

OPENING STATEMENT

SUBMITTED TO THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL

BY ORLANDO MARÍN,

NOMINEE FOR REAPPOINTMENT TO THE CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

OCTOBER 2015

Good Morning Chairman Lander and members of the Committee on Rules, Privileges and Elections, my name is Orlando Marín. Thank you for the opportunity to address the committee regarding my reappointment nomination by the Bronx Borough President to become a member of the City Planning Commission.

When I first came before the Committee in August of 2011, I discussed the blackout during summer of 1977 and the destruction and decimation of various NYC neighborhoods due to the fires and the subsequent razing of neighborhoods block by block throughout the City of New York. This was a very dark time for the City of New York. I discussed how I am a product of the public school system and NYCHA housing and that I have lived in the Borough of the Bronx all of my life. I emphasized my enthusiastic and optimistic views at a very young age and how I wondered what would become of me and what my participation and contribution to the City would be in order to realize a more healthy and vibrant City.

I also briefly outlined my education, experiences and career to date. I mentioned my participation as a fellow with the National Urban Fellowship program, my employ with one of the most prestigious architectural firms globally-Perkins & Will, my employ with New York City Housing Partnership, my involvement with Bronx Community Board #2, and my involvement securing funding for and developing hundreds of units of affordable housing throughout the five boroughs that are the City of New York.

Today, I am very pleased to discuss the milestones I have accomplished personally and that we have accomplished as a City since then, my involvement on the Planning Commission to date, and my desire to continue to serving on the Planning Commission in an effort to move the City towards the 21st century and beyond.

My desire to continue with the development and management of affordable housing has led to the creation of Tórtola Property Management Corp. ("TPMC"), and S-Corp which I own and manage. I provide consulting services relating to the management, maintenance, marketing and homeowner relations in the realm of affordable housing. TPMC also provides guidance with asset management and securing of funding for affordable housing.

Being on the Commission is a privilege and I greatly enjoy the work the City Planning Commission performs. From vetting applications staff presents to hearing testimony both in the negative and the affirmative for projects that will inevitably shape the City for years to come, my decisions are rendered after thorough, thoughtful and extensive review of relevant and pertinent

public records and public testimony that ultimately assist me in doing so. Additionally, I express and communicate any issues, questions or concerns to DCP and CPC staff for elaboration well before any schedule hearings. Lastly, I am fully prepared to fully participate and ask informed and poignant questions at all hearing and sessions.

The primary mission of the members of City Planning Commission and the Department of City Planning are to fulfill their Charter mandated functions in a manner that best serves the people of New York by making land use decisions in a holistic deliberative fashion while, to the best of our ability, improving the quality of life of all New Yorkers. I believe deeply that my participation on the Commission and the decisions that I have rendered have been with this imperative driving my actions.

Moreover, my deep and abiding commitment to serving the City in its' development efforts has grown greater as a result of the privilege of serving on the City Planning Commission. Our City is evolving and it is imperative that, during this change, it evolves responsibly, equitably, and in a sustainable manner. I believe that I continue to maintain and have developed a considerable level of knowledge and possess the skills in planning matters that would contribute and assist in doing so.

It is for these reasons that I wish to continue my service on the City Planning Commission. The experiences that I have gained and the professional acumen that I have developed combined with the skill sets and development expertise that I have honed throughout the years have grounded me and are the basis for my continued desire to serve the City and which I believe will continue to compliment that of those currently serving on the Commission. I am proud to once again have been nominated to serve on the City Planning Commission and look forward to continue working with the currently appointed members.

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: OCTOBER 22, 2015

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: ORLANDO MARIN

Address: 753 KELLY STREET, SUITE 2, BX NY 10455

I represent: MYSELF

Address: _____

◆ Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms ◆