the company to surrender the tax break and called it an "undeserved giveaway." In 2008, the New York City Council voted 40 to 3 in support of a resolution calling for an end to the property tax break. Community Board 5, in its review of the special operating permit application, recommended the elimination of the property tax abatement and urged the Council to make its elimination a condition of any extension of the operating permit. We concur.

While you may not be able to get rid of the tax break without assistance from your colleagues in Albany, you do have the power to ensure that Madison Square Garden doesn't prevent the City from reimagining Penn Station and bringing New York City's rail services into the 21st century. I can remember that when I was growing up, my grandfather, a tailor who had immigrated from Russia, worked in the garment center and lived in Brooklyn, mourned the destruction of the magnificent Penn Station. It was a

loss that was felt at the deepest level of those who live in and love this city. It is a loss that we are reminded of whenever we walk through Grand Central Station, and experience what a great public space can be.

In the next 10 to 15 years, we have a great opportunity to remedy the mistake of 1963 and bring a great train station back to the west side of New York. One corporation's greed cannot be allowed to stand in the way.

On behalf of the 25,000 CWA members living in New York City, I urge you to use your power to ensure that this opportunity is not squandered.

Thank you for your time.



Madison Square Garden Land Use Application

Public Hearing, Subcommittee on Zoning and Franchises New York City Council June 19, 2013

Testimony by Robert D. Yaro, President, Regional Plan Association

We urge the Council to deny Madison Square Garden's request for a permit in perpetuity and instead grant MSG a 10-year special permit to provide time for redesigning Penn Station in conjunction with a new arena in another Midtown location. A 10-year permit will catalyze the public and private sectors to act now and work together to find a solution.

We also strongly urge the Council to eliminate the loophole contained in the City Planning Commission's findings that would allow the Garden to strike a private deal with the railroads that operate within Penn Station and obtain a permit in perpetuity despite recommendations by city officials. This loophole would only require the signoff of the planning department, avoiding any public review of a deal that could permanently saddle our city with a failed Penn Station.

By approving a 10-year permit with no loophole, the Council will send a clear message that the continued location of the Garden over Penn Station should not be permanent and that a new and expanded station is urgently needed to meet the transportation and economic-development needs of the city, the metropolitan area and the Northeast.

The City Council has a unique opportunity to re-envision the future of Penn Station and Madison Square Garden, two of our city's most vital civic spaces. The Alliance for a New Penn Station, led by Regional Plan Association and the Municipal Art Society, believes that New York deserves a world-class train station and a world-class arena. Currently, we have neither.

Some half a million commuters and visitors pass through Penn Station every weekday. They grapple with severe overcrowding, grim corridors and unpleasant public areas. The New York metropolitan region has endured this depressing state of affairs for nearly half a century. Since the current makeshift Penn Station was built in the 1960s, passenger volumes have increased to almost half a million daily trips. The present station wasn't designed to accommodate its current traffic, much less future demand, which is expected to grow significantly by 2030.

Penn Station's narrow platforms — some as little as 17 feet wide, far shy of the current 30-foot national minimum for platforms with tracks on both sides — are obstructed by 1,163 columns that were put in place to support the Garden. This is several times the number of columns that would be present at a modern or even an historic train station, and they block access for wheelchairs and passengers with wheeled luggage, severely limiting pedestrian movement at the station and

creating potentially unsafe conditions. The clogged platforms and stairwells also force trains arriving at Penn to remain in the station longer, limiting overall capacity.

Penn Station also has been a drag on economic development. Unlike other major transportation hubs, including our own Grand Central Terminal, which attracts people to the neighborhood and spurs economic activity, Penn Station only draws people who have to be there. This has created a dead zone within an otherwise burgeoning and vibrant West Midtown.

An overhaul also would be a boon for Madison Square Garden. The Garden is among the country's oldest professional basketball or hockey arenas. Even its recent renovation leaves it outmoded by industry standards and in comparison with two other new arenas in the region, Brooklyn's Barclays Center and Newark's Prudential Center. Loading freight in and out of the building is complex, costly and disruptive to the neighborhood. The Garden has been relocated several times in its history and could be successfully moved again, to one of several potential sites in Manhattan.

A half century of having Madison Square Garden above Penn Station has proven that we can't have both a world-class arena and a world-class train station on the same site.

Thank you.

Daniel A. Biederman, President, 34th Street Partnership City Council Zoning & Franchises Subcommittee Testimony June 19, 2013

Good afternoon, I am Dan Biederman, President of the 34th Street Partnership. Along with Macy's and the Empire State Building, Madison Square Garden is one of the economic anchors of our neighborhood and stands with those attractions as a great icon of New York. As one of the city's premier destinations for almost fifty years, the Garden is vital to the life and ongoing development of the 34th Street district.

The Garden is a magnet for visitors from around the world, and is an economic engine. People attending events at MSG spend money by purchasing tickets and, once at the venue, buying food and souvenirs at concessions. Outside the Garden, they eat, drink, shop, and stay at hotels in our neighborhood, as well as around the city. The guaranteed flow of pedestrians coming to and from events at the Garden is a prime consideration for retailers and restaurateurs thinking of opening up in our district.

The Garden is one of our district's biggest employers, with nearly 6,000 full-time, part-time, and seasonal workers.

The Garden is a good citizen. By the end of 2013, it will have completed a massive \$1 billion interior renovation that will continue to render it the nation's premier sporting venue. This investment by its owners is a tremendous show of faith in the future of the city and will unquestionably result in many more large-scale events coming to New York City.

The Garden is a major constituent of the Partnership and has always supported our efforts to make 34th Street cleaner, safer, and more attractive. We also support MSG's request for enhanced signs on the building's façade and believe this reflects the dynamism and excitement of the surrounding neighborhood. Other NYC-based arenas and stadiums are permitted signs, and what MSG has proposed is a reasonable request for such an iconic venue.

To sum up our position: Madison Square Garden is a NYC icon recognized instantly around the world, and it deserves to have signs that enhance 34th Street. Its events attract four million annual visitors. It supports thousands of jobs and generates economic activity far outside its immediate confines. For nearly 50 years, it has been a good neighbor, a valued member of the 34th Street community, and a positive force for New York City.

We ask that you act in favor of Madison Square Garden. Please do not burden it with the uncertainty and risks that will occur if a limited term of years is part of your decision.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you today.

Daniel A. Biederman President 34th Street Partnership Tel: 212-719-3434



34th Street Partnership



TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON ZONING AND FRANCHISES OF THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL

HEARING ON LAND USE APPLICATIONS 847, 848, & 849

KATHRYN WYLDE PRESIDENT & CEO

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19, 2013

The Partnership for New York City represents the city's business leadership and its largest private sector employers. We recently published the *NYC Jobs Blueprint*, which lays out what city leaders must do to create a full-employment economy. A key finding of the *Blueprint* is the need to better protect and leverage the city's assets, including the anchor institutions that define our global brand and support our key industries.

Madison Square Garden is one of those assets, contributing more than \$500 million a year to the tourism industry and employing 6,000 people in mostly middle-income jobs. The success of MSG as a global sports and entertainment destination has contributed to NYC's status as the nation's #1 tourist destination. Sitting atop Penn Station, it attracts more than 4 million people a year, including many visitors from outside the five boroughs and the United States.

The Garden is undergoing a billion-dollar transformation. To evolve into a modern, high-tech arena, the Garden requires approvals to continue to operate at its current location, enhance its surrounding plazas and modernize its exterior signage with exciting, dynamic content that is standard for stadiums and arenas in this city and across the country.

Unfortunately, various special interests are using this approval process to advance their own agendas at the expense of the Garden. We urge the City Council to consider the Garden's permit extension on its merits alone. We certainly hope to see the Farley Post Office redeveloped eventually and MSG management has demonstrated its willingness to cooperate with such plans, should they move forward. MSG postponed its own

renovation by three years in anticipation of the Moynihan Station project and only proceeded when it was clear the Moynihan plan was not moving any time soon. Now MSG needs the support of this body to proceed with its business plan and, based on their history, they deserve the same kind of commitment that other major sports and entertainment facilities have received.

MSG needs the ability to enter into long-term commitments for events and performances with confidence of their ability to deliver. They also need discretion with respect to how they promote their business through signage, which in the City Planning Commission's recommendations would limit in what seems an arbitrary and inappropriate intervention in private business decisions. MSG cannot operate, invest and plan effectively on a short term permit and without knowing they have the ability to effectively promote their events and their marketing partners.

We urge the Council to approve a long-term permit for the Garden, along with requested signage and related improvements, so that this iconic facility can continue to contribute to the economic vitality of the city. Doing so will send a message to the entire business community about the Council's commitment to supporting those companies and industries that are committed to New York City and to creating good jobs here. MSG is investing for the long term, their employees can be confident of their future job security, and this is the kind of employer the City Council should support. Thank you.

change.org

FOR THE RECORD

Recipient:

Christine Quinn

Letter:

Greetings,

Every weekday, more than half a million commuters and visitors scuttle through the dark and cramped passageways of Penn Station. Since 1963 the busiest train station in North America has been a hole in the ground beneath Madison Square Garden. Now, after fifty years, the Garden's special permit has expired, so there is finally an opportunity to fix Penn Station. Please grant the Garden a permit for 10 years, rather than the permanent extension they are requesting. This would give all stakeholders sufficient time to consider the best options for both Penn Station and Madison Square Garden.

Signatures

Name	Location	Date
Brian Nesin		2013-03-24
Romy Nesin	South Orange, NJ, United States	2013-03-25
David Grider	Brooklyn, NY, United States	2013-03-25
Brendan Crain	Astoria, NY, United States	2013-03-26
Cori Carl	Brooklyn, NY, United States	2013-03-26
Daly Reville	NY, NY, United States	2013-03-26
Graham Coreil-Allen	Baltimore, MD, United States	2013-03-26
Gloria Lee	Los Angeles, CA, United States	2013-03-26
Victoria Marshall	New York, NY, United States	2013-03-26
Roslyn Nesin	Stamford, CT, United States	2013-03-26
Raju Mann	Brooklyn, NY, United States	2013-03-26
Dawn Thompson	Brooklyn, NY, United States	2013-03-26
Merritt Nesin	New York, NY, United States	2013-03-26
Stephen Yablon	Maplewood, NJ, United States	2013-03-26
Jordan Zimolka	Brooklyn, NY, United States	2013-03-26
Clare Johnson	Brooklyn, NY, United States	2013-03-26
Peter Katz	Maplewood, NJ, United States	2013-03-27
Laura Saxon	morriston, FL, United States	2013-03-27
Marc Siry	South Orange, NJ, United States	2013-03-27
malgorzata gapinska	millburn, NJ, United States	2013-03-27
Hardy Phippen	New York, NY, United States	2013-03-27
Irene Dunsavage	Maplewood, NJ, United States	2013-03-27
Vivian Shapiro	New York, NY, United States	2013-03-27
Mark Loughney	Maplewood, NJ, United States	2013-03-27
Lynneve Berkowitz	Glen Ridge, NJ, United States	2013-03-27
Jane Gilligan	Maplewood, NJ, United States	2013-03-27
Margaret Jelcich	Maplewood, NJ, United States	2013-03-27
Liz Henry	Maplewood, NJ, United States	2013-03-27
John Anen	South Orange, NJ, United States	2013-03-27
Tom McGee	South Orange, NJ, United States	2013-03-27

Name	Location	Date
SARAH Macyshyn	South Orange, NJ, United States	2013-03-27
Adria Benjamin	NY, NY, United States	2013-03-27
Kelli Martin	NY, NY, United States	2013-03-27
Robert Cole	South Orange, NJ, United States	2013-03-27
Loic Vince	South Orange, NJ, United States	2013-03-28
Laurence Williams	Centennial, CO, United States	2013-03-28
Concerned Citizen	New City, NY, United States	2013-03-28
Alexandra Marx	La Jolla, CA, United States	2013-03-28
Anne Simms	South Orange, NJ, United States	2013-03-28
Amy Silvers	West Orange, NJ, United States	2013-03-28
Ben Vitale	South Orange, NJ, United States	2013-03-28
Karl Kantrowitz	Livingston, NJ, United States	2013-03-28
Susan Titelbaum	South Orange, NJ, United States	2013-03-28
Bryan Ross	Brooklyn, NY, United States	2013-03-28
Jonette Ayubi	Edmond, OK, United States	2013-03-28
keira rosenthal	maplewood, NJ, United States	2013-03-28
Susanna Seierup	Orange, CA, United States	2013-03-29
Viki Zimolka	Bay Shore, NY, United States	2013-03-30
Scott Greenstone	South Orange, NJ, United States	2013-04-01
Elizabeth Caronna	Tenafly, NJ, United States	2013-04-02
Stephen Pitti	New Haven, CT, United States	2013-04-02
Dennis Tucker	South Orange , NJ, United States	2013-04-02
Richard Baluyut	New York, NY, United States	2013-04-02
Paul Kelterborn	Brooklyn, NY, United States	2013-04-24
Jessica Halem	Brooklyn, NY, United States	2013-04-24
Robert Watson	New York, NY, United States	2013-04-24
Chris Bryant	New Milford, CT, United States	2013-04-24
Matthew Sandoval	New York, NY, United States	2013-04-24
Laurence Kooper	New York, NY, United States	2013-04-24
Arben Sela	New York, NY, United States	2013-04-25
Terry Cohn	Fair Lawn, NJ, United States	2013-04-25
Bryan Tooze	Brooklyn, NY, United States	2013-04-25

Name	Location	Date
Ann Bingley Gallops	Brooklyn, NY, United States	2013-04-25
Robert Drake	Forest Hills, NY, United States	2013-04-25
Kristin Nelson	New York, NY, United States	2013-04-25
Matthew Thomas	Long Island City, NY, United States	2013-04-25
Richard Jolta	New York, NY, United States	2013-04-25
Sadatu Dennis	New York, NY, United States	2013-04-25
Daniel McPhee	Brooklyn, NY, United States	2013-04-25
Annie Winter	Philadelphia, PA, United States	2013-04-25
Joshua Schaier	Brooklyn, NY, United States	2013-04-25
Sandy Schiff	Austin, TX, United States	2013-04-25
Richard James	Garden City, NY, United States	2013-04-25
Kevin Ma	New York, NY, United States	2013-04-25
Karl Ufert	New York, NY, United States	2013-04-25
Tom Fabbricante	Lynbrook, NY, United States	2013-04-25
E J Kalafarski	New York, NY, United States	2013-04-25
Michael Scully	New York, NY, United States	2013-04-25
ben wescoe	new york, NY, United States	2013-04-25
Dorothy Clementson	New York, NY, United States	2013-04-26
Maxfield Vermy ·	New York, NY, United States	2013-04-26
Stephen Flanigan	Woodhaven, NY, United States	2013-04-26
Joshua Frankel	BROOKLYN, NY, United States	2013-04-27
Elizabeth Vandermause	Ellicott City, MD, United States	2013-04-28
Gregg Solomon	Sag Harbor, NY, United States	2013-04-28
Bernadette Jusinski	Chatham, NJ, United States	2013-04-30
Nicholas Wolf	New York, NY, United States	2013-04-30
Garl Latham	Schertz, TX, United States	2013-05-02
Larry Halm	Ottawa, IL, United States	2013-05-03
Randy Benfer	New Orleans, LA, United States	2013-05-03
David Dillard	Philadelphia, PA, United States	2013-05-03
Walter W Stumpf Jr	Lafayette, NJ, United States	2013-05-03
Brian Helfrich	Philadelphia, PA, United States	2013-05-03
David Katz	Madison, WI, United States	2013-05-03

Name	Location	Date
JUSTIN HORKHEIMER	NEW YORK, NY, United States	2013-05-04
Brian Hannon	Madison, NJ, United States	2013-05-04
Mark Lacari	Staten Island, NY, United States	2013-05-05
Andrew Dawson	Montreal, QC, Canada	2013-05-05
Stephen Trinder	Barker, NY, United States	2013-05-05
Melissa Gray	Linden, PA, United States	2013-05-05
VALERIE COPLEY	LAKELAND, FL, United States	2013-05-05
Martha Healy	Hartford, CT, United States	2013-05-05
Thomas Risi	Bronx,, NY, United States	2013-05-05
Thomas Horstmann	Portland, OR, United States	2013-05-05
garrett helms	Mount Holly, NC, United States	2013-05-05
Justin St. Clair	New York, NY, United States	2013-05-06
John Grocki	Garden City, NY, United States	2013-05-06
Lance Erickson	Gilbert, IA, United States	2013-05-06
Alex gillespie	York, PA, United States	2013-05-06
Joseph Stazzeri	New York, NY, United States	2013-05-06
Jonathan Hinely	Elgin, SC, United States	2013-05-07
Stiring Callahan	Gainesville, GA, United States	2013-05-07
William McMorris	Southport, CT, United States	2013-05-07
John Hatler	United States, TX, United States	2013-05-07
Alex Bachus	Baldwin, NY, United States	2013-05-07
F. Walton Roper III	Endicott, NY, United States	2013-05-07
Charles Hamilton	Seattle, WA, United States	2013-05-07
Thomas Martin	newark, DE, United States	2013-05-07
Jasmine Mansour	Staten Island, NY, United States	2013-05-07
Micah Rogers	Colorado springs, CO, United States	2013-05-07
Michael Trainor	Newark, NJ, United States	2013-05-07
Wayne Wanzor	High Point, NC, United States	2013-05-07
Nathaniel Noe	Efland, NC, United States	2013-05-07
Bradley Upham	Lakewood, OH, United States	2013-05-09
Aaron McNally	New York, NY, United States	2013-05-11
Caitlin Sherman	New York, NY, United States	2013-05-13

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ame	Location	Date
renda Cortez	Newark, NJ, United States	2013-05-13
erald Pirog	New York, NY, United States	2013-05-13
Brett Edward Stout	Seaford, NY, United States	2013-05-13
rancesco Pascuzzi	Somerville, NJ, United States	2013-05-13
Ryan Shams	Brooklyn, NY, United States	2013-05-13
wayne Byrum	Alexandria, VA, United States	2013-05-13
homas Brennan	Massapequa, NY, United States	2013-05-13
NTWOINE SHEPARD	BROOKLYN, NY, United States	2013-05-13
Carmine Pasquale	Frankfort, NY, United States	2013-05-13
Villiam Richardson	Las Vegas, NV, United States	2013-05-13
Ace Lundon	Bullhead City , AZ, United States	2013-05-13
Madeleine Bosco	Los Angeles, CA, United States	2013-05-13
Colin Pearce	Astoria, NY, United States	2013-05-13
/ance Stevens	New York, NY, United States	2013-05-13
arry Rhode	Atlanta, GA, United States	2013-05-13
lohn Reoli	New York, NY, United States	2013-05-13
homas Mazurier	France	2013-05-13
racy Goss	Lutherville-Timonium, MD, United States	2013-05-13
Emilio Dominguez	New York, NY, United States	2013-05-13
Susan Cohen	Maplewood, NJ, United States	2013-05-13
Eileen Herman	New York, NY, United States	2013-05-13
Margot Baldwin	New York, NY, United States	2013-05-13
Anthony Lambert	New York, NY, United States	2013-05-14
Elizabeth Milne	London, , United Kingdom	2013-05-14
smael ramirez	new york, NY, United States	2013-05-15
Ayinde Stevens	New York, NY, United States	2013-05-17
Sarah Ibrahim	Brooklyn, NY, United States	2013-05-18
David Cadran	Brattleboro, VT, United States	2013-05-20
Ellen Spindler	Riverdale, NY, United States	2013-05-21
oaula Bebecka	Brooklyn, NY, United States	2013-05-21
Nancy Melius	New York, NY, United States	2013-05-22
lancy Melius	Huntington, NY, United States	2013-05-22

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,	Name	Location	Date
	Namita Kallianpurkar	New York, NY, United States	2013-05-22
	Mathew McDermid	New York, NY, United States	2013-05-22
	Robert Pipchick	Cranford, NJ, United States	2013-05-22
	Amy Cornelius	Kennett Square, PA, United States	2013-05-22
	Sonali McDermid	Brooklyn, NY, United States	2013-05-22
	Jack Ferry	Chicago, IL, United States	2013-05-23
	Abrom Shepard	Staten Island, NY, United States	2013-05-23
	Molly McKay	Mystic, CT, United States	2013-05-23
	Robert Walker	ASTORIA, NY, United States	2013-05-23
	Cindy Nowicki	Bklyn, NY, United States	2013-05-24
	Jonathan Waks	New York, NY, United States	2013-05-29
	KEVIN SEYMOUR	BROOKLYN, NY, United States	2013-05-29
	Nick Pitaro	New York, NY, United States	2013-05-29
	robert braun	ny, NY, United States	2013-05-29
	Patricia Kettle	Brooklyn, NY, United States	2013-05-29
	Ellen Weisburd	New York, NY, United States	2013-05-29
	Daniella LaRocco	Maplewood, NJ, United States	2013-05-29
	Joe Dudick	Harrisburg, PA, United States	2013-05-30
	Peter Brandt	New York, NY, United States	2013-05-30
	Matt Frommer	New York, NY, United States	2013-05-30
	Ondel Hylton	Bronx, NY, United States	2013-05-30
	John Connelly	Brooklyn, NY, United States	2013-05-30
	Gabriella Gruder-Poni	Farmville, VA, United States	2013-05-30
	Eric Waters	Chatham, NJ, United States	2013-05-30
	Robert Burch	New York, NY, United States	2013-05-30
	Matthew Cummings	Forest Hills, NY, United States	2013-05-30
	John Olson	Brooklyn, NY, United States	2013-05-31
	Burke Wilmore	Brooklyn, NY, United States	2013-05-31
	Brooke Magin	Forest Hills, NY, United States	2013-05-31
	Greg Burkhardt	Baltimore, MD, United States	2013-05-31
	Jonathan Busky	Brooklyn, NY, United States	2013-05-31
	David Brady	New York, NY, United States	2013-05-31

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	1	Data
Name	Location	Date
Raoul Miller	New York, NY, United States	2013-05-31
Christian Damerow	New York, NY, United States	2013-05-31
Xavier Carryl	BROOKLYN, NY, United States	2013-06-01
Michael Gottlieb	Lakeville, CT, United States	2013-06-01
Annette Gaudino	Bronx, NY, United States	2013-06-01
Ed McCarthy	NY, NY, United States	2013-06-02
David Cole	New York, NY, United States	2013-06-02
Douglas Newman	Bohemia, NY, United States	2013-06-02
Kathryn Gregory	New York, NY, United States	2013-06-05
Judy Pareti	New York, NY, United States	2013-06-05
Stephen Marmon	Pearl River, NY, United States	2013-06-05
Justin Blecher	Maplewood, NJ, United States	2013-06-07
Bruce Piersawl	Bronx, NY, United States	2013-06-08
patricia de la mota	new york, NY, United States	2013-06-08
Paul Bretzger	New York, NY, United States	2013-06-09
Justin Brandon	Brooklyn, NY, United States	2013-06-13
Claire Davis	Sleepy Hollow, NY, United States	2013-06-14
Christian Zimmermann	New York, NY, United States	2013-06-15
Mary Margaret Jones	New York, NY, United States	2013-06-17
Caroline Ellis	New York, NY, United States	2013-06-17
Nina Sonenberg	New York, NY, United States	2013-06-17
Natalie Jessip	New York, NY, United States	2013-06-17
DORATHEA HALPERT	BROOKLYN, NY, United States	2013-06-17
Andrew Delaney	Brooklyn, NY, United States	2013-06-17
Phillip Kuehne	Brooklyn, NY, United States	2013-06-17
Kenneth Miraski	New York, NY, United States	2013-06-17
Heather Boyer	brooklyn, NY, United States	2013-06-17
Amelia Lamis	New York, NY, United States	2013-06-17
Aaron Plewke	Brooklyn, NY, United States	2013-06-17
Joseph DeLauro	Massapequa Park, NY, United States	2013-06-17
sharon fischer	new york, NY, United States	2013-06-17

Name	Location	Date
Howard Halle	New York City, NY, United States	2013-06-17
Brian Hedden	New York, NY, United States	2013-06-17
Robert Bear	Long Island City, NY, United States	2013-06-17
Adam Sipos	Brooklyn, NY, United States	2013-06-17
Aryeh Cohen-Wade	Rochester, NY, United States	2013-06-17
Allen Kim	New York, NY, United States	2013-06-17
Gregory Lord	New York, NY, United States	2013-06-17
Thomas Humphreys	New York, NY, United States	2013-06-17
Carol Salmanson	Brooklyn, NY, United States	2013-06-17
Jonathon Blackwell	New York, NY, United States	2013-06-17
Johanna Peet	Brooklyn, NY, United States	2013-06-18
Michael Read	New York, NY, United States	2013-06-18
chris jones	new york, NY, United States	2013-06-18
Dana Spiegel	Brooklyn, NY, United States	2013-06-18
Tariton Long	New york, NY, United States	2013-06-18
eric riggs	New York, NY, United States	2013-06-18
Pedro Gomez	Astoria, NY, United States	2013-06-18
Paul Lenti	New York, NY, United States	2013-06-18
todd seekircher	ny, NY, United States	2013-06-18
Mario Martinez	queens, NY, United States	2013-06-18
Brian Berry	New York, NY, United States	2013-06-18
Gary Lambert	Jamaica, NY, United States	2013-06-18
Steven Grimler	New York, NY, United States	2013-06-18
Jermaine Tai	brooklyn, NY, United States	2013-06-18
Alexander Stamatiadis	New York, NY, United States	2013-06-18
David Cook	Glen Head, NY, United States	2013-06-18
James Cancelliere	New York, NY, United States	2013-06-18
Eric Zollinger	New York, NY, United States	2013-06-18
John stinar	brooklyn, NY, United States	2013-06-18
Martin Reilly	New York, NY, United States	2013-06-18
Gus David	brooklyn, NY, United States	2013-06-18
Paul de Silva	Massapequa, NY, United States	2013-06-18

Name	Location	Date
David Zippel	New York, NY, United States	2013-06-18
Richard Kielar	New York, NY, United States	2013-06-18
Jorge Garcia	New York, NY, United States	2013-06-18
Chris Nuckols	New York, NY, United States	2013-06-18
Brendan MacWade	New York, NY, United States	2013-06-18
Lauren Wein	New York, NY, United States	2013-06-18
Nick Roberts	New York, NY, United States	2013-06-18
David Hecht	Brooklyn, NY, United States	2013-06-18
Elliott Trice	Long Island City, NY, United States	2013-06-18
Karen Eardley	Gallatin, TN, United States	2013-06-18
Brian O'Connor	New York, NY, United States	2013-06-18
Jonathan Santos	New York, NY, United States	2013-06-18
Jessica Pleasants	New York, NY, United States	2013-06-18
Matthew Zimmerman	New York, NY, United States	2013-06-18
Marjan Hajibandeh	New York, NY, United States	2013-06-18
Peter Bray	Brooklyn, NY, United States	2013-06-18
Christopher Shelley	New York, NY, United States	2013-06-18
Craig Pospisil	Brooklyn, NY, United States	2013-06-18
Tim Howard	New York, NY, United States	2013-06-18
Brendan Berg	New York, NY, United States	2013-06-18
Frank Famiglietti	NY, NY, United States	2013-06-18
Linda Apgar	Branchburg, NJ, United States	2013-06-18
Kurt Reich	New York, NY, United States	2013-06-18
DAVID RIPP	NEW YORK, NY, United States	2013-06-18
MICHAEL PATTON	NEW YORK, NY, United States	2013-06-18
Dan Hoogenboom	Blacksburg, VA, United States	2013-06-18
Chris Feeney	New York, NY, United States	2013-06-18
James Flattum	Irvine, CA, United States	2013-06-18
Simon Zhang	West Windsor, NJ, United States	2013-06-18
A MacWade	brooklyn, NY, United States	2013-06-18
Sean Foley	Maplewood, NJ, United States	2013-06-18
John Lamb	New York, NY, United States	2013-06-18

Name	Location	Date
Dale Ponikvar	New York, NY, United States	2013-06-18
Thom Clay	New York, NY, United States	2013-06-18
Florentino Reyes	new york, NY, United States	2013-06-18
Elizabeth Copps	Kew Gardens, NY, United States	2013-06-18
Shaun Gembala	Brooklyn, NY, United States	2013-06-18
ivan torres	New York, NY, United States	2013-06-18
Jared LaFrenais	Brooklyn, NY, United States	2013-06-18
Ray Lord III	East Hampton, NY, United States	2013-06-18
Raymond Lord III	East Hampton, NY, United States	2013-06-18
Schuyler Vreeland	New York, NY, United States	2013-06-18
Christopher Reardon	Brooklyn, NY, United States	2013-06-18
Kenneth Nadolski	New York, NY, United States	2013-06-18
carol bruns	bklyn, NY, United States	2013-06-18
Michael Marion	New York, NY, United States	2013-06-18
Carmine Tiso	Long Island City, NY, United States	2013-06-19
Connor Reisenbigler	New York, NY, United States	2013-06-19
Hubert Nealy	Williamsburg, VA, United States	2013-06-19

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ritasue@ritasue.com

To: Daly Reville

Please print and bring with you today

June 19, 2013

Hearing at City Council

Films I've seen of commuters making their way to and from the variety of transit lines in Penn Station look like they are navigating a slum in Mumbai. We know we can do better. Grand Central Station, while not perfect, presents a better experience for commuters and is since its renovation a tourist attraction.

The Municipal Art Association recently presented alternative designs to the public that transform Penn Station into a much more welcoming, functional and exciting experience to commuters. The only way this transformation can take place is if Madison Square Garden moves.

MSG was granted a tax abatement for what was supposed to be 10 years by Mayor Koch to encourage major teams to play sports in New York City. This deal which in fact has become open ended, deprives the city of about \$17 million a year, a huge sum that could be better spent on education, food for poverty stricken New Yorkers, and relieve other deprivations in these times. Ending the abatement will encourage Madison Square Garden to move.

Let MSG find another home. Let them take the \$17 million they have not had to pay to New York City and find themselves a site on which to design and build a more beautiful and functional venue.

RitaSue Siegel

The Rockefeller Apartments

17 West 54 Street

NY, NY 10001

TRI-STATE TRANSPORTATION CAMPAIGN



Testimony on amendment to special permit for Madison Square Garden Subcommittee on Zoning and Franchises
June 19, 2013

My name is Joe Cutrufo, and I am the communications associate for the Tri-State Transportation Campaign, a non-profit transportation policy watchdog organization dedicated to creating a more balanced, environmentally friendly and equitable transportation system in New York, New Jersey and Connecticut. Thank you for the opportunity to testify today on the land use application for the continued use and operation of Madison Square Garden above Penn Station.

Tri-State Transportation Campaign urges the Subcommittee to renew the permit for ten, not 15, years and to ensure that the New York City Council and the general public have an opportunity to be engaged in the renewal of this permit, via the City's land use review process.

Here are some facts to consider:

- Four transit agencies and systems utilize Penn Station: Amtrak, NJ Transit, MTA, and LIRR
- Amtrak carried 31.2 million passengers in fiscal year 2012; the Northeast Corridor, which is served by Penn Station, is the busiest route
- 81.7 million people rode Long Island Rail Road in 2012; ridership increased in 2012 despite Superstorm Sandy
- During the first quarter of FY 2013 (July-September 2012), system wide, NJT averaged 22.2 million monthly passenger trips, a two year high. This represents a 4.5 percent increase over the same time period in Fiscal Year 2012.
- Penn Station is the 5th (1,2,3 lines) and 6th (A,C, E lines) most used station in the entire MTA system of 468 subway stations
- Nearly 640,000 commuters use Penn Station every day

Penn Station is a gateway to Manhattan's West Side which is home to hubs of commercial and tourist activity such as Times Square, tourist attractions such as the second phase of the High Line, and new development such as Hudson Yards. Unfortunately, the needs of the area have changed dramatically in the 50 years and the current arena on top of Penn Station hampers the expansion and modernization needs of the growing transit ridership and development patterns. We ask that the Subcommittee amend the permit from 15 years to 10 and ensure that the permit process goes through the land use review process, at that juncture, and is not decided outside of the public realm. Thank you.



TESTIMONY OF RICHARD T. ANDERSON, PRESIDENT, NEW YORK BUILDING CONGRESS AT A HEARING OF THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL REGARDING MADISON SQUARE GARDEN'S SPECIAL USE PERMIT JUNE 19, 2013

The New York Building Congress strongly supports Madison Square Garden's application for a renewed special operating permit. Efforts to amend the permit resolution and restrict the Garden's ability to operate represent a failure of government, a failure to plan for the future of the Penn Station area, a failure to develop public-private partnerships, and a failure to bring the City together with the State on a long range development agenda.

Madison Square Garden has operated in New York City for more than a century and a quarter, and is now completing a nearly \$1 billion renovation of its current home. The Garden provides thousands of quality jobs at all skill levels, with an economic impact of more than a half billion dollars.

The Building Congress would like to see a revitalized and expanded Penn Station, a station worthy of this City and capable of serving the hundreds of thousands of people who use it every day.

We should not hold a private owner responsible for thousands of jobs and who must make rational long term business decisions to be forced to operate under a cloud of permanent uncertainty with its primary asset. That's not just bad for Madison Square Garden, it's bad for the City.

Mysteriously, the ULURP process has been used to threaten MSG and its ownership with termination of its right to operate. Yet Madison Square Garden has absolutely <u>no control</u> over convening multiple public agencies, coordinating what will be a long-term planning process, assembling a massive financing plan and, finally, executing one of the most complex infrastructure projects in the City's history.

This job is the sole responsibility of government. We must have forceful, coordinated leadership from the City, State and federal governments, if we are to realize the dream of a new Penn Station. The burden must be on *government* and advocates for an improved Penn Station to advance the vision of a new transportation core at this site.

Therefore, instead of using the special permit process, we must challenge *government*, not Madison Square Garden, to make meaningful progress and meet milestones. If government cannot coordinate effectively, then Madison Square Garden must be allowed to continue to operate without artificial restrictions. The special permit process has become costly and demanding, and it should not be used in this way.

We urge the Council to approve a special permit with no time limit. The Council must then direct its energies to bringing other leaders with real responsibility for planning and executing a plan for a new Penn Station to get to work.

City and State government should set real milestones, advance planning, and create an inclusive process with the participation of New York, New Jersey, the City and Amtrak to develop a workable, affordable plan, not direct its fire solely on Madison Square Garden.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

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Good morning Chair Weprin and members of the subcommittee. I am Jinny St. Goar, a member of Manhattan's Community Board 5 and of that board's land use and zoning committee.

Penn Station needs more than a facelift. I think we all agree.

But the station is too heavily used by the public for its redesign to be fashioned behind closed doors by the managers of the Garden and the 3 converging rail systems.

The numbers of people who pass through the station daily should speak volumes. Many of the 650,000 are your constituents. All 650,000 are the people who make this city tick -- the larger public that has vested in you the public trust of guiding the city's growth, of fostering its vitality.

We New Yorkers deserve a world-class train station. The current Penn Station is not. In fact, the existing Penn Station deadens the prospects for economic development on the West Side, rather than enlivening it.

The notion that the Station could be tinkered with, as Madison Square Garden continues to perch above it in perpetuity reflects a limited vision that doesn't do justice to the energy and potential of our city. Madison Square Garden deserves better too.

What is more, we have an unusual opportunity to grapple with the redesign of Penn Station in these next ten years. The opening of the East Side Access in this window, now scheduled for 2019 -- allowing Long Island RailRoad passengers to get off at Grand Central -- will provide a hiccup in the growth of the numbers of people using Penn Station.

The urban design, planning and architectural community -- as well as the wider polity -- have already started to rally to capitalize on this ten-year window. The Municipal Arts Society in particular should be applauded for its "Design Challenge for a new Penn Station and Madison Square Garden."

I urge you Mr. Chairman and the members of this committee to take this opportunity to help pave the way for New York City's future.

Close the loophole in the City Planning Commission's proposal that the permit for Madison Square Garden be renewed forever as long as managers of the garden and the managers of the rail lines that converge in Penn Station can agree on station improvements.

We need nothing less than a major redevelopment of the Station.

And limit the term of Madison Square Garden's special operating permit to 10 years, while we continue to build the momentum and consensus for the huge undertaking of fashioning a new Penn Station.

Thank you.

Jim Korein Testimony on Madison Square Garden

June 19, 2013

Good morning. My name is Jim Korein, and I run a family business started by my grandparents about 80 years ago. My grandmother, Sarah Korein, became an entrepreneur supporting her family from an early age in Jerusalem, and became one of the first women in the world of New York Real Estate.

My grandparents left their family with several important assets, but the most important is the full block of land under One Penn Plaza. The future of the West 30's is of great importance to us. While Manhattan has become a vastly better place to live in recent decades, the West 30's has lagged significantly. We believe that the key to reversing this trend is a world class train station and a world class stadium. For the reasons that have been expounded by the Regional Plan Association and the Municipal Art Society, we believe this will not happen as long as Madison Square Garden sits atop the train station. Specifically, the proliferation of vertical supports for the Garden is not compatible with the track and platform layout for an efficient train station.

We support the efforts by MAS and RPA to plan the kind of transportation hub that New York deserves, effectively supporting high-speed rail and rail connection to the airports.

In addition we believe that building a new stadium at a nearby location is a key component of this plan. The value the Garden brings to the city and the neighborhood is very significant, and ensuring that it has a great home cannot be treated as an afterthought.

I am 60 years old now, and I have grandchildren of my own. It is my hope that my children and grandchildren will see the kind of neighborhood my grandmother envisioned 30 years ago. It is the right thing for my family, the right thing for the other landowners in the neighborhood, and it is the right thing for New York City.

Thank You.

James Korein, CEO, Omnispective Management Corporation

jimkorein@omnispective.com, 212-581-6394

Jen Hensley, Executive Director, Association for a Better New York (ABNY) City Council Zoning & Franchises Subcommittee Testimony June 19, 2013

The Association for a Better New York (ABNY) is one of New York's longstanding civic organizations advocating for the policies, programs and projects that make New York a better place to live, work and visit. We represent the broad fabric of New York's economy, and our membership includes New York's most influential businesses, non-profits, arts & culture organization, educational institutions, labor unions and entrepreneurs.

Madison Square Garden (MSG) has been a world-class sports, civic and entertainment arena in New York City since 1879. Throughout its history, the Garden has been compared to both Central Park and the Brooklyn Bridge for the critical role it has played for generations of New Yorkers. The current iteration of MSG is a global destination, which attracts 4 million people a year and serves as vital asset for the city. As a result, ABNY believes that MSG should be granted a Special Permit to continue operating as an arena. We also believe a Special Permit should be given to enhance the signage around MSG in keeping with a world-class arena destination.

Employing nearly 6,000 full-time, part-time, seasonal and per diem workers, MSG contributes more than \$525 million to New York City's economy in direct and indirect spending amounts, while adding an incremental \$200 million into the city's economy in off-site spending at local businesses by people coming to New York City to see MSG events. As we speak, MSG is undergoing a \$1 billion self-funded Transformation, which is being done by union labor and will lead to more large-scale events coming to the City.

Just a few weeks ago, a group of ABNY Young Professionals had the unique opportunity to visit the Garden to get a behind-the-scenes glimpse of the Transformation. The ABNY members on the tour were thoroughly impressed with the high quality of the venue and widely agreed that the new MSG will be a critical element of the city's economic prosperity for decades to come. Many commented that MSG represents the essence of smart, transit-oriented development, making it an even more attractive destination for regional visitors.

MSG is part of the fabric of New York City and ABNY strongly supports a Special Permit to allow for the continued operation of the arena without any specific term of years imposed. No other sporting and entertainment venue in the New York area has a specific term on their Special Permits and we believe MSG should be treated the same, and believe this move would not preclude a reassessment at a later date of the location of the Garden. We also support MSG's request for enhanced signage on the building's façade and believe this reflects the dynamism and excitement of the Garden and its surrounding neighborhood. Other NYC-based arenas and stadiums are permitted signage, and what MSG has proposed is a reasonable request for such an iconic venue.

MSG is a critical part of New York City's culture and our economy. We hope you will support their proposal.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

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