

From: [A Bloom](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: lola@lolasdiary.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Thursday, December 9, 2021 3:38:23 AM

To Whom It May Concern, and also to Whom It *Should* Concern,

Please accept this email as testimony in earnest regarding the Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, T2021-8271, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY).

I have lived in Brooklyn and gone to Coney Island for about three decades. A lot of people like to talk *of* Coney Island, but maybe not all of them *actually go to* Coney Island. A lot of people like to speak of the creativity and spirit and wonderment of Coney Island, but if you go, you know there is a lot of junk too. It's old banana peels as much as pearls. In fact, there are only a few pearls left, and one of the biggest I know is a little shop by the name of Lola Star. It is the embodiment of why people go to Coney Island.

I hear that shenanigans are afoot to deprive its owner of her lease, even as you grant leases to every other business on the boardwalk. And if such a plan came to pass, it would be a real pity. It would mean that the city officials to whom we entrust the care of our most beloved unique places in the city, places like Coney Island, do not really care about the things that we, the citizens of New York City, care about. Block by block, neighborhood by neighborhood, over the last twenty years, we, the people who love this city, watch our city become just a little bit more like every other city: unremarkable and absent of what makes it special, as the special places are taken from us.

What makes New York City special? Sure the skyline and hedge fund monies are all very sexy, but what really makes it special are the people. And let's be real: it's not ALL the people, but rather the people who really put down their roots here and open small special businesses that say This Is New York City. It's the people who nurture this city's vitality and day after working day care about their neighborhoods, maybe even enough to speak out about their love for the city, and maybe even speak so loud that it makes some people uncomfortable. If you aren't making somebody uncomfortable, chances are you aren't a real New Yorker anyhow. It would be crazy to put a New Yorker down for being the best of what makes us New Yorkers.

Don't do this. Don't take a bat to the knees of one of the most beloved businesses in Coney Island. Don't do the bidding of somebody else's petty grudge. We the People of Brooklyn love Lola Star and its brash and beautifully outspoken and creative visionary owner, Dianna Carlin. Maybe you haven't seen the kids who adore her

wares. Maybe you haven't seen the delighted tourists marvel at her designs. Maybe you haven't sat at Ruby's Bar, next door, and seen the old Russian women and fresh off the boat twenty-somethings pause for a moment to look at something and fall into marvelous conversations with Ms. Carlin, as they quickly come to realize that she is there most of all as an ambassador of this special place, Coney Island. Maybe they are there for a minute and maybe for an hour, but they then walk away different, happier, surprised that a kind of innocence still thrives here in the big bad city. They walk away touched by the actual magic of Coney Island as delivered by the irrepressible Ms. Carlin.

Don't be the people to vote to take all that away. On behalf of my city -- on behalf of *your* city -- I sincerely ask you to vote no on the lease extension package until such a time as the Lola Star shop is also included among the businesses to receive a lease extension as well.

It is not just that she deserves it. It is that WE deserve her and the shop she has given to all of us. Please don't take this small gem away. And later, when you DO include her, as it should be, please come join me and see for yourself that this is not just hot air. Hell, just take yourself, and sit there for an hour and see all the gorgeous multitudes stop and partake of the love they find at Lola Star. It will be an hour well spent. You will see the best of our beloved city. Please do not take this away.

Sincerely,
Aaron Bloom
1183 Bedford Avenue,
Brooklyn, NY 11216


From: [Adam Green](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: lola@lolasdiary.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Save Lola Star - Testimony - T2021-8271 Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, 3rd Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 9:09:09 PM

To whom it may concern,

I'm writing today in support of the Coney Island boardwalk shop Lola Star, and want to express how important it is that there be a "no" vote on any extension package until the Lola Star store is included in that provision.

The shop is a mainstay of both the boardwalk and Coney Island as a whole. Beyond its status as a tourist attraction and economic hub, this store has stood for what Coney Island is and should be in New York City. The shop and its proprietor have defended Coney Island and its inhabitants in the past against incursions from less than ethical luxury developers; it has been a guardian for this unique patch of the city, and the city should repay that loyalty. Any extension of leases to boardwalk businesses must include Lola Star.

Please include this as testimony for T2021-8271 Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, 3rd Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY).

Best,
Adam Green

From: [Adam Weaver](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: lola@lolasdiary.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 10:10:39 PM

NY City Council-

I was recently made aware that the Lola Star Boutique may not be included in the contemplated extension of commercial leases in Coney Island.

I am writing to express that in my visits to Coney Island, I have found the store and it's owner to be an important part of the Coney Island ecosystem and a positive impact on the Coney Island Community. I am not certain why a female founded and owned business that has invested many years into the health of the Coney Island community and sells merchandise that builds positive brand awareness for Coney Island would be excluded from a lease extension. I am not privy to the rationale or intent of the City of NY and the Council, but the exclusion of a female business owner who has been a tireless advocate for Coney Island and the surrounding community, would certainly raise concerns as to the fairness of this action.

I would ask whether other businesses have been treated in a similar fashion?

What is the rationale for the exclusion of this business?

Is this action fair and equitable?

I ask that the answers to these questions be made part of the public record in the interest of fairness and transparency.

And I ask that the committee take this testimony into consideration.

-Adam Weaver

From: alessandra.giordano
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: info@lolastar.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)"
Date: Thursday, December 9, 2021 12:51:10 AM

Lola Star Boutique is not just an ordinary store, it's a Coney Island cultural landmark. It has been a beneficial asset to the Coney Island Community for nearly two decades and should be granted the opportunity to extend its lease just like every other business on the boardwalk. I am asking the City Council to vote NO on the current extension until Lola Star Boutique shop is rightfully included on the lease extension package.

Best,

Alessandra Giordano

From: [ursula_1000](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#); info@LolaStar.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Save LOLA STAR!
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 5:27:40 PM

Hello,

The Lola Star shop on Coney Island is such a vital fixture to the aesthetic and vibe of what truly is the Coney Island experience.

She gets it! The plan of City Council to extend the leases of the City's tenant, CAI, and all of the other boardwalk businesses for another 10 years except Lola's is crazy. She was not notified by anyone or included in this extension package presented to City Council.

(Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY))

I please ask the City Council to vote NO on this extension until her shop is rightfully included on this lease extension package.

It's what's right....and fair.

Thank you,
Alex Gimeno

[URSULA 1000](#)

[facebook](#) [twitter](#) [soundcloud](#) [mixcloud](#) [hearthis](#) [instagram](#) [spotify](#)

From: [Alex Gray](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: info@lolastar.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony-T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 4:20:13 PM

To Whom it Concerns,

I am writing to ask Members of the City Council to vote NO on the extension package for businesses on the Coney Island Boardwalk until Lola Star's shop is included in the package.

Lola Star is a considerable asset to the Boardwalk, drawing both locals and tourists to her bright shop. Her business brings joy and whimsy to the beach, and is one of the main reasons why I, as a nearly 30-year resident of the five boroughs, choose to visit Coney Island. Along with Ruby's, Paul's Daughter, Williams Candy, the Freak Bar, the Art Walls, and so many other classic boardwalk experiences, Lola Star represents the essence of Coney Island. The shop must be allowed to remain in its current space, under a fair lease agreement.

Thank you,

Alexandra Gray
Brooklyn NY 11218
City Council District 39

From: [Alexandra Jamieson](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: info@lolastar.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony-T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (21225010 RSY)
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 4:26:35 PM

To the City Council:

Please vote NO on the extension until Lola Star is included in the lease extension package.

I'm a customer of Lola Star, a beloved shop on the Coney Island boardwalk. For years Lola's staff and proprietor have brought joy, art, and community to the wider Brooklyn citizenry, through events and fun products.

This business is part of what makes Coney Island, Brooklyn, and Indeed NYC so special!

Please help this special business, and the creative energy she brings to the city, to continue to thrive and support our unique city and citizens!

RE: Testimony-T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (21225010 RSY)

Alexandra Jamieson
147 Vanderbilt Ave [REDACTED]
Brooklyn NY 11205
[REDACTED]

P.S. To walk my talk, I don't respond to emails after business hours or over weekends unless it's an emergency. If you email M-Th, I usually respond within 24-hours. An email on Friday may not get answered until Monday.

P.P.S Do you have Radical Alignment yet? Bob and I read the book to you on [Audible!](#)
[Download the audiobook here](#), or [read the book](#) here:

Alexandra Jamieson
[Coach](#) | [Author](#) | [Artist](#) | [Her Rules Radio Podcast](#)
[Instagram](#)

[LinkedIn](#)

From: [Amy Gordon](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: lola@lolasdiary.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Include Lola Star in Lease Extension Package (Coney Island)
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 9:56:20 PM

Testimony - T2021-8271
Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan,
Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement
Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing to add my voice to those who have no doubt already written to express how much Lola Star's Boardwalk shop is a positive asset to the community. She is one of the last remaining vestiges of a local, artist run and operated stores on the boardwalk and offers a bright, modern, stylish vision of Coney Island with her merchandise and community centrality. She has organized countless events that bring people out, that would never otherwise attend the amusement park and beach, and offers tourists and locals alike myriad ways to celebrate their pride in their uniquely amazing neighborhood. She believes in, supports and elevates Coney Island and her shop has become an icon of the NY beach scene.

I ask the City Council to voice NO on the extension until Lola Star is included in the lease extension package. It is only right she be given the same opportunities as the rest of her peers on the Boardwalk.

Thank you for your consideration to this matter.
Best,

Amy Gordon
New Yorker and Coney Island lover

Sent from my iPad

From: [Amy Winn](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: lola@lolasdiary.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Thursday, December 9, 2021 1:02:23 AM

Dear City Council:

I am a 15-year resident of Brooklyn (11225) and a frequent visitor to Coney Island. I never fail to appreciate the Lola Star shop whenever I am on the Boardwalk. It is a beacon of individuality, artistic expression, community spirit, joyfulness, and authenticity. With no disrespect to any other tenants and businesses in the Coney Island community, there are few if any like this shop. Lola Star's whole vibe is offering loving experiences for Coney Island and its visitors.

As a person and successful business owner, Dianna Carlin/Lola Star herself is an admirable model and inspiration for entrepreneurs, artists, and all unconventional women. I am also grateful for her contributions to many other community efforts such as her rollerskating events in Prospect Park -- which started as another dream that was fulfilled right there on the Coney Island Boardwalk over a dozen years ago. Her commitment and passion for Brooklyn, and especially Coney Island, are unquestionable.

Please vote NO on this extension. She and her shop deserve to be included in this lease extension package so she can continue to make her living and contribute to this special community. Anything other than full consideration and inclusion cannot be justified.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Amy Winn
40 Lincoln Road 
Brooklyn NY 11225

Again this is regarding: Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)

From: [Angela Harriell](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: info@lolastar.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 9:22:39 PM

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Angela Harriell, and I am a resident of Brooklyn. I am writing on behalf Lola Star and her shop.

Lola Star is a long time supporter and advocate for Coney Island. She has tirelessly worked to preserve the heart and quality of Coney. Her contributions are invaluable, and her shop is part of the fabric of what makes Coney a unique, artistic place, both for residents and tourists.

It very disheartening that Lola's shop, a shop that is an attraction and provides so much character and true art to Coney, would not have been included in the 10 year lease extension provided to all the other businesses there. I can't begin to imagine why she had been left out, She IS a big reason why people continue to visit.

I ask you, please, vote NO on this extension until Lola's shop is rightfully included on this lease extension package.

Thank you.

Cheers,

Angela Harriell



www.the Loveshownyc.com

www.instagram.com/the Loveshownyc

From: [A. Pontani](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: lola@lolasdiary.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 10:18:34 PM

Lola Stars Coney Island shop is a boardwalk staple. Beyond her positive presence on the boardwalk and in the community, this Independent woman owned and operated store represents the true spirit of Coney Island. Not only In presence, but through her unique and immediately recognizable T-shirt's, which I've seen worn by people all over the country. Lola's store is an undeniable boardwalk destination. Lola Star is an integral part of Coney Island. Artist, entrepreneur and community activist. Please vote NO on this extension until Lola's store is included in the lease extension package. It is the only choice to make!

Thank you!
Angie Pontani
www.AngiePontani.com

Sent from my mobile headquarters, please excuse typos! between the keypad and my nails it's the best I can do!

From: [annie williams](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Revised...Save Lola Star!! Coney Island
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 6:45:43 PM

Testimony T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Ammendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)

To Whom It May Concern:

I'm writing to ask you to please vote NO on the extension until Lola Star is rightfully included on the lease extension package!

I don't live in New York but I visit there often. This summer we decided to check out Coney Island (first time for me).

I'd expected it to be completely overtaken with chain stores and lacking in personality like so many boardwalks nowadays but I was wrong! Lola Star singlehandedly made Coney Island more than just a forgettable, tacky tourist spot overrun with Chinese exports that you've seen a hundred times before. I spent at least 30 min going through all the tee shirts and hats and other Knick knacks that the shop owner designed herself. I couldn't decide what to buy because it was all so cute and so well made. Although I briefly popped in a handful of other stores along the boardwalk, Lola Star is the only store where I bought anything. I've since told many people that if they go to Coney Island, that they HAVE to go to Lola Star. I tell them... "You can't miss it because it's the only shop with unique Coney Island merchandise; you'll have trouble deciding what to buy because it's ALL great."

Please, please don't allow Lola Star to be discriminated against in this lease extension that has been offered to her boardwalk neighbors. What she has is such an essential part of my Coney Island experience and I'm sure many, many others as well. It would be such a shame to see places like Lola Star forced to go out of business.

Sincerely,
Annie

From: [Athena Brown](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: info@lolastar.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)"
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 6:20:54 PM

To whom it may concern:

It has come to my attention that a City Council vote is being held tomorrow in regards to the lease extension for Boardwalk business's.

I have also learned that Lola Stars boardwalk boutique was not included in this package.

I'm not sure why she wouldn't not be included in this city owned lease extension package. It is a disservice to the community and a loyal community activist Lola herself to leave her out of this matter.

Lola's business has been a huge asset to the CI community. Her personal relations with the residents and visiting tourists of Coney Island have been second to none.

Her shop represents the uniqueness that draws people to visit Coney Island, one of the last locally owned "mom and pop" type of business that makes a visit to the boardwalk more memorable.

I urge you to please vote NO on this matter until Lola Stars shop is included and given a chance for lease extension.

Please consider my opinion as a long time born in Brooklyn resident and concerned citizen.

Thank you,
Athena Brown

From: bambi@cornstar.com
To: [Land Use Testimony](#); info@lolastar.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Testimony-T2021-8271 , Coney Island amusement park project plan, third amendment to the special process agreement Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 7:05:24 PM

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Re: Testimony-T2021-8271 , Coney Island amusement park project plan, third amendment to the special process agreement Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)

On Dec 8, 2021, at 5:40 PM, bambi@cornstar.com wrote:

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Testimony-T2021-8271 , Coney Island amusement park project plan, third amendment to the special process agreement Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Wed, 08 Dec 2021 17:38:52 -0500
From: bambi@cornstar.com
To:
Cc: Info@lolastar.com

Dear City Council - and to whom it may concern-

As a citizen of Brooklyn and frequent visitor to Coney Island I am outraged at the treatment being given to Lola Star Boutique on the Coney Island boardwalk .. Diana the proprietor is an undying advocate for fairness and equality in Coney Island and is a pillar of our community . I respectfully insist she be included in the proposed deal to lower rents and extend leases for businesses on the boardwalk . Clearly she is being singled out and punished for standing up for her rights and leaving her out to not receive the aid and extension being offered to every other boardwalk business is discriminatory and unacceptable . I'm sure by now everyone involved knows how beloved, admired and respected she is by the

ENTIRE community in Coney Island and we will not accept her being forced out . She provides the spirit and soul that IS Coney Island far above and beyond merely being a successful business. As far as I understand your position as city council is to represent the small business owners fairly and equally without bias .. I believe it is your duty to vote NO to this extension until her business is included ! Sincerely , Andrea Cambridge

From: [Bay Amy Rivero](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: info@lolastar.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 7:46:44 PM

I am writing to urge you to vote no on the lease extension to CAI. It is first of all an outrage that this is being pushed through at the last minute under cover of darkness without public review when the lease is not yet up for renewal. It is second of all an outrage that the terms of the extension exclude one business (Lola Star) that has been a cornerstone of the boardwalk, contributing to its commercial, political, and cultural life—I would guess because of the owner’s activism in support of small businesses on the boardwalk. The terms of the renewal should be negotiated with public input when the lease is actually due, and all boardwalk businesses should be granted equal favors. Vote no.

Bay Rivero

From: [Beth LeFevre](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: info@lolastar.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony-T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 4:33:36 PM

Regarding: Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)

Please vote NO on this extension until the Lola Star store is rightfully included on the lease extension package.

Lola Star is a positive asset and store to the Coney Island Community by providing a unique and fun shopping experience. We don't need more corporation-run stores. We need to support local, small business owners who are passionate about their business, the community and the people who live there and visit. She has made a huge effort and commitment to restoring the unique personality of Coney Island and she needs to continue to be allowed to serve her community by keeping her store open and active.

Lola Star was wrongfully discriminated against when being excluded from this extension.

She cares deeply about the Coney Island community and has fought hard to keep her tiny shop. Over the past two years, including recent months, she has written many letters to the elected officials of the City of New literally pleading for their help. Only one State Assembly Woman has responded to those many emails.

There is no legal reason why she should be excluded from this lease extension. Please amend the extension to include Lola Star and keep it in business.

Thank you,
Beth LeFevre

From: [Bethany Baney](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: lola@lolastar.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 7:57:27 PM

City Council,

You must vote NO on this extension UNTIL Lola Star's store is included in the extension.

The store and the owner represent the pulse of Coney Island and it's abhorrent to discover this exclusion. You would regret this error had you made it without being aware.

Please, consider the serious consequences.

With sincere concern,

Bethany Baney
Bethany.Baney@gmail.com

Thanks,
Beth

From: [bruce bernfeld](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)"
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 7:59:34 PM

i have been going to Coney Island for the past 72 years !! (And I never lived in Brooklyn !!)

Coney Island is just a place on the coastline that is part of the Easter coastline that is 2,000 miles long ... but the atmosphere and ambiance stands high and above mostly all areas on the coast

i am appalled that one of the greatest spots that brought that ambiance to ALL visitors was Lola Starr's shop !

When it opened years ago I said to my wife Eileen that the shop was the most perfect shop that mirrored the fun that Coney Island has brought to millions over the years!

- Please vote NO on this extension until Lola Star is rightfully included on this lease extension package

thank you for your consideration!

Bruce H Bernfeld
75 year old Coney Island Lover

Sent from my iPhone

From: [ciasztalos](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: lola@lolasdiary.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 8:45:30 PM

Good evening,

I want to take this opportunity to first introduce myself. My name is Christina Asztalos, I'm currently a 1st grade Sped teacher and have been a resident in the Coney Island area for over ten years.

I spent many summers on the board walk going in and out of the many stores but by far the most loved store is Lola Stars.

Her warm welcome and love for people is nothing short of amazing. She welcomes all and respects everyone. A true inspiration to how the world should be, could be, and is needed to be. I have personally seen how her positive outlook on life has inspired others.

Hearing that she was and is being discrimination against, left out, and betrayed is a disservice to the Coney Island community and future generations. I stand in front of my classroom teaching students about equality and to stand up for what you believe in, and I believe in the impact that Lola Stars store has had not only on myself but people all over the world. I would like to be able to tell my students that they can still make a change and an impact in this world if they believe in something hard enough.

I am asking the City Council to vote NO on this extension until her shop is rightfully included on this lease extension package

Thank you,

C.Asztalos

From: car221@aol.com
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: info@LolaStar.com; askeric@brooklynbp.nyc.gov; bdeblasio@cityhall.nyc.gov; areynoso@council.nyc.gov <areynoso@council.nyc.gov>; MTreyger@council.nyc.gov <MTreyger@couDistrict45@council.nyc.gov> <District45@council.nyc.gov>; District48@council.nyc.gov <District48@council.nyc.gov>; AMaisel@council.nyc.gov <AMaisel@council.nyc.gov>; AskKalman@council.nyc.gov <AskKalman@council.nyc.gov>; viverdree@council.nyc.gov <viverdree@council.nyc.gov>; FMoya@council.nyc.gov <FMoya@council.nyc.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony-T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Social Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY,
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 6:59:28 PM

TO; Hon Francisco Moya, Chairman
Zoning & Franchises Subcommittee of City Council

Dear Sir:

This email is being sent to you to request that you vote NO on the above extension to extend the leases of the City's tenant, CAI, and all of the boardwalk businesses for another ten years except only the LolaStar Boutique.

LolaStar has been on Coney Island for 19 years and during this time many visitors come to Coney Island just to see her small shop and her personally. She designs and makes all of the the clothes she sells in her small 8 foot wide store. To me Lola embodies the spirit of Coney Island.

When the boardwalk and all the businesses were threatened by Thor which bought up large tracts of the land to build condominiums, Lola stood up to him. Thor's leases said the tenant could not say anything bad about him if they wanted to stay on the boardwalk. Only one tenant refused to sign the leases with the overbearing provisions, LolaStar Boutique.

Lola then organized the Save Coney Island campaign to have the City purchase the land back from Thor and save all the small businesses.. Eventually her public campaign was successful and the City purchased the land, She saved Coney Island from the Thor wrecking ball. Now CAI wants to put the wrecking ball to LolaStar. Why?

The City contracted with CAI to manage Coney Island However, CAI has now taken action to remove only one tenant, LolaStar Boutique.

Not only did CAI act to discriminate against LolaStar Boutique but I understand CAI and the City of New York failed to give any legal notice of the proceedings on December 9, 2021 to LolaStar Boutique. Why? What are they trying to hide or cover up?

Why was this small business operated by a female the only tenant to be excluded from the lease extension? Why?

CAI told her that her Lease could only be extended if she paid a 500% increase in the lease amount and a percentage of the gross. Is this 500% increase the increase that all tenants are paying to have their leases extended or was this female operated business the only one? Why? It is important for the public to know if other tenants were treated the same as LolaStar and, if they were not treated in the same manner, then why was there a difference in the treatment including the 500% increase? What is the reason for the difference in treatment?

For 19 years, LolaStar was a good tenant and many younger New Yorkers flocked to her store. It was a great success, For 19 years she has paid her rent for an 8 foot wide store with no bathrooms or running water, I doubt if any other tenant of CAI and the City was treated in the same manner as she was to not

have any rest rooms in the store. It was a violation of the City's Building Code. LolaStar did not complain but now the city's tenant is shunning her.

I suggest that the City and CAI should be required to state under oath their answers to these issues and others to explain why LolaStar should be so discriminated against. It is not fair and I do not think the general public who loved her store will appreciate it if CAI and the City is not required to state under oath why these actions to exclude LolaStar should be approved.

Please vote NO and require public hearings to find out the answers to these questions and determine if the public wants LolaStar to be allowed to stay on the boardwalk, Instead of Save Coney Island we should now have a community campaign to "Save LolaStar". I for one hope she starts a grass roots campaign just as she did before. I believe the public does not want her to lose her store and there should be an Inspector General investigation by the City to determine if the actions of CAI are proper and why LolaStar is being discriminated against.

Please provide me with a transcript of the proceedings on December 9 and any Legal Notices that were sent for the proceedings on December 9, 2021.

Will this matter be referred to the Inspector General?

Thank you.

From: [CHARLOTTA JANSSEN](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Thursday, December 9, 2021 12:15:30 AM

URGENT! Do not vote for lease extensions until you Include Lola Starr into it. She has deep connections on the board walk & is its biggest cheerleader. City Council's job is to make better & more inclusive legislation. How is it possible to discriminate so callously?

The boardwalk isn't the same without her & I'm amazed how she is waving the storm.

As a fellow small biz & female biz owner -I implore you to stop discriminating, revisit your pool of folks deserving extensions & include her and other. Please set fair and inclusive criteria.

I also am a building owner and I am disgusted by the greed running rampant all over this city. There are no checks or balances. Realtors love to tout our small businesses on their sites to lure folks to buy & yet they'll be the first to kick us out and rent the space for much more.

We talk about gentrification all the time, but let's break it down: there are communitifiers & commodifiers. T

Please help me save my shop! I am asking you, as a friend, to please do this favor for me, tonight!

Please write an email to the address below and help me save my beloved shop on the Coney Island boardwalk. This is regarding a City Council vote which is happening tomorrow at 11:30 am so I need your help NOW!

I found out some news, on my birthday Dec 3, that to me, personally was shattering. The City of New York presented a plan to City Council, to extend the leases of the City's tenant, CAI, and all of the other boardwalk businesses for another 10 years- EXCEPT for me. I was not notified by anyone or included in this extension package presented to City Council. I was wrongfully discriminated against and excluded from this extension.

URGENT CALL TO ACTION:

Please write an email to landusetestimony@council.nyc.gov

Please CC me at info@LolaStar.com

Please include

- Your thoughts on why my boardwalk shop, Lola Star, is a positive asset to the Coney Island Community
- Please ask City Council to vote NO on this extension until my shop is rightfully included on this lease extension package

- And this is super important. If you don't include this information your testimony will not be included, please include the subject ""

Thank you!

Lola

From: [CHARLOTTA JANSSEN](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Thursday, December 9, 2021 12:45:13 AM

COMPLETE TESTIMONY, PLEASE Disreg first.

URGENT! Do not vote for lease extensions until you Include Lola Starr into it. She has deep connections on the board walk & is its biggest cheerleader. City Council's job is to make better & more inclusive legislation. How is it possible to discriminate so callously against a such a great small business?

The boardwalk isn't the same without her & i'm amazed how she is waved so many storms there.

As a fellow small biz & female biz owner (I own Chez Oskar) -I implore you to stop discriminating against her , revisit your pool of folks deserving extensions & include her. Please set fair and inclusive criteria.

I also am a building owner and I am disgusted by the unchecked greed running rampant all over this city. There are no checks or balances. Realtors love to tout our small businesses on their sites to lure folks to buy & yet they'll be the first to kick us out and rereat the space for much more.

We talk about gentrification all the time, but let's break it down: there are communifiers & commodifiers. Communifiers come in to participate in community, offer services for their community to enjoy & they work hard to make life better for their neighbors. Commodifiers calculate how little they need to put in, to maximize their profits. They couldn't care less about community & they have no interest in serving the greater good - they only serve themselves. Their greed & self servitude causes a burden to everyone else

Lola Starr is definitely communifier. She shares a deep love for the boardwalk underbelly & is a shiny star in the Coney Island Milkyway... Take her out & the boardwalk will be a lot more dull.

I have once gone through getting my restaurant sold for scrap, my ex landlord cashing in on keymoney & doubling the rent. That was after 18 years of a constant growing business - how is that fair? How can commodifiers win all the time? I cannot sit by & watch while Lola Starr goes through the same. I hope you cannot either.

Her merch is so awesome and so Coney Island. She is Coney Island's biggest cheerleader. SAVE HER STORE! VOTE NO on lease extensions until Lola Starr is included & put checks & balances on landlords: SUPPORT COMMERCIAL RENT STABILIZATION!

Support ALL Communifiers! Curb ALL Commodifiers!

Charlotta Janssen
Chez Oskar (Bed Stuy)

From: [Chelsea Criger](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: info@LolaStar.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony - T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 6:25:49 PM

Hello,

I just wanted to show my support for Diana and her Coney Island boardwalk shop, Lola Star.

She is an essential part of the Coney Island Community and without her Coney Island would currently be a plot of condos and not the iconic landmark it is today.

Please vote No on the rent extension until her shop is included on the lease extension package.

Sincerely,

Chelsea Criger

Brooklyn Resident

From: [Chia-Ti Chiu](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: info@lolastar.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 8:40:46 PM

To the City Council,

I'm writing this email out of concern for what's happening in Coney Island with the businesses on the boardwalk, specifically Lola Star. I have lived in New York City for 20 years, and in Brooklyn for half of that time. I have worked at a youth center in Coney Island and been a frequent visitor to the boardwalk and beaches. Coney Island holds a special place in my heart.

I have known Lola for 10 years. We met because she had the idea to offer yoga classes to the Coney Island community and I started leading those classes on the beach. She provided yoga mats from her store and was always a help and resource whenever we needed. She is a champion and visionary for Coney Island, and uses her platform to connect people and support people in the community, especially those who are disenfranchised.

Her shop is quirky, creative, and totally represents the funky spirit of Coney Island. People not only get souvenirs and memorabilia from her shop, they get memories and a feeling of connection to this particular slice of Brooklyn. It was disturbing to me to hear that the City of New York presented a plan to City Council text ending the leases of the City's tenant, CAI, and all of the other boardwalk businesses for another 10 years except for Lola Star. Is this because she is an advocate and activist for small business owners' rights? It seems very discriminatory to not extend her lease.

Please vote NO on this lease extension until Lola Star is rightfully included on this lease extension package.

Thank you for hearing my concerns. Be well, Chia-Ti

Chia-Ti Chiu
onelovewellness.com
Instagram: @onelovewellness

From: [Christina Carlin](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#); Lola@lolasdiary.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 11:16:58 PM

RE: Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)

Dear City Council Members,

I was recently made aware that the Lola Star Boutique may not be included in the contemplated extension of commercial leases in Coney Island.

I am writing to express that in my visits to Coney Island, I have found the store and it's owner to be an important part of the Coney Island ecosystem and a positive impact on the Coney Island Community. I am not certain why a female founded and owned business that has invested many years into the health of the Coney Island community and sells merchandise that builds positive brand awareness for Coney Island would be excluded from a lease extension. I am not privy to the rationale or intent of the City of NY and the Council, but the exclusion of a female business owner who has been a tireless advocate for Coney Island and the surrounding community, would certainly raise concerns as to the fairness of this action.

I would ask whether other businesses have been treated in a similar fashion?

What is the rationale for the exclusion of this business?

Is this action fair and equitable?

Is this action in alignment with our vision for Coney Island, a vision that must include creative, dynamic, community-focused, and one-of-a-kind businesses like the Lola Star Boutique?

I ask that the answers to these questions be immediately made part of the public record in the interest of fairness and transparency.

Quite frankly, the Lola Star Boutique exemplifies the very best of Coney Island. Service to the community. Entrepreneurialism. Creativity. Determination. The exclusion of Lola Star's boutique is an affront to everything that Coney Island and New York City values and stands for.

I STRONGLY urge you to vote NO on this extension until these questions are addressed and the Lola Star Boutique is rightfully included in this lease extension package. Anything less would be a failure to serve the community as

well as a failure to support a community-minded, unique, female-owned business. I urge you to show your constituents that you value small business owners, female-owned businesses, and - most importantly - that you value what is RIGHT, EQUITABLE, and FAIR.

I ask that the committee take this testimony into consideration.

Sincerely,
Christina Carlin



Cuisine by Claudette
143 Beach 116th Street
Rockaway Park, NY 11694
(718) 945-5511
info@cuisinebyclaudette.nyc

12-09-2021

Dear Chair Moya:

Please accept this correspondence as written testimony on Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan Amendment, T2021-8271 which would seek to extend the term of the City's agreement with CAI from 17 years to 27 years.

Lola Star is a female owned, artist owned small business. Her vibrant and beloved small business sells items that she designs and hand prints. Though her shop is a few feet wide, over the last 21 years Lola Star has built a presence in Coney Island that is iconic, and serves as an anchor to the Coney Island business corridor. In addition to this she has volunteered endless hours of her time giving back to the community through her community service including, animal rescue, healthy lifestyle advocacy, free community yoga classes, fundraising for the community after Hurricane Sandy and more.

I am sure that City Council and the City of New York will agree that she is a valuable asset to the Coney Island community who should be included, along with the other Coney Island boardwalk businesses, as a legal tenant, on this lease extension package.

There is no reason, legal or otherwise, for the City of New York to exclude this valuable contributor to the Coney Island Community from this lease extension package.

I implore you to vote "no" on this lease extension until the conditions referenced in the City Council Hearing on Dec 2 regarding the subleases of this lease extension are corrected to rightly include her business.

If you would like to reach me personally and discuss any of the above matters, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Thank you,

Yarden Flatow
Managing Partner
Cuisine by Claudette
718-869-0190
yarden@cuisinebyclaudette.nyc

From: [Cynthia Lillis](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: [Lola Star](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)"
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 10:50:26 PM

Hello,

As a longtime visitor to Coney Island who has experienced the good and the bad, your lack of appreciation for organizations that have brought people, memories and something to special is a great loss for our communities. The beloved shop on the Coney Island boardwalk somehow was left off the list of associations asked to stay, and that is not ok. Lola Star is an amazing asset to Coney Island and it needs to stay that way.

Please vote NO on this extension until Lola Star shop is rightfully included on this lease extension package.

Best
Cynthia Lillis

Regards,

From: [Dana Laudani](#)
To: info@lolastar.com; [Land Use Testimony](#); lola@lolasdiary.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 10:54:19 PM

Dear City Councilors,

Please vote NO on this extension until Lola Star is rightfully included on this lease extension package!

Small growing businesses are the life blood of a thriving city. Lola Star is exactly the type of business we all need to protect and encourage. Ms. Carlin has been an exemplary employer, tax payer and community cheerleader.

Ms. Carlin and her business continue to be a positive and uplifting place for the local community as well as visitors from all over the world! Visitors come and learn about Brooklyn, it's history and the amazing things to do and explore right now. Do not allow this highly sexist, highly discriminatory behavior I by the landowner to stand unchecked.

She should not be singled out by the landlord in this discriminatory way- all her & her employees to stay!

Sincerely,
Mr. Dana J. Laudani
A registered voter

--

Best Regards,

Dana J. Laudani

From: [Darren Conway](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: info@lolastar.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Urgent matter regarding Lola stars Coney Island shop
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 5:21:31 PM

To the community board

How can anyone just pull the rug from under a business owner who has given so much time, love and energy to her community. Why is it that she is being treated like dirt in her home town. Why is she not being given the same rights as other business owners on the boardwalk. Why is the city turning away someone who lives, breaths and loves Coney Island. This is a true dagger to the heart for everyone who knows Ana loves not only Lola Star but for those who love what she brings to Coney Island. This is not how you treat ppl especially with the holidays around the corner. Lola is Coney Island PERIOD. Taking her shop away leaves a huge emptiness in what we all know Coney Island to be.

Shame on NYC!

Darren Conway
Partner
[@pier13hoboken](#)
[@gringostaco](#)

From: david.tavelin@gmail.com
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: info@lolastar.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 6:06:23 PM

To Whom it Concerns,

Please vote no on the current lease extension if it does not include Lola Star (Diana's) shop on the boardwalk! I practically grew up on that boardwalk. That shop is a big part of the amazing resurgence that occurred in Coney Island and she should be rewarded for that. She does so many amazing things for Brooklyn! Do the right thing and keep Lola Star's shop right where it belongs.

Thanks for your time,

David Tavelin DDS

From: [Deanna Blevins](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: info@lolastar.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony - T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 8:27:07 PM

To whom it may concern:

Let me first thank you for your time and consideration on what is truly a disconcerting matter. I am writing this letter in regards to "Lola Star boutique shop" on the Coney island Boardwalk. It has come to my attention that Lola Star is on the verge of closing it's doors forever. What a travesty this would be not only for the business owner, but for the Coney Island community as a whole. This fixture on the boardwalk is representative of the artistic and cultural identity of historical Coney; a place where creatives, artists flock as well as families and people from every walk of life. Small businesses and the owners embody the spirit of the people who call Coney Island home.

The egregious exclusion of Lola Star in any future planning or lease renewal would be detrimental to the character of the boardwalk. I insist the city council step in and support this beautiful darling business. It deserves the same consideration and aid as the handful of other small business in the area. No other shop has the spunky character and quirky story to tell quite like Lola Star. This business is one of a kind, truly an understated gem that must be supported in time of need, especially after Covid, when small businesses were shuttering for good at such an alarming rate.

I am writing this email to you pleading for you to include Lola Star in the lease renewal plans. It is heartbreaking to think of a chain or big box coming in and taking over the space. Without small businesses like Lola Star, Coney Island was just be another strip mall and the magic and wonder of the neighborhood would be lost forever.

Respectfully,
Deanna Blevins- (local artist residing in Bay Ridge, Brooklyn)

From: [dmora](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: [Lola Star](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony- T2021-8271 Coney Island Amusement Park Project Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 5:17:20 PM

Dear City Council

Please vote NO on the lease extension until Lola Star's business is included. As a native New Yorker and business owner, I know the value Lola Star's business has added to Coney Island and to the entirety of Brooklyn. When many business owners were struggling, she worked tirelessly to save NYC small businesses and bring light during the dark days. Given her community impact, leaving her out of the future of Coney Island would be a disservice to the community.

Additionally, women-owned businesses are far and few between, they also have better returns than non-women-owned businesses. Lola Star is in fact an exemplary example of the type of business you should be supporting and advocating for.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you

Diana Mora
212 920 1988
Friends and Lovers + NYC Nightlife United

From: [eli medina](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 6:21:21 PM

Lola shop is a must be shop in coney island boardwalk. Its been there for many years

From: [eli medina](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 6:24:45 PM

Lola shop is a positive asset to coney island boardwalk.its been there for many years.i vote no until Lola shop is included in the lease.T2021-8271

From: [Elizabeth Darcy](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: info@LolaStar.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 5:57:41 PM

I am writing to ask the City Council to vote NO on the lease extension for the Coney Island Boardwalk tenants until the Lola Star shop is rightfully included in the package.

Lola Star has been an important part of the revitalization of the Coney

Island boardwalk and continues to be a positive force in the area's ongoing success. She takes a personal interest in the community and its inhabitants. Her shop needs to be included in the 10 year extension!

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Darcy MD

From: [Elizabeth Wanttaja](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: Info@lolastar.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony - t2021-8271, Coney Island amusement park project plan, third amendment to the special process agreement, Brooklyn. (20225010 RSY)
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 7:17:29 PM

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to state that Lola Star's boardwalk shop is a positive asset on our wonderful boardwalk in Coney Island. Small, locally owned businesses are what make our city, borough, and boardwalk great. We need uniqueness to remain on the Coney Island boardwalk - and the rush to vote on this extension package without Lola Star included makes me feel that City Council is complicit in the landlords discrimination against her. This store has been part of the fabric of Coney Island for over 20 years. The city should protect all small businesses, not just those who take things quietly.

I hope you will vote no on this extension until all of our beloved local businesses on the boardwalk are included in the extension.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Wanttaja

From: [Milly Price](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: info@lolastar.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Progress Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 6:31:06 PM

To whom it may concern,

Please vote NO on the extension until the Lola Star store is rightfully included on this lease extension package.

I live in Oxford, England, and am a visitor to New York City. Lola Star plays a key part in my memories of Coney Island. I had waited years to visit. Then one day, as a young woman, I travelled all the way to NYC/Coney Island from the UK, all on my own. As soon as I set foot in Lola Star and began chatting with the owner, I felt at home, and truly welcome in the place I had so longed to visit.

The owner kindly recommended things for me to do in the area, as well as in the City, and other businesses to make sure I visit on the boardwalk. I purchased merchandise from Lola Star, which I have since brought back to the UK, and still treasure. When I wear her clothing endorsed 'Coney Island' I am often complimented by strangers, with whom I can share the story of Coney Island, and of the little shop 'Lola Star', which I always tell people they must absolutely visit.

I understand the owner and the store to be key to the Coney Island community - the boardwalk would simply not be the same without Lola Star. Workers from the other Coney Island businesses I visited spoke highly of the owner and the store.

If it weren't for the pandemic, my experience at the store is part of what makes me so keen to revisit, and to purchase/collect more mementos of my favourite place in New York City. It would simply be heartbreaking to return one day and the the 'Lola Star' sign gone, or another store in its place.

Sincerely,

Emily Price

From: [Emily Shaffer](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: lola@lolasdiary.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 9:18:52 PM

Please vote NO on this extension until Lola Star is included in this Coney Island lease extension package.

I'm a resident of Manhattan and I go to Coney Island every summer-it's my favorite place in NYC. For all the years I've gone there, the 3 stops I most look forward to are the ocean, lunch at Nathan's, and shopping at Lola Star -a Coney Island icon that's been there for as long as i can remember. It's different (more special and representative of Coney Island) than any other shop in the area and I would be devastated to lose it. That's amazing neighborhood and boardwalk would not be the same without it.

With all the hardships we've faced in this city, please don't take away something that brings so much joy to so many of us!

Thank you!
Emily Shaffer

From: [Erica C](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: lola@lolasdiary.com; info@LolaStar.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 10:44:46 PM

City Council-

I was recently made aware that the Lola Star Boutique may not be included in the contemplated extension of commercial leases in Coney Island.

I am writing to express that in my visits to Coney Island, I have found the store and it's owner to be an important part of the Coney Island ecosystem and a positive impact on the Coney Island Community. I am not certain why a female founded and owned business that has invested many years into the health of the Coney Island community and sells merchandise that builds positive brand awareness for Coney Island would be excluded from a lease extension. I am not privy to the rationale or intent of the City of NY and the Council, but the exclusion of a female business owner who has been a tireless advocate for Coney Island and the surrounding community, would certainly raise concerns as to the fairness of this action.

I would ask whether other businesses have been treated in a similar fashion?

What is the rationale for the exclusion of this business?

Is this action fair and equitable?

I ask that the answers to these questions be made part of the public record in the interest of fairness and transparency.

And I ask that the committee take this testimony into consideration.

From: [Flannery Lyle](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: info@lolastar.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony-T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 5:53:49 PM

Hi there,

I'm writing to you in a request to vote NO on this extension until Lola Star's shop is rightfully included on this lease extension package. Lola Star's shop is (and has been for 21 years!!) a great and positive asset to the Coney Island Community. Please vote No!! Thank you for your time!

--

Sent from my iPhone which means I haven't lost it; that's good.

From: [Frank Raffaele](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: lola@lolasdiary.com; [Dianna Carlin](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] LU 0949-2021: Application No. 20225010 RSY (Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan – Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement)
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 11:00:04 PM

Dear Members of The City Council,

I am writing to express my extreme disappointment on the procurement process of *LU 0949-202 -- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)*.

The City of New York has not brought this extension to a competitive process and thus has gone around the strict and clear procuring protocols that are intended to protect the City of New York.

I know this process well based on my past work at NYC Parks with Commissioner Henry Stern and as someone who has done business with the City of New York.

Most egregiously, is the way that the current operator has shunned and shut-out the long term operator and Coney Island legend, Lola Star.

I suggest that the Department of Investigation and the Comptroller Office review this matter before this committee votes.

Lola Star has been an influential and important figure in the resurgence of Coney Island. I should know as my family has deep roots in Coney Island, spanning well over a century. My family has had businesses here, we have been land owners, and most importantly my family have raised generations of us here.

I know that our beloved Coney Island was in a tailspin and if not for motivated, persistent, forward-thinking, and determined members of our community like Lola Star — our community would not have rebounded.

Lola's shop and presence has provided an optimistic, fun, and important part of our boardwalk for years. Lola's advocacy for the betterment of Coney Island has been amazing and needed.

I ask and implore this committee to NOT vote until Lola and the current main License Agreement holder can have the opportunity to fairly negotiate terms that are mutually beneficial.

I believe the law and the ethics/procedures of the city council prevent you from voting on this until that negotiation takes place.

Please take this seriously. Thank you.

Best,
Frank Raffaele



From: [Gail Cohen](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony-T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 8:46:01 PM

It has come to my attention that the City Council of New York presented a plan to the City Council to extend the leases of the City's tenant, CAI, and all of the other boardwalk businesses for another 10 years EXCEPT for Lola Star's business. I feel that Lola Star was wrongfully discriminated against and excluded from this extension.

I am requesting that the City Council vote NO on this extension until Lola's shop is rightfully included on this lease extension package.

Lola Star's shop is a positive asset to the Coney Island Community. This unique store caters to the Brooklyn and Coney Island Community plus tourists. The shop is always packed with people looking for Coney Island memorabilia. Exclusive designs from Lola are a special treat. WE NEED THIS STORE TO BE INCLUDED IN THIS PACKAGE!!

Sincerely,
Gail Cohen
Sea Gate Residence

From: [mermaidhawley](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: info@lolastar.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony-T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 5:56:23 PM

Testimony-T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn, (20225010 RSY

Dear City Council,

Please vote NO on this extension until the Lola Star shop is rightfully included on the lease extension package. The Lola Star boardwalk shop is a beloved spot for people from around the world. Visiting the Lola Star Shop is a yearly tradition for so many of us! Lola Star is a destination spot and it's magic is as relevant and worth supporting and nurturing as any of our beloved Coney Island spots. Not including Lola Star's tiny but epic shop would be heartbreaking for so many. Lola Star has supported the Coney Island Community through so many years. It's our turn to support her.

Thank you for taking the time to consider this oversight.

Sincerely,
Hawley Hussey
Coney Island Resident,

--

The trouble is we're just not thinking big enough.

-Freddie Mercury

From: [Heather Rogers](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#); [Dromm, CM](#); contact@voteshekar.com
Cc: info@lolastar.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 4:59:53 PM

Re: Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)

Hello,

I am writing today to express my concern that Lola Star's gift shop has been left out of the plan to extend the leases of the other shops on the Coney Island Boardwalk. Lola Star is a positive asset to the Coney Island community, and it is my favorite place to shop on the boardwalk. I visit it every time I go to Coney Island. Why did you include every other store and leave hers out??? Please vote NO until the Lola Star Gift Shop is included in the package.

Sincerely,

Heather L. Rogers

7612 35th Avenue Apt ■

Jackson Hts, NY 11372

From: [Hilary Parry Haggerty](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: lola@lolasdiary.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 10:09:39 PM

12-8-2021

Dear Chair Moya:

Please accept this correspondence as written testimony on Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan Amendment, T2021-8271 which would seek to extend the term of the City's agreement with CAI from 17 years to 27 years.

Lola Star is a female owned, artist owned small business. Her vibrant and beloved small business sells items that she designs and hand prints. Although her shop, which she has owned on the Coney Island boardwalk for the last 21 years, is only 7 feet wide, it contributes to the Coney Island experience in enormous ways. In addition to this she has volunteered endless hours of her time giving back to the community through her community service including, animal rescue, healthy lifestyle advocacy, free community yoga classes, fundraising for the community after Hurricane Sandy and more.

I am sure that the City Council and the City of New York will agree that she is a valuable asset to the Coney Island community who should be included, along with the other Coney Island boardwalk businesses, as a legal tenant, on this lease extension package.

There is no reason, legal or otherwise, for the City of New York to exclude this valuable contributor to the Coney Island Community from this lease extension package.

I implore you to vote "no" on this lease extension until the conditions referenced in the City Council Hearing on Dec 2 regarding the subleases of this lease extension are corrected to rightly include her business.

Thank you,
Hilary Parry Haggerty

--

[Synchronicity guides us just as much as intuition](#), as long as we are willing to be open to it.

Hilary Parry Haggerty/ Editor and Tarot Reader

hsparry@gmail.com

Hilary Parry Haggerty
<http://www.hilaryparry.com>

<http://www.tarotbyhilary.com>

From: [Holly Watson](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: info@lolastar.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] LOLA STAR Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 4:46:20 PM

Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)

To Whom it May Concern on the City Council:

It has come to my attention that Lola Star, a long-standing business on the Coney Island Boardwalk, has not been included in the Lease Extension Package for businesses on the Boardwalk.

Lola Star has been an amazing business on the Boardwalk since I can remember! The shop provides so many unique items to the visitors of the Boardwalk--things you could not get anywhere else that represent the one-of-a-kind place that we know and love--Coney Island!

PLEASE VOTE NO on the extension until Lola Star is rightfully included in the lease extension package.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Holly Watson

--

holly@hollywatson.com
<http://www.hollywatson.com>



From: [jaime](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: info@LolaStar.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)"
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 8:03:58 PM

Please vote NO on this extension until Lola Star is rightfully included on this lease extension package. Living in the neighborhood, Lola Star has been such an asset to the community. The shop allowed people to purchase belongings from their neighborhoods. It also provided unique gifts for Brooklyn lovers. Please help this business!!!

Thanks for taking this into consideration
Fellow neighbor
Jaime
Sent from my Sprint Samsung Galaxy S9.

From: [James A Carlin Jr](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: [Dianna Carlin](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 5:29:18 PM

City Council-

I was recently made aware that the Lola Star Boutique may not be included in the contemplated extension of commercial leases in Coney Island.

I am writing to express that in my visits to Coney Island, I have found the store and it's owner to be an important part of the Coney Island ecosystem and a positive impact on the Coney Island Community. I am not certain why a female founded and owned business that has invested many years into the health of the Coney Island community and sells merchandise that builds positive brand awareness for Coney Island would be excluded from a lease extension. I am not privy to the rationale or intent of the City of NY and the Council, but the exclusion of a female business owner who has been a tireless advocate for Coney Island and the surrounding community, would certainly raise concerns as to the fairness of this action.

I would ask whether other businesses have been treated in a similar fashion?

What is the rationale for the exclusion of this business?

Is this action fair and equitable?

I ask that the answers to these questions be made part of the public record in the interest of fairness and transparency.

And I ask that the committee take this testimony into consideration.

From: jason.brooklyn
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: info@lolastar.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 4:19:08 PM

To whom it may concern,

Lola Starr is an important part of coney island's boardwalk. Please vote NO T2021-8271 until Lola's business is treated with the same respect as all the other businesses that have been notified about opportunities for a lease extension package. Why was Lola's business singled out? She was the only one and this is unacceptable.

DO THE RIGHT THING AND VOTE NO. She has been there for 21 years! This is shameful.

Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)

Thank You,
Jason Blaney
[REDACTED]
Brooklyn, NY11217

From: [Jason Gratz](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: info@lolastar.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony - T2021-8271, Coney Island amusement park project plan
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 6:54:42 PM

Good evening,

I am writing to ask the City Council to vote NO on the ten year extension for the Coney Island boardwalk tenants UNLESS Lola Star's shop is rightfully included!

Lola has been committed to the revitalization and ongoing success of the Coney Island boardwalk for over a decade. Lola is an asset to the community. She uses her influence on social media to spread information about Coney Island events (such as the Mermaid Parade) and is an active participant and supporter of all things related to the Boardwalk!

Sincerely,

Jason Gratz

From: [Suzy Hotrod](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: lola@lolasdiary.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Thursday, December 9, 2021 2:25:36 AM

Dear City Counsel,

I am writing to express my voice to save the Lola Star shop on the Coney Island boardwalk and grant it the same 10 year lease other tenants were offered. With the goal to amend the proposal, I encourage you to vote no on the it until it can be amended to include this store.

The shop is a part of the life of Coney Island. It has built a culture around it of community love and energy. Lola Star has become a face of Coney Island history and needs to remain on the boardwalk. She also has done much work to support the unique voices of Coney Island.

Thank you for your time,
Jean Schwarzwaldler
aka Suzy Hotrod of Gotham Roller Derby

From: [Jen Gapay](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: [Lola Star Customer Service](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] "Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 5:42:45 PM

Dear NY City Council,

I'm writing in regard to the Lola Star shop on the Coney Island Boardwalk. I believe Lola Star's small independent business has been a great asset to the community in Coney Island for years and strongly support the store's lease being renewed along with the other Coney Island businesses.

Lola Star has been a positive artistic business that I and many friends and family members have shopped at for many years and I personally would be crushed if her store was no longer on the Boardwalk.

As the coordinator of the Mermaid Parade and a part of the Coney Island community for decades I truly believe that more small businesses like hers should be supported and allowed to thrive.

Not having Lola Star as part of the community would truly be a loss for Coney Island and the public.

Please extend her lease!

"Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)"

Sincerely,

Jen Gapay

Jen Gapay
917-770-8559
Jen@thirstygirlproductions.com
www.thirstygirlproductions.com

From: [Jenni Fridstrom](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: info@LolaStar.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] "Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)"
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 6:37:23 PM

To whom it may concern,

I am writing this email as a long time Brooklynite and patron of the Lola Star Boardwalk Shop. This shop defines what Brooklyn is all about. Small local businesses made up of those that live and breathe Brooklyn!

Lola's shop not only brings character to the boardwalk, but she has always had the interest of the community at heart! She is always been a voice of the community of Coney Island and supporter of other local businesses.

I was born, raised and still live in Brooklyn and have been frequenting the Coney Island Boardwalk my entire 42 years. It breaks my heart to hear of another local business that may be lost to an oversight.

Please VOTE NO on the lease extension until The Lola Star Boardwalk Shop is rightfully included on this lease extension package for the leases of the City's tenant, CAI.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Fridstrom-Pesapane, RN

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Joan Lasher](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 5:25:51 PM

The Coney Island Boardwalk is so special. One of the most unique and delightful shops is owned by Lola Star. She sells the coolest stuff! Her store truly represents small business in America. Please include Lola Star in the lease extension. Her presence is the essence of Coney Island. Respectfully submitted, Joan Lasher, The Gilded Eagle Inn.

From: [Johanna Zehentner](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: info@lolastar.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] !! LOLA STAR Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)"
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 4:01:49 PM

To whom it may concern

I am asking the city council to vote NO on this lease extension package until Lola Star Gift Shop, is included.

Lola Star Gift Shop is literally one of the highlights and reasons to visit Coney Island! She offers unique, handmade items, not be found ANYWHERE else! Truly art! I have been visiting Coney Island for over 25 years, first from eastern long island, and now we travel from Florida to visit my beloved Coney Island. Lola Star is such a gem of a small business. It is only right to include her. Anything else is unconscionable. Please and thank you.

Reference | "Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)"

From: [John D'Aquino](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: info@LolaStar.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 5:38:13 PM

Hello

I am writing in regarding the Lola Starr shop on the boardwalk.

My name is John D'Aquino I am a native New Yorker and a member of the Coney Island polar bear club for over 24 years.

I have seen a lot of changes come through the area over the years, and I would like to state for the record that the Lola Starr Boutique is a fixture of the boardwalk and Coney Island would have a void if it were to be removed from its place on the boardwalk.

It is operated by a local business woman Diana Carlin from Brooklyn who cares deeply about the community, she employs fellow New Yorkers to run her shop and provides memories for all that find their way down the boardwalk.

Without the local small business in the area including the Lola Starr boutique the boardwalk would be bland and boring, Diana's creativity and dedication to Coney Island has been proven year after year and her place on the boardwalk is well deserved.

I request to all that hear this message to vote NO on the extension, until the shop can be included in the package to allow the Lola Starr Boutique a opportunity to stay on the boardwalk where it firmly belongs.

Do not let this store be lost like so many other treasures Coney Island has lost over the years

Thank you for your time.

John D'Aquino

John D'Aquino, lb CA
Johnnysound.com

O 212.228.0112
F 212.260.9757
C [REDACTED]

From: [Jonathan Rockey](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: lola@lolasdiary.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Thursday, December 9, 2021 6:08:01 AM

Greetings!

I am a resident of New York City with two young daughters.

The Lola Star broadwalk shop is a positive asset to the Coney Island Community because my daughters enjoy going there. Their creativity with fashion is inspired as well as an entrepreneurial spirit for creating their own local community supported, and empowering, businesses. The shop inspires me to contribute to the community and appreciate the rich history of the area.

I ask that the City Council votes NO on the extension until the Lola Star shop is included in the lease extension package.

Sincerely,
Jonathan Rockey

From: [Joseph Alexander](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: lola@lolasdiary.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 8:34:43 PM

Hello my name is Joseph Alexander and I am Roller Skate Performer and supporter of Lola Star!

This letter is to inform you that the City Council must **VOTE NO** on the extension until Lola Stars amazing shop is rightfully included on the lease extension package!

I have known Lola Star for years and enjoy visiting and shopping at her amazing boutique which embodies the heart and soul of Coney Island! You would be making a big mistake by not including and protecting this amazing woman who gives so much of her life and energy to the Coney Island community!

Thank you!

Joseph Alexander

IMPORTANT WARNING: This message is intended for the use of the person or entity to which it is addressed and may contain information that is privileged and confidential, the disclosure of which is governed by applicable law. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, or the employee or agent responsible to deliver it to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination or copying of this information is Strictly Prohibited. If you have received this message in error, please notify the sender immediately and arrange for the return or destruction of these documents. Joseph Alexander reserves the right to scan all email traffic for restricted content and to monitor all email in general.

From: [Julie Diller](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: info@LolaStar.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Vote "NO"
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 5:33:08 PM

December 8, 2021

Dear Land Use Testimony Council,

Lola Star, is a positive asset to the Coney Island Community, offering creativity essential to vibrancy of Coney Island!! New York City!!
She has become an icon figure and location destination defining Coney Island's rejuvenation!!
Please City Council vote NO on the extension until Lola Star's shop is rightfully included on this lease extension package!!

"Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)"

Thank
Julie Diller

you!

From: [Katy Wynne](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: info@lolastar.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)"
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 6:10:31 PM

I am writing to you to save LOLA STAR SHOP in Coney Island. This shop has been a long time favorite for me and my family. She is such a positive influence on the community and does things to improve the community. I live in Queens and her shop closed, we were so upset by not having her shop but also not having her presence in our beach community. We were regular shoppers and regular to her roller skate parties. We now travel to Coney Island to shop and visit Lola. Lola went above and beyond to help our community and I know she does the same for Coney Island.

Please vote NO on this extension until Lola Star is included on this lease extension package

Thank you!
Kathryn Wynne

From: [Kathy Stecko](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: lola@lolasdiary.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 9:30:00 PM

To whom it may concern,

I am writing in support of Lola Star and her iconic Coney Island Boardwalk Shop. Lola has been a part of the fabric of Coney Island for over twenty years. She has contributed her vision, love and power to this community to create and build on the history of Coney Island. She belongs to this community and the community needs her and her voice. Long before big box and chain stores saw dollar signs, Lola saw the beauty of what was and could be, and fought to keep the character & soul of Coney Island. We need Lola to continue her passion for Coney Island, to be an advocate for small business and keep the character of Coney Island alive.

- Please vote NO on the lease extension until LOLA's shop is included on the lease extension package.

Thank you,
Kathy

From: [Katy Carlin](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: [Dianna Carlin](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 6:51:24 PM

I ask you to vote NO on this extension UNTIL Lola Star's store is included in the extension.

Why would her store not be included on the extension? She has been a hard working small business owner in Coney Island for 20 years. This omission seems unreasonable to me. And discriminatory. To single out a small business owner, an artist, a female and an active, passionate member of the community? This is simply cruel and unreasonable.

Lola Star's boutique brings so much to Coney Island:

-People - she attracts people to Coney Island and brings more business for other stores, restaurants, etc in the area.

-Uniqueness - there isn't anything like it in Coney Island. Coney Island needs this unique, creative business.

-Promotion - she brings positive press about Coney Island.

-Community - the Lola Star souvenir boutique is so much more than a store. They have been contributing to the Coney Island community in many different ways for many years.

-Lola - Lola is an important part of the community and business area. I have personally seen her care and passion for Coney Island, especially for the community and her fellow business owners. She will continue to fight for its economical success and prosperity, but not if she doesn't have a lease.

Thank you for your consideration.
Katy Weaver

From: [Kelly Meyers](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: info@lolastar.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Please Vote No!
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 10:10:57 PM

This correspondence is in reference to testimony-T2021-8721 Coney Island amusement park project plan, third amendment to the special process agreement brooklyn, (20225010 RSY)

Please vote No on the lease extension until Lola Star is included!

I would like to think that it was a mere mistake to disinclude only one current tenant, Lola Star, from the above referenced lease proposal.

Lola Star is an iconic landmark on the boardwalk. The boutique and it's proprietor are both a substantial asset to Coney Island. Lola Star has all the quirky character and fun personality which Coney Island is renowned for. I personally cannot visit the boardwalk without stopping at her shop to see what unique and affordable Coney Island merchandise she has available.

Please do not consider signing without first amending to include Lola Star! It would be a great disservice to Coney Island, it's dedicated and hard working business owners and a disservice to the tourists who expect to see or have yet to see her there!

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,
-Kelly Meyers


Mount Morris, NY 14510

From: [Kimberly Lofgren](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: info@LolaStar.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 4:23:06 PM

This is regarding:

Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)

I am writing you sickened and outraged that Lola Star, one of the best small businesses on the Coney Island Boardwalk, has been excluded from your ten-year lease renewal plan. Apparently, women-owned businesses hold no value to you? Lola Star has been an icon in Coney Island. When my friends visited me, they always had to stop and pick up a tee-shirt as a souvenir of their beautiful Coney Island day! Lola Star is a destination within the Coney Island community.

You cut breaks for CAI, a large corporation, by letting them lease City land for a paltry \$100K a year. And yet you can't extend a mere fraction of that grace to a woman-owned small business?

Lola Star herself has been a passionate community activist advocating for small businesses in Coney Island. Is this why you are punishing her community shop?

Please vote NO on this extension until Lola Star is included in this lease extension package.

Kim Lofgren



To the Land Use Committee of the New York City Council

I am submitting this written testimony and will also be speaking to you on Dec. 9th, 2021 regarding Application No. 20225010 RSY an item that will extend the City's lease of land with CAI/Zamperla until no later than December 31, 2037.

I strongly urge you to postpone this vote on extending a lease agreement of public land with CAI/Zamperla for an additional ten years until you have heard more public input about this agreement.

Public land should be used to benefit the entire community around it. While Councilman Mark Treyger should be commended for bringing two groups of stakeholders: CAI/Zamperla and several Coney Island businesses who lease their spaces on the Coney Island Boardwalk together to reach a subleasing agreement that will ensure the long term viability of the businesses, one large group of people have been completely left out of the negotiations: the public.

If the City of New York is going to give one of the largest, most recognizable businesses in the Coney Island community, CAI/Zamperla an extended favorable land subsidy, the public should be given the opportunity to weigh in and give ideas about how that agreement can be improved to better the entire community. But we have not. This deal for public land was negotiated with businesses leaving the public out. CAI/Zamperla has six more years on their lease with the city and so there is no immediate rush to approve this now. You can postpone this vote and give Community Board 13 time to inform residents about this deal and in turn you can hold another hearing to hear from the greater public about this deal.

I would like to see CAI/Zamperla give more back to the community that has hosted it for many years in the following ways:

CAI/Zamperla needs to show up. This past summer, when CAI/Zamperla needed a permit from the Department of Consumer and Worker Protection for their arcade, they did not send a representative to speak with the Community Board and the community-at-large about their application even though they were seeking support for it. I want to see CAI/Zamperla showing up at meetings and being part of the community.

Luna Park should provide discounts to local residents who live in the 11224 ZIP Code and want to go on their rides. The average household income in Coney Island is \$41,000 a year and the price points for Luna Park, are too high for most local residents. Recently, at a community Halloween celebration at Maimonides Park, CAI/Zamperla gave free day-pass wrist bands to children to go on rides at their park. While the community gesture seemed generous, there are many rides small children can't go on without being accompanied by a parent/guardian. My neighbor, who is a veteran, felt compelled to buy a day-pass wrist band to accompany his 3-

year-old daughter on rides which cost \$60. He told me he felt scammed. Luna Park should also have a discount for veterans.

Coney Island has a large senior citizen population and all research shows the best programming for seniors is intergenerational. Luna Park should donate family pass tickets to local senior centers and local organizations working with senior citizens who are living in poverty so that they can enjoy Luna Park with their families for free.

Luna Park should be supportive of early childhood literacy. The Brooklyn Public Library system has a summer reading program. CAI/Zamperla should donate family passes to at least the Coney Island, Brighton Beach, Ulmer Park and Sheepshead Bay libraries to give to children who complete the summer reading program.

Local hiring for skilled labor is also very important in our neighborhood. I have found that we have several ride mechanics living in my building who CAI/Zamperla hire seasonally from Italy. I would like to see CAI/Zamperla commit to partnering with local high schools or Kingsborough Community College to train and hire local ride mechanics.

A company accepting a large public subsidy, must also give back to the public subsidizing it. I hope you will listen to my suggestions and the suggestions of others so that a few of these ideas can be incorporated into the lease extension that CAI/Zamperla signs with the city.

Kouichi Shirayanagi
2885 W. 15th Street
Brooklyn, NY 11224

Whitewillow64@gmail.com

From: [kristin west](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: [Lola Star Customer Service](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 5:51:06 PM

Dear City Council,

This email is in regards to Testimony - T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)

I found out The City of New York presented a plan to City Council, to extend the leases of the City's tenant, CAI, and all of the other boardwalk businesses for another 10 years- EXCEPT for the Lola Star retail shop. This is unacceptable.

Lola Star, is a positive asset to the Coney Island Community, adding color, vibrancy, local flavor to Coney Island. She and her store are such a big part of history there.

- Please vote NO on this extension until the shop is rightfully included on this lease extension package

Thankyou |
Kristinwest


From: [LAURA POE](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: info@lolastar.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Thursday, December 9, 2021 7:13:57 AM

Dear City Council Members~

I am writing on behalf of Lola Star's shop on the Coney Island Boardwalk. **I am asking that you vote NO on the extension until her shop is included in the lease package.** I am asking that you extend her lease for another 10 years as you have done for all the other businesses on the boardwalk - in a future lease package.

To me and anyone that has been to Coney Island, Lola Star is synonymous with Coney Island - You go to the beach, eat boardwalk food and get something fun at the Lola Star shop. There's nothing else like it on the boardwalk and it deserves to get to stay in business because it promotes the love of Coney Island and the whimsical spirit we all go there for.

Lola has not only provided a space that is representative of the entire atmosphere of Coney Island, she has also integrated and promoted the community. I even once taught free yoga classes in Coney Island that Lola (Diana) arranged for the locals.

I hope that the City Council will see through whatever pettiness might have caused Lola Star to be excluded from the extension and do the right thing.

Lola Star deserves to be included in the extension! Again, I ask that you vote NO on the extension so that there may be a future extension vote where Lola Star is included.

Thanks for your attention to this matter and for all your heartfelt public service!

-Laura Poe

Laura Poe
[Laura Poe IMDB](#)

From: [Comedy & Magic of Lee Alan Barrett](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony; lola@lolasdiary.com](mailto:lola@lolasdiary.com)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)"
Date: Thursday, December 9, 2021 5:20:02 AM

Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)

This is regarding a City Council vote which is happening today at 11:30 am

The boardwalk shop, Lola Star, is a positive asset to the Coney Island Community
- Please ask vote NO on this extension

Everyone knows how deeply Lola cares about the Coney Island community and how hard Shes fought to keep the tiny shop. Over the past two years, including recent months.

While I am thrilled that the other boardwalk tenants are being assisted by the City of New York with a reduction in rent and 10 year extension, her business was wrongfully excluded and not even notified.

At the hearing on Dec 2, the City of New York stated that these new deals reflected the new economic pandemic climate and ensure that the other boardwalk businesses will be given the opportunity to thrive along with their larger corporate tenant CAI who is leasing all of these acres of City owned land for a mere 100K per year plus a small percentage of revenue. This is EXACTLY what She has been asking for help with, consistently, passionately, for TWO YEARS.

There is no reason, legal or otherwise, for the City of New York to exclude lola from this lease extension package.

Please help her to continue to be part of the Coney Island community, which She loved so dearly, through her vibrant, creative, beloved small business.

Lee Barrett

From: [Linda Heitman](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: info@lolastar.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony-2021-8721, Coney Island amusement park plan
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 6:57:18 PM

To those who have the power of making important decisions for Coney island;

Please vote NO on the lease extension and consider including the small, lovely shop, Lola Star in your agreement.

I am a Buffalo New York resident and Coney Island is my favorite place to visit second to Disneyworld. (I was able to visit the area twice this summer) I always make a point to patronize Lola Star's shop. Her designs and merchandise are always unique, one of a kind, reasonably priced and it is always a pleasure to talk to her while I'm there. It's sad enough that this iconic landmark of Coney Island is struggling but an indie, female-owned shop like hers deserves to stay on the boardwalk and be included because it is one of very few of its kind. I am proud to own many pieces of her work and I know many others who feel the same way. Please do not pass any agreements until Lola Star shop is included. It's only fair! Please don't cut out this affordable souvenir shop. It would take away from the charm of the Coney island boardwalk. In fact, it would do the area a lot of good to support more small artsy shoppes like hers to bring in more tourism to the area. (I'm talking about SURF AVE!)

This correspondence is in reference to testimony-T2021-8721 Coney Island amusement park project plan, third amendment to the special process agreement brooklyn, (20225010 RSY)

Thank you sincerely,

Linda Heitman

[REDACTED]
Buffalo, NY 14214
[REDACTED]

From: [Lisa Mendoza](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: lola@lolasdiary.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony - T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Thursday, December 9, 2021 12:54:51 AM

When I planned my trip to New York a few years ago and started researching Coney Island the only place specifically I found that I wanted to go was Lola Star's. It was a wonderful visit and we enjoyed the beach, people watching, food, the amusement park and shopping. Lola Star's was one of two places we bought souvenirs. I could tell she loved Coney Island and was a fun, unique and kind person. I believe her shop is a positive asset to the Coney Island Community and deserves the same opportunities as the other businesses around her. She also deserves to be treated fairly. Lola we are cheering for you! Let's spread this news all over and to everyone. Lola if you don't get a fair chance get this story on the news, instagram, Facebook, Twitter - we will all be routing for you!

From: [SALON LOLA](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: info@lolastar.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony - T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 5:54:31 PM

Dear New York City Council,

Lola Star is one of those amazing New Yorkers who has helped to create the character of a neighborhood. Her shop and her designs are an irreplaceable, integral piece of the personality of Coney Island. Her art defines Coney Island and is totally unique. She's a vivacious New Yorker who makes friends with everyone who walks in her door. Seeing her is the absolute best part of going to the boardwalk.

Lola works ten times as hard as bigger businesses on the boardwalk to keep her shop running. And she doesn't just work hard for her own shop - she's been fighting for years to preserve the heart of Coney Island, as a whole, as it is subsumed by big businesses.

Please vote no on this lease extension package, and include Lola Star's shop in the deal.

Sincere regards,

Lola Lorraine

--

SALON LOLA
www.salonlola.com

(347) 404-7555



1205 Boardwalk, Brooklyn, NY 11226

Hon. Francisco P. Moya
Chairperson
Zoning and Franchises Subcommittee City Council
250 Broadway, Suite 1768
New York, New York 10007

Re: T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)

12-8-2021

Dear Chair Moya:

Please accept this correspondence as written testimony on Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan Amendment, T2021-8271 which would seek to extend the term of the City's agreement with CAI from 17 years to 27 years.

I am a female owned, artist owned small business. I am currently a legal tenant on the Coney Island boardwalk within the City Owned land referenced in this Agreement.

My vibrant and beloved small business sells items that I design and hand print. Although my shop, which I've owned on the Coney Island boardwalk for the last 21 years, is only 7 feet wide, it contributes to the Coney Island experience in enormous ways. In addition to this I have volunteered endless hours of my time giving back to the community through my community service including, animal rescue, healthy lifestyle advocacy, free community yoga classes, fundraising for the community after Hurricane Sandy and more.

I have offered to pay the City's Tenant, CAI, the same Economic terms as the other boardwalk businesses. I have continued to negotiate, in good faith, with CAI since I was presented with my lease renewal Agreement on Nov 2019. My heart and soul is invested in Coney Island and my vibrant small business. I

intend to continue to operate my business where I am currently located at 1205 Boardwalk.

I am sure that City Council and the City of New York will agree that I am a valuable asset to the Coney Island community who should be included, along with the other Coney Island boardwalk businesses, as a legal tenant, on this lease extension package.

I have proof that the reason I have been excluded, by the City of New York and CAI, from this extension package is because I have exercised my First Amendment Rights, as a community member, through my participation in the public debate about the development of Coney Island.

The City of New York should commend this exercising of my First Amendment Right and engagement in public debate and the deliberative process rather than discriminating against me by excluding me from this extension.

I was wrongfully singled out, discriminated against, and excluded from this lease extension.

There is no reason, legal or otherwise, for the City of New York to exclude me from this lease extension package.

I implore you to vote “no” on this lease extension until the conditions referenced in the City Council Hearing on Dec 2 regarding the subleases of this lease extension are corrected to rightly include my business.

Please help me to continue to contribute to the Coney Island community, which I love so dearly, through my vibrant, creative, beloved small business.

Thank you
Dianna Carlin,
Lola Star

cc: Hon. Bill de Blasio
Hon. Eric Adams
Hon. Antonio Reynoso
Hon. Mark Treyger
Hon. Ari Kagan (elect)
Hon. Inna Vernikov

Hon. Mathylde Frontus

Hon. Diane J. Savino

Hon. Hakeem Jeffries

Hon. Rafael Salamanca, Jr.

Members of the City Council Land Use Committee

President Rachael Loeb, EDC

Alexandra Silversmith, Alliance for Coney Island

Community Board 13

Evan Burr, Brooklyn Borough Presidents Office

Stefan Ringel, Brooklyn Borough Presidents Office

Isabelle Chandler, City Council

From: [Lorraine Carlin](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: Info@lolastar.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony - T2021-8271 Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 7:09:16 PM

I understand that the Lola Star Boutique has been excluded from the lease extension proposal for the Coney Island boardwalk stores. This shop is an asset to the Coney Island community. I have shopped at her store many times when I visited New York and have found her store to be warm, friendly and full of interesting items. The owner has a loyal following who come to Coney Island just to visit her store!

It would be very disappointing to find that this store wasn't able to extend her lease. Why not? Is this fair?

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Maella Cai Vane](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: lola@lolasdiary.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Thursday, December 9, 2021 12:00:35 AM

Dear Chair Moya:

- >
- > Please accept this correspondence as written testimony on Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan Amendment, T2021-8271 which would seek to extend the term of the City's agreement with CAI from 17 years to 27 years.
- >
- > Lola Star is a female owned, artist owned small business. Her vibrant and beloved small business sells items that she designs and hand prints. Although her shop, which she has owned on the Coney Island boardwalk for the last 21 years, is only 7 feet wide, it contributes to the Coney Island experience in enormous ways. In addition to this she has volunteered endless hours of her time giving back to the community through her community service including, animal rescue, healthy lifestyle advocacy, free community yoga classes, fundraising for the community after Hurricane Sandy and more.
- >
- > I am sure that City Council and the City of New York will agree that she is a valuable asset to the Coney Island community who should be included, along with the other Coney Island boardwalk businesses, as a legal tenant, on this lease extension package.
- >
- > There is no reason, legal or otherwise, for the City of New York to exclude this valuable contributor to the Coney Island Community from this lease extension package.
- >
- > I implore you to vote "no" on this lease extension until the conditions referenced in the City Council Hearing on Dec 2 regarding the subleases of this lease extension are corrected to rightly include her business.
- >

- > Thank you,
- >
- > Maella Cai Vane
- >

From: [Margarita Morello](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: [Lola Star Customer Service](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Lola Star || Save Small Business || Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan Testimony- T2021-8271
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 6:12:36 PM

To whom it may concern,

I am writing with deep disappointment, upon hearing the [news](#) that the Lola Star gift shop is being excluded from the EDC lease extension. I have to believe that this is an oversight which you will promptly correct, after all the shop is narrow....maybe you overlooked it? What other reason could explain the development corp and city council essentially destroying a small WBE, that has been in business for 21 years?

As a native Brooklynite and a fellow small business owner I am frankly disgusted that, where the means and will are available to preserve small businesses, the powers that be choose not to. The retail landscape of my city has, with very few exceptions, been on a downward spiral. First the closing of mom and pop shops, small business and unique venues in exchange for homogenous chain stores, and now the empty and shuttered store fronts and dark stores that further diminish customer choice, and the charm and appeal of my city.

We as a city, and small business owners in particular, have struggled for the past two years. Why, when it seems we are finally coming out of this nightmare would you hobble a business with a 400% rent increase?

Lola Star is more than a shop, she is a colorful (literally) and dynamic part of the community. She has worked with us to help offer free community events . I am sure we are not the only ones

Please vote NO on the extension until all existing businesses are included.

Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)

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Be safe, be well, and be happy!

Margarita Morello

[Abhaya Yoga Online](#)

From: [Mariana Ortega](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: info@lolastar.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 7:10:21 PM

Hello,

I am writing to express my deep dismay about the shady tactics being leveraged against Lola Star and her longtime Coney Island boardwalk boutique. I've been a seasonal visitor to Coney Island every year since 1997, and in that time have spent a significant amount of money to enjoy the amusement park and the small businesses that surround it. This includes Lola Star Coney Island.

Long before Zamperla came along, Lola Star was an activist and advocate for the Coney Island community. When all the businesses were in danger of losing their boardwalk real estate to the wrecking ball, many of them lamented how if only someone would step up and step in to defend their rights. None of them actually took on that challenge, but Lola Star did. She single-handedly mobilized a movement that reinvigorated the spirit of the neighborhood. Her shop attracts people from all over the world and is a familiar sight to visitors from near and far. For me and countless others, she represents the tenacity of small business owners around the city who made a "nothing" space into something great. She's a true example of the American and NYC dream - if you can make it here, you can make it anywhere.

What's being done to her now by the city whose economic engine her business helped support after 9/11, after 2008, and through COVID-19 is egregiously wrong. To exclude ONLY HER from the lease extension package being presented to the City Council stinks of blatant discrimination against an over-40, female, small business owner who is purposely being targeted and subjugated because she has persistently advocated for her shop to be treated fairly in this business transaction.

I am asking the City Council to use common sense and vote NO on the extension until Lola Star's shop is rightfully included on the lease extension package.

Thank you,
M. Ortega

From: [Marta Marciniak](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: lola@lolasdiary.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] a plea to save Lola Star, the best gift shop in New York City
Date: Thursday, December 9, 2021 6:26:51 AM

To Whom It May Concern,

Please consider the present message as a message of disbelief and protest regarding the recent decisions made about the boardwalk on Coney Island, and the businesses that are for some unknown reasons allowed or not allowed to keep operating there, on the same, equal opportunity conditions.

Please note that this particular business is more than just a business. For several years now it has been the symbol and the heart and soul of the kind of New York City that many people, including myself, find the BEST about this city. It embodies the uniqueness and special meanings of Coney Island that other businesses may not even hope to achieve.

I therefore side with the protest against the incomprehensible decisions and policies of whoever is responsible for this, and I urge the responsible authorities to act in order to preserve this very special place. Moreover, I suggest that the responsible authorities do their best in order to create favorable conditions for the development and growth of Lola Star and similar businesses in the future. Please note that I am submitting this voice as a person who understands the INTERNATIONAL importance of this place, not being a NYC native. Please note that the store and other cultural activities of its owner have an INTERNATIONAL following and clientele.

Marta Marciniak, PhD.

From: mary.pryde
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: info@LolaStar.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony-T2021-8271 Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 8:03:32 PM

December 8, 2021

RE: T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)

Dear Chair Moya and Members of the Zoning and Franchises Subcommittee City Council:

I am writing regarding “Lola Star” on Coney Island. It is distressing to learn possible practices of transparency and actions of good faith negotiations did NOT occur during the negotiations of the lease extensions for the commercial tenants of Coney Island. Ms. Dianna Carlin, owner of Lola Star has been a tenant of Coney Island for 21 years. She has been a fierce advocate for Coney Island, and NYC itself with her business and an active community member. Ms. Carlin is an artist, along with being a business woman. She incorporates her artistry in her designs at Lola Star.

Lola Star on Coney Island, is a woman owned, small business enterprise. Surely, the Mayor’s Office of Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises and the City’s Small Business Services would want a 21+ year business in their portfolio. Lola Star is the perfect example for the younger generations, especially our young women, to examine and explore the workings of running a business.

Her merchandise is not just limited to Coney Island and the surrounding communities, visitors from near and far shop at Ms. Carlin’s store and wear their Coney Island t-shirts upon their return home, thereby giving Coney Island and NYC free advertising. The customers are of all ages, making it a diverse store that appeal to so many in our diverse population. I happened to be on Fort Lauderdale, FL beach awhile back and there walking with their parents were 3 children with Lola Star Coney Island t-shirts. The family were visiting Broward County, FL where I reside and had been visitors of Coney Island prior.

I request my correspondence be part of the public record regarding the above referenced subject title. I am hopeful consideration will be made to Ms. Dianna Carlin, owner of Lola Star, and you will vote NO on the Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn, (20225010 RSY) or at least defer the item to a later date, in order to determine the lack of transparency on excluding this woman owned, small local business, and extend corrective action to include Ms. Carlin’s business in the lease extension for the commercial tenants.

Thanking you in advance for your time and attention to this matter. I look forward to my next visit to Lola Star on Coney Island!

Happy Holidays!

Mary Pryde

████████████████████

Deerfield Beach, FL 33441
Broward County, FL

From: [Matt Brown](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: info@LolaStar.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 6:28:45 PM

To whom it may concern:

As a longtime resident of Coney Island and surrounding areas I am disappointed to learn the news of the city Council plan meeting to vote on the lease extension package proposed and the exclusion of Lola Star's Boardwalk shop.

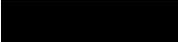
I have encountered Lola in person in her shop many times. She has also hired my local sound company to help with local events and store set ups brought us local business.

It's so important to me that local business owners have the opportunity to support each other.

I would like to support Lola's business by asking you to please vote no on this matter until she is also part of the extension plan.

Thank you for your time,

Matt Brown


NYAudioEngineer@gmail.com

From: [Meghan Rockey](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: lola@lolasdiary.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony-T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 9:36:32 PM

re: Testimony-T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)

Dear City Council members,

I urge you to vote NO on the extension project until Lola Star's Gift shop is rightfully included in this lease extension package.

Do you have daughters? Do you support women-owned small businesses? I have 2 daughters who adore Lola and look up to her as a role model for a hard-working, magic-creating, conscientious, and deeply community-engaged woman in their lives. I've known Lola since I was the director of Sponsorship for Gotham Roller Derby in 2007. She was one of the first and only regularly contributing sponsors of our female owned and operated non-profit because Lola had the vision then to see that community engagement and inclusive organizations are important to the future of our city. Coney Island needs Lola's shop to prove it's not succumbed to big business, boys club, closed-door deals. Lola embodies the spirit of wonderment and joy that Coney Island visitors are expecting. Lola has proven her worth to remain on the boardwalk and stay connected to this community, do you have what it takes to treat her responsibly and vote no until her shop can be fairly included?

Sincerely,

Meghan Rockey, Mother of Mildred and Cora

From: [Mercedes Kent](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: lola@lolasdiary.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony-T2021-8271 Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 10:16:35 PM

Dear City Council,

Please vote NO on this extension until the Lola Star shop is rightfully included on this lease extension package. Lola Star is the heart and passion of Coney Island. Her shop is part of what makes Coney Island so special. It's the independent businesses that make it so great. She has been passionate about Coney Island for all the years that I have known her, in such a positive way. She loves her shop and the boardwalk and everything else that makes the place so magical. If you lose her you will lose a lot. Please don't let that happen.

Sincerely,
Mercedes Kent

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Michael Offerman](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: lola@lolasdiary.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 8:08:02 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. Forward suspect email to phish@cyber.nyc.gov as an attachment (Click the More button, then forward as attachment).

Dear City Council,

I'm writing to express my insistence that Lola's presence on the Coney Island boardwalk and in the community is essential to the vibrant nature that makes it the destination that it is today.

Her flair for the eccentric, weird, and wonderful are some of the last vestiges of the spirit of that place.

Please protect this business,

Michael Offerman



From: [Michelle Pedone](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: Lola@lolasdiary.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 11:00:54 PM

To whom it may concern, in regards to the City Council and Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan.

I've just learned that my favorite Coney Island shop Lola Star is in jeopardy of being forced to close its doors because it was wrongfully excluded from the City of New York's lease extension plans. I'm heartbroken. For the last 26 years each time I jump on the F train to Coney Island I'm most excited about visiting Lola Star. The shop's owner Lola Star is incredibly creative and personable, her shop carries many unique items that you just can't get anywhere else, including souvenirs she's created on behalf of her beloved Coney Island. Her shop really captures the essence and magic of Coney Island, as does Lola Star herself. For decades she created a community that enhances Coney Island's artistic and colorful history.

I'm asking the City Council to vote NO on the current package extension until Lola Star can be included in the extension package that's being offered to other boardwalk shop owners. Please do the right thing and save Lola Star. Coney Island won't be the same without her and her shop!!

Sincerely,
Michelle Pedone

From: [crescent moon](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: lola@lolasdiary.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] "Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)"
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 9:14:39 PM

Dear City Council,

I am asking you to vote "NO" until Lola Star is rightfully included on the lease extension package.

Lola Star has bought so much joy and happiness to the Coney Island boardwalk.

Lola has work so hard at preserving the culture of Coney Island and reminding us all why it's such a magical place.

She loves her business, her customers, & The Coney Island community.

Please do right my her and all of us that love her sparkly shop and include her in the lease extension package that has been offered to all of her neighbors.

We LOVE Lola Star

Pat & Sonya Ferguson

From: [Peggy Grennan](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: info@lolastar.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 7:23:30 PM

Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)

To the City Council:

In a world of cookie-cutter shopfronts and every block starting to look the same as the next, please explain how and why The City of New York presented a plan to the City Council extending the leases of the City's boardwalk businesses for another 10 years- EXCEPT for the ICONIC AND UNIQUELY DISTINCTIVE Lola Star.

Lola Star has become emblematic of Coney Island and it's quirky and playful image. The spirit of Lola Star is part of the fun of the boardwalk.

Why did no one notify Lola about the deal the City was striking and no one offered to include her business in this extension package presented to City Council?

Why would a woman-owned business be excluded by omission?

Please do not allow this to carry on during a year when small business are facing enough challenges just to survive.

Respectfully,
Peggy Grennan
Concerned life-long resident of the Greatest City in the World

██████████
106-20 Shorefront Pkwy ██████████
Rockaway Park, NY 11694

From: [Rachel Trapanese](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: info@lolastar.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony- T20121-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 4:33:06 PM

Hello,

I am writing to ask that you please vote NO on the action noted in my subject line UNTIL Lola Star is included in the lease extension package. I have been coming to Coney Island for Lola Star for almost 20 years. Lola Star embodies the spirit of Coney Island, and the store needs to stay exactly where it is.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best,
Rachel Trapanese

[REDACTED]

Brooklyn NY

[REDACTED]

From: [Ray Rizzo](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: lola@lolasdiary.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony-T2021-8271-Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan , Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement , Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Thursday, December 9, 2021 7:11:06 AM

Greetings

I am writing to strongly urge City Council to vote NO on the lease extension package that is up for consideration today, and to further ask that you not vote this measure into effect until the gift shop LOLA STAR is included in the lease extension.

The Lola Star gift shop and it's proprietor Lola Star embody the spirit of spectacle and wonder that Coney Island's history is so full of. Lola's dedication to Coney Island is an asset to New York City, whose perpetual development has all too often reduced and destroyed the connection of the city's present to its history. People like Lola are vital to this essential connection.

I believe the glaring and egregious omission of Lola Star Gift Shop from the lease extension reflects the regard this city and it's developers have for the independent entrepreneur. Again, the history of the city suggests that we live in a place where individuals can accomplish the miraculous if they are inspired and driven. More and more often, we see the strategies of development made by City Planning succeed in mostly homogenizing and otherwise dictating a reduced influence that diverse individuals can have upon this city. Whether you agree with my opinion here, it is not up for debate that the omission of Lola Star Gift Shop from the lease extension package is specific and unjust. Members of City Council are the only people in this city capable of seeing to it that small business owners and individual visionaries like Ms. Star remain at the table as things develop, and that they are given the respect and support they need to continue to contribute to this city through their heart and inspiration.

Lola has demonstrated for almost 20 years a resiliency for projects that have made this city better. Her work on the Coney Island boardwalk has created a one-of-a-kind gift shop that lives up to the expectations of the people who visit this city: they come here to experience something only New York City has. Lola Star Gift Shop is such an experience, as is her highly regarded Dreamland Roller Rink project which began on the boardwalk at Coney Island and now flourishes in Prospect Park, enhancing the character of the park's roller rink to something beyond what the city itself would or could ever dream up through it's planning and initiatives. The city needs to empower people who have vision and follow-through demonstrated by Ms. Star.

Therefore I am asking that you do more today than just vote NO on the lease extension until Lola Star Gift Shop is added to it. I also ask that you commit to making it easier and not harder for Lola Star and others like her to continue to commit their lives and imagination to making this city live up to what people dream it to be. These are the essential New Yorkers who build their ideas from the street-up in a city whose developers and power elite only see things from the top-down. It is your job to make sure that the influences of the more powerful

not be allowed to suppress and destroy the influence of the individual upon the culture.

I hope you will vote NO today on the lease extension package until the Lola Star gift shop is included in it .

Thank you for your time.

Ray Rizzo
1075 Greene Ave. 
Brooklyn NY 11221

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Sent from Gmail Mobile

From: [Rebecca Rosenthal](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: info@lolastar.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 9:06:53 PM

Dear NYC City Council,

I am alarmed to hear that the boardwalk shop, Lola Star, was not included in the lease extension for the Coney Island Boardwalk.

Not only is this store a FIXTURE of the Coney Island Boardwalk with its carefully curated merchandise, but its owner Lola Star has been an upstanding citizen in making the Coney Island Boardwalk a wonderful place to be. She has created a community and VASTLY improved the boardwalk and the Coney Island Community!

Please VOTE NO on this extension her shop is rightfully included on this lease extension package.

--

Best,
Rebecca Manya Rosenthal
[REDACTED]
807 Willoughby Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11206

From: [Ricardo Miranda Zuniga](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: info@lolastar.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Keep Lola Star on Boardwalk please
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 5:22:03 PM

Lola Star, is a great shop that captures the the character of Coney Island!

Please vote NO on this extension until the Lola Star shop is rightfully included on this lease extension package.

This pertains to Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)

Ricardo Miranda
Associate Professor, Hunter College CUNY
Chair of Film & Media

--

Ricardo J Miranda
Associate Professor & Media Studies Advisor
Department of Film & Media Studies
Hunter College, CUNY

From: [Robert Bose](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony; lola@lolasdiary.com](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Thursday, December 9, 2021 12:16:31 AM

I have known the owner of Lola Star's business on the Coney Island Boardwalk for many years. She is a very active and positive community member of Coney Island.

She embodies the independent businesses that have worked so hard to stay afloat and contribute to the colorfulness and New York charm to Coney Island.

I understand that her business was the only business not chosen to have a 10 year lease extension. To me this reeks of punishment for her outspoken community activism and participation in the public debate about the development of Coney Island.

I am asking City Council to vote NO on this extension until Lola Star's Coney Island boardwalk shop is rightfully included on this lease extension package.

Sincerely,
Robert Bose

From: [Ronald Greenberg](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: info@LolaStar.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY) Regarding Lola Star
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 5:44:04 PM

December 8, 2021

To the NYC Council:

Re: Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)

Diana Carlin is a devoted and tireless advocate for the betterment of Coney Island and it is outrageous shocking that she would be excluded from a lease extension by the City of New York with prejudice and discrimination for being so.

Her creative, charismatic and vividly colorful Lola Star business has been an extremely highly regarded and beloved Coney Island Boardwalk institution for well over two decades and on behalf of myself I demand for the greater good of the entire surrounding community that the City Council vote NO on its extension regarding the Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY) until Lola Star is rightfully included on its lease extension package.

Sincerely,

Ronald Greenberg
Board Member of Brooklyn Community Board 13

From: [Samantha Duane](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: lola@lolasdiary.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony-T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 10:55:39 PM

City Council,

I'm sending this correspond on behalf of Lola Star. Her shop is a highlight of the boardwalk and I'm asking that you vote NO on this extension until her shop is RIGHTFULLY included on the lease extension package.

She brings joy to the community. For 21 freaking years-SPARKLING UNRELENTING JOY! She reaches to young and old. Her love is felt far beyond the walls of her shop but her shop is the hub. Having the brick and mortar gives her and all of us a place to call home. She brightens up life and we can all agree that that is a NECESSITY!She brings people together and that is also a NECESSITY.

I am sincerely asking that you VOTE NO and include her with the lease extension. Small businesses are the building blocks of our community. It would be a shame for this City Council to crush the dreams of all entrepreneurs large and small. Do not crush our dreams or the dreams of the roller skating goddess, Lola Star.

With power,

Samantha Duane

From: [Nicole Nadine Holst](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: info@lolastar.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony for T2021 - 8271 12/7, 11:30am
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 5:26:57 PM

To Whom It May Concern,

Please see the following testimony in reference to:
T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)

As a Brooklyn resident and member of the Save Coney Island organization since 2007, I am deeply concerned that this vote is moving forward without seeking needed input from the community that has already been negatively impacted by the exploitation of this corporation for profit. I am even more concerned that the sub-lease agreements offered to some of the small businesses on the boardwalk purposely excluded a passionate small business owner who has spent 21 years giving back to the community only to be shut out of lease renewal conversations altogether. Lola Star is a pillar of the community, whose small, artist-owned shop is the exact spirit of Coney Island that was mentioned by those in the hearing as exactly what this lease agreement seeks to protect and assist. All of her designs are handmade and printed in Brooklyn and tourists come from all over the world and the City to experience the warm welcome you get in her shop. Yet she has been shut out of all negotiations due to being vocal in the press about the lack of care and concern for the community that CAI/Zamperla has displayed over the last ten plus years of its lease. This extension is being rushed through 6 years before the lease is up for renewal, posing some questions about the needless sense of urgency that is leaving no time for public suggestions or additions.

We were hopeful when CAI was granted the original lease that this would be a new and better era for Coney Island. Though the amusement rides have expanded under CAI, the high admission fees present significant barriers to the community accessing these new additions to Coney Island, as well as a lack of public access on side streets where small business owners once had a low barrier entry to entrepreneurship. CAI has not prioritized local residents for jobs and has overstated its economic benefit to the amusement area. They have done little to address traffic issues, infrastructure problems, and many other issues that show a lack of support for the small businesses in and around the amusement district. We have asked to meet to discuss a list of items we feel should be included and have received no response from the EDC, CAI, or elected officials.

This lease is for public, City-owned land paid for by taxpayer dollars and, yet, we have not been given a chance to review the master lease terms to make needed suggestions to ensure it will benefit the entire community. In addition, Lola Star has

been given no reason why she wasn't offered a chance to renew her lease except that she is a "troublemaker" which is contradictory to her reputation as one of the longest-serving, most ardent, and self-less supporters of Coney Island. Unlike CAI, Lola continues to give back to the community by volunteering her time, goods, service, and passion to make sure Coney Island remains true to its unique legacy. She founded the Save Coney Island organization and gives countless hours to the cause at great personal cost.

The 400% rent hike CAI proposed to many of its boardwalk sub-tenants 2 years ago shows exactly why this process needs to have more transparency and accountability. Lola was the only one to speak up about this injustice, not just for herself, but for all tenants, and now CAI is pushing her out of her own cherished community to punish her for it. CAI continues to refuse to renegotiate with her in good faith and the City of NY continues to ignore her pleas for help in saving her beloved 7-foot passion project. CAI does not care about the community, protecting small businesses, or Coney, it cares about profit, period.

This corporation was given a generous sweetheart deal by the City, paying a ludicrous \$100K/yr plus a small percentage of profits for almost the entire amusement area, yet they refuse to extend this same generosity down to its subtenants or to the community. Should this outright extortion continue, Coney Island will suffer, small businesses will fail, and CAI will continue raking in the money off the backs of the community who can no longer afford to go to the "People's Playground."

Save Coney Island urges you to table this vote until all interested parties and the community have had a chance to review and weigh in on the terms of this 16-year extension that will affect all of us. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Nicole Holst
Save Coney Island Member & Brooklyn Resident

From: [Coney Island Lighthouse](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: info@lolastar.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 4:08:26 PM

Hello! My name is Scott Schubert - my family lived at and ran the Coney Island Lighthouse / Norton's Point Lighthouse in Sea Gate, Coney Island, from 1960 through 2003. I am writing because we need to save Lola Star, which is a Coney Island and Brooklyn treasure. When I started going to Coney Island regularly in 2007, I fell in love with Coney Island, a place that I had passed through many, many times through the years but never really gotten to know.

Lola Star was not only the only place in the area offering unique, amazing t-shirts and other great items honoring and showing a love for Coney Island, but also Dianna started the movement to save Coney Island from greedy developers who were destroying the area -barren, deserted empty lots, dilapidated buildings, and Brooklyn history being left to rot. I was proud to take part in rallies and protests calling for saving Coney Island, all organized by Dianna Carlin.

She was one of the main reasons Coney Island today is not a collection of garbage-strewn empty lots and a wasteland of greed. And her amazing business today is as relevant as it ever was, a jewel of Coney Island, helping connect Coney to the rest of the world through t-shirts and other products, and more importantly, a love for Coney Island that translates through to the rest of the world through social media, word of mouth, and fabulous events.

We all owe a great debt to Lola Star and Dianna, and to single her out as the only business not being asked to renew their lease is disgusting. She stepped up when no one else would, and she brought more attention to the plight of Coney Island than anyone. Let's support her and return the favor - we all owe her that much.

Sincerely Yours,
Scott Schubert
ConeyIslandLighthouse@gmail.com

From: [Stanley Fox](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 7:38:58 PM

Please help save Lola Star gift shop. She is an asset to Coney Island.

From: [Susanna Graves \(DAS Group\)](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: info@lolastar.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony-T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 5:56:21 PM

RE: Testimony-T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)

To whom it may concern,

I do not understand why Lola Star was not offered a new lease at her boardwalk shop in Coney Island. She should not be excluded from the extension you are offering to the other shops.

Lola Star's shop is a very positive asset to the Coney Island Community – it may be small, but it's packed with interesting and fun items that I always look for whenever I find myself in Coney. (I generally visit at least 2-3x year, and my visits ALWAYS include a trip to Lola's shop – it's as vital as a drink at Ruby's).

Moreover, Lola's is a very friendly and inclusive place, where everyone is welcome and catered to equally. I've seen little girls squeal with delight at the sparkly options, and some punk teenagers equally thrilled with a cool Coney tee.

In addition, Lola herself has fought hard to make Coney what it is today and has put her heart and soul into her shop for over 10 years – she is an asset to the community and to the Coney boardwalk. Her always-smiling presence is a positive force!

Please vote NO on this extension until the Lola Star shop is rightfully included on the lease extension package.

Thank you in advance for helping to save a valuable small business owner's livelihood, and preserve the essence of the Coney Island boardwalk.

Best,
Susanna

Susanna Graves
Commercial Operations Director
The Optimization Group
DAS, a division of Omnicom Group
M: 917-833-5794

Open for business and optimizing virtually!

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From: [Susannah Jones](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: lola@lolasdiary.com; [Jay Ben Markson](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 9:13:35 PM

Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)

Dear City Council,

We learned recently of a land use extension for the Coney Island boardwalk that would exclude one business, Lola Star. We are writing to ask that you vote no on this extension.

Lola Star is a boardwalk institution supported by a passionate community. The proprietor is an incredible ambassador for the neighborhood whose designs exemplify the kind of vividness that makes Coney Island special. The fact that Lola Star has been excluded from this extension, alone among all tenants of the boardwalk, is not only suspicious, it is senseless.

We (and no doubt many others) ask that you vote down the extension until it can be replaced with a package that includes Lola Star.

Thank you,

Susannah Jones and Jay Ben Markson

From: [Sxip Shirey](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: info@lolastar.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (220225010 RSY)
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 5:54:46 PM

Please vote NO on this extension until Lola Stars shop is included in the plan. It's absurd that the one true original design shop is being excluded. The fact that she is a true NYC business and independent designer should be enough to keep her place at Coney Island. Her shop is the go-to destination for myself and others in the creative community. We need a New York that is not just chain stores and cheesy shops. We need to be protecting her vibrant business!

Thank you
Sxip Shirey -composer
Brooklyn

From: [Tara Pontani Schad](mailto:Tara.Pontani.Schad)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: info@lolastar.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Land Use Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY).
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 7:15:40 PM

Hello,

My email is in regards to the Land Use Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY).

Please, please vote **NO** on this extension until Lola Star's Boardwalk shop is included on the lease extension package. Lola Star's store is a vibrant, fun, and important part of the Coney Island Boardwalk now and has been for the past 20 or so years!!! She is a staple there, a **destination**, a vital part of the culture of Coney Island and the amusement district. It would be remiss of the city council to not include her in this extension. It baffles me that she hasn't been. It seems unlawful for her to be excluded while her boardwalk neighbors have been included.

Please vote NO. Please revise and include Lola Star in this extension. Preserve the integrity and the history of the Coney Island boardwalk and amusement district.

Sincerely,
Tara Pontani Schad
Brooklyn Resident
Lover of Coney Island and Lola Star

--

Tara Pontani Schad


From: [taro baugham](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony-T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Thursday, December 9, 2021 5:55:06 AM

Subject: Testimony-T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Taro Baugham. I have lived in Brooklyn for 24 years as a New York City entrepreneur, musician, DJ, and performer. I have also participated in Coney Island's Mermaid Parade for about 20 years now as well as working with the Coney Island Museum and sideshow performances.

I am asking that you do not vote for the extension of the leases for CAI and the boardwalk businesses until they include the Lola Star Boutique.

Lola Star has been at the epicenter of Coney Island's cultural identity revival during the last twenty years. Her designs have brought an image that merges the magic and grandeur of Coney Island's rich history and heritage with new fashionable relevance to New Yorkers and tourists alike. The Lola Star boardwalk boutique is where all sorts of unique items are purchased that spread the positive and culturally relevant images of Coney Island to patrons of the boardwalk. I travel often for work, and I cannot tell you how many times I have seen her T-shirts and other garments being worn in other cities with the same vibrant New York City spirit as "CBGB's".

The Lola Star boutique continues to provide an image of Coney Island that expresses the deep history of America's original amusement park while maintaining its appeal to a new generation. The magic of this history is found and passed on in Lola Star's designs. I would be deeply saddened to see the Lola Star boutique replaced by a generic souvenir shop that sells the same redundant items that can be purchased in Times Square. Or even worse, the designs you see in Jersey Shore or Virginia Beach souvenir shops. It would be akin to letting the public know that Coney Island is "just another beach." I have already witnessed several chain stores and restaurants appear in the area near the boardwalk, and I fear the disappearance of the spirit and aesthetic that makes Coney Island one-of-a-kind. It would be sad to see those who revived Coney's image be replaced by generic brands. When a neighborhood loses what makes it special, it inevitably leads to its decline.

I have known Lola Star for twenty years. In addition to running her boutique, she brought a Roller-Skating rink to Coney Island and similar events to Jacob Riis Park and Rockaway as well as providing regular events for the rink at LeFrak Center in Prospect Park every Spring through Fall season. She has spread her event magic even off-season to Industry City and Downtown Brooklyn. Her boutique and affiliated events have provided hundreds of jobs for young people all over New York City. She has given a large number of local youth not only employment but a reason to feel pride in their community.

Please vote NO on the lease extension unless the Lola Star boutique is included. Otherwise it would be a tragedy. Myself, and so many that I know would lose one of the last places where we can find the gifts and treasures to share with our families and friends from afar, letting them know they can have not only a piece of what makes New York City wonderful, but also what makes it so unique.

New York City is one-of-a-kind. Let's keep it that way!

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Taro Baugham

From: [Theresa Bo](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: info@LolaStar.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] URGENT: Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 6:25:30 PM

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

**URGENT: Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan,
Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement,
Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)**

Dear Sir or Ma'am of the City Council of New York,

Please take the time to view my email. Lola Star's boardwalk shop and Lola herself is a long time welcome asset to Coney Island's Boardwalk & community. She sells original, unique gifts, boardwalk, beach supplies. Everyone; tourists, children, Native New Yorkers do NOT want Lola Star's shop closed. We welcome new and existing business but need to have this neighborhood staple stay put. Don't let it fall by the wayside.

Tomorrow, Thursday, DEC 9 at 11:30am there is a vote in which Lola Star was wrongly, unfairly Not included and Not notified to extend the leases of the City's tenant CAI, and all of the boardwalk business for another 10 years. PLEASE INCLUDE LOLA STAR. She is NO harm to any of you or the city or the community, but an asset.

PLEASE vote NO on the 11:30am extension until Lola Star's shop is rightfully included on the lease extension package.

Best Regards,

Theresa Bonavero

From: [Varghese Chacko](#)
To: [Land Use Testimony](#)
Cc: info@lolastar.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony- T2021-8271, Coney Island Amusement Park Project Plan, Third Amendment to the Special Process Agreement, Brooklyn (20225010 RSY)
Date: Wednesday, December 8, 2021 5:35:58 PM

Hello,

This is regarding the City Council vote which is happening tomorrow at 11:30 am.

Lola Star is one of the city's most inclusive business owners. Her Coney Island shop brings together people of all identities. Not only is it a pillar of the community, but it also brings joy to all who visit. She has supported the neighborhood through her relentless activism to save local culture from gentrification. I fully back Lola's store and urge you to as well.

I ask the City Council to please vote NO on this extension until her shop is rightfully included on this lease extension package.

Thank you,

Varghese

Varghese Chacko
Founding Partner & President
nycnightlifeunited.com
City & State Community Engagement Power 50 List Honoree
[linkedin.com/in/vchacko](https://www.linkedin.com/in/vchacko)