

**Michael Blaise Backer Statement**  
**Before City Council Finance Committee**  
**March 31, 2015**

Good morning Chair Ferreras and members of the Finance Committee. I am Michael Blaise Backer, Deputy Commissioner of Neighborhood Development at the Department of Small Business Services (SBS). I am joined by my Assistant Commissioner, James Mettham, and Director of BID Formation, Patrick Cammack.

As required by law, the South Shore Business Improvement District (BID) Steering Committee mailed the summary of the City Council Resolution to the following parties:

- each owner of real property within the proposed district at the address shown on the latest City assessment roll,
- such other persons as are registered with the City to receive tax bills concerning real property within the district, and
- tenants of each building within the proposed district.

In addition, SBS arranged for the publication of a copy of the summary of the resolution in the City Record.

We would like to report on the result of the objections filed with the City Clerk against the establishment of the proposed South Shore Business Improvement District (BID). At the conclusion of the objection period at 5:00 PM on March 28, 2015 and taking into consideration any objections filed the next business day, March 30, 2015, one valid objection was filed with the City Clerk. This one valid objection represents less than 1% of assessed value and less than 1% of the owners of all benefitted real property situated within the District.

This level of objection is within our acceptable threshold needed to advance the bill for a favorable consideration by the full City Council.

The Department of Small Business Services supports the establishment of the South Shore BID. In our judgment, the BID will improve business conditions and quality of life in the South Shore industrial area, making it a better place to do business and laying the groundwork for further neighborhood development activities on the South Shore of Staten Island.

At this time, we are happy to take any questions.

Thank you.

**THE COUNCIL  
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

*Appearance Card*

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Res. No. \_\_\_\_\_

in favor     in opposition

Date: March 31, 2015

**(PLEASE PRINT)**

Name: M. Blaise Backer

Address: 110 William St, 9th Flr

I represent: Small Business Services

Address: 110 William St, 9th Flr

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