

EVAN BLUM
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1/6/08

TESTIMONY TO BE SUBMITTED BEFORE

RE: EAST 125th ST. PROJECT

DEAR CITY COUNCIL,

PLEASE EXCUSE THIS HANDWRITTEN TESTIMONY
BUT I WAS UNDER THE IMPRESSION WE WERE ALLOWED
TO SPEAK.

I MUST SAY THAT IT IS UNFORTUNATE THAT IT
HAS COME THIS FAR. WE KNOW THAT THIS PROJECT
HAS NOT BEEN PROPERLY PRESENTED TO YOU. IT GOT
THIS FAR IN WHAT WE BELIEVE A FRAUDULENT
MANNER. YOU ARE ASKED TO VOTE FOR A PROJECT
THAT THE OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF THE COMMUNITY
IS AGAINST FOR A LOT OF REASONS.

THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORP. HAS A
HIGHLY MISLEADING ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STUDY.
IN ADDITION TO THAT, THE TASK FORCE THAT WAS
SET UP IS A FALSE. TWO OF THE KEY MEMBERS
RESIGNED BECAUSE OF THE FRAUD THAT WAS PERPETRATED
ON THE COMMUNITY. TO DATE, THE COMMUNITY HAS
NOT BEEN INFORMED AS TO THE EXACT PLAN THAT IS
TO BE BUILT. THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORP. HAS NOT
REVEALED THE PROPOSED DEVELOPERS.

IF THERE IS A VOTE FOR THIS DISASTER WAITING TO
HAPPEN, WE THE BUSINESSES WILL BE PUT IN THE POSITION
OF FIGHTING AGAINST EMINENT DOMAIN UNFAIRLY, JUST BECAUSE
THE CITY OWNS A LARGE PORTION OF THE PARCEL INVOLVED.

THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORP. HAS NOT ADEQUATELY
REACHED OUT TO THE BUSINESSES AND THE COMMUNITY.
THIS PROJECT IS NOT THE HIGHEST AND BEST USE OF
CITY PROPERTY.

AT BEST THIS PROJECT IS OUTDATED BEFORE IT IS EVEN

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POUNCHED AS SINCE IT'S INCEPTION IT WAS ILLEGITIMIZED.

THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION HAS NOT
COMPETENTLY THOUGHT THIS THROUGH AS THEIR TRACK RECORD

SHOWS THE HUMMER DEALERSHIP THAT THEY PUT IN WILL NOT HAVE A PLACE TO FILL THEIR TANKS AS THIS PROJECT INTENDS TO USE EMINENT DOMAIN AGAINST THE GAS STATION. THAT DEVELOPMENT IS FAILING MISERABLY. IF THE CITY WANTS HAVING, WHY CAN'T THEY PUT IT ONTOP OF THE LARGER LOT ACROSS THE STREET ABOVE THE ONE STORY PATHMARK THAT THEY BUILT? THEY WILL WIPE OUT THE SMALL BUSINESSES OF LONG GOOD STANDING FOR CHAIN STORES OF DISCOUNT NATURE. THAT DOES NOT ADD TO OUR COMMUNITY THE WAY WE WANT.

THE EDC FAILED WITH THE VANDERBILT AMORY IN BROOKLYN, SOUTHSIDE SEAPORT AND POTOMAK AUTO DEALERSHIP AND MUCH MORE INCLUDING THE CORN EXCHANGE BANK DOWN THE STREET.

YOU AS COUNCIL MEMBERS CANNOT PROPERLY ANALIZE THIS IN THE SHORT TIME YOU WERE GIVEN IN ADDITION TO THE MISLEADING INFORMATION THAT WAS HANDED TO YOU TO DECIDE UPON.

WE ALL ASK YOU TO DO THE RIGHT THING BY HELP WORKING TAXPAYERS TO PUT OFF THIS VOTE UNTIL YOU HAVE A PROPER UNDERSTANDING OF THIS PROPOSED PROJECT.

Yours TRULY,


EVAN BLUM