



**STATEMENT OF
LARAY BROWN, SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT
STRATEGIC PLANNING, COMMUNITY HEALTH AND
INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS**

NEW YORK CITY HEALTH AND HOSPITALS CORPORATION

LU 0138-2014

Good morning, my name is LaRay Brown and I am the Senior Vice President for Corporate Planning, Community Health and Intergovernmental Relations at the New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation (HHC). Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of LU 0138-2014. This is a proposed lease agreement between HHC and Draper Homes Housing Development Fund Corporation Inc. to develop housing for low income elderly and/or disabled individuals. I am joined this morning by Sydelle Knepper, the Chief Executive Officer of SKA Marin, the proposed developer of this project. SKA Marin is an experienced developer of affordable housing for seniors and disabled tenants.

If approved by the City Council, HHC would enter into a long-term lease with SKA Marin for the renovation and expansion of Draper Hall which is on east 99th Street and First Avenue in Manhattan across the street from Metropolitan Hospital Center. The enlarged structure would contain approximately 203 units of housing. The units will be a mixture of studio and one-bedroom apartments with an apartment for a live-in superintendent. As the Committee knows, in New York City there is an acute shortage of affordable and accessible housing for low income elderly and disabled individuals.

HHC and the developer have been working in conjunction with several City agencies on the financing and development of this project including the New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD), the New York City Housing Development Corporation (HDC) and the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA). We have also been engaged in ongoing communications about this project with local elected officials particularly Council Speaker Viverito, Community Board 11 and Metropolitan Hospital's Community Advisory Board. This project also received \$2 million in funding from the New York City Council in this current fiscal year's budget.

In accordance with HHC's Enabling Act, a public hearing was conducted on September 10, 2014 with respect to the proposed long term lease. HHC's Board of Directors authorized the proposed lease on September 25, 2014.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this important project, I can now address any questions that you have.

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. LU0138-2014 Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 12/2/14

Name: Fei Ray / a Brown, Senior Vice President
(PLEASE PRINT)

Address: _____

I represent: NYC Health & Hospitals Corporation

Address: _____

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Appearance Card

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

in favor in opposition

Date: 12.2.14

Name: Beth Greenberg
(PLEASE PRINT)

Address: 1385 Broadway 15th Fl.

I represent: Dattner Architects / NYC Health & Hospitals

Address: same

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THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

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

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

Name: Sydelle Kruger
(PLEASE PRINT)

Address: 98 Culter Mill Rd

I represent: SKA Mari

Address: 98 Culter Mill Rd, NY 10211

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