

MAY 28 2019

Honorable Corey Johnson  
Speaker of the Council  
City Hall  
New York, New York 10007  
Attention: Jonathan Ettrick

Re: 1520 Sedgwick Avenue.PLP.FY19  
Block 2880, Lot 17  
Bronx, Community District No. 5  
Council District No. 16

Dear Mr. Speaker:

The referenced property ("Exemption Area") contains one multiple dwelling known as 1520 Sedgwick Avenue.PLP.FY19 which provides rental housing for low income families.

1520 Sedgwick Housing Development Fund Corporation ("HDFC") owns the Exemption Area and WFHA 1520 Sedgwick L.P. ("Partnership") is the beneficial owner and operates the Exemption Area. The HDFC and the Partnership (collectively, "Owner") will finance the rehabilitation of the Exemption Area with a loan from HPD. The Owner and HPD will enter into a regulatory agreement establishing certain controls upon the operation of the Exemption Area.

The Exemption Area currently receives an exemption from real property taxation pursuant to Section 577 of the Private Housing Finance Law that will expire in 2052 ("Prior Exemption"). Since 2012, the project has been unable to sustain operations under the Prior Exemption. In order to facilitate the project, the Prior Exemption must be terminated and replaced with a new exemption from real property taxation.

HPD respectfully requests that the Council approve, pursuant to Section 577 of the Private Housing Finance Law, an exemption from real property taxation as follows:

1. For the purposes hereof, the following terms shall have the following meanings:
  - a. "Effective Date" shall mean the date that HPD and the Owner enter into the Regulatory Agreement.
  - b. "Exemption Area" shall mean the real property located in the Borough of the Bronx, City and State of New York, identified as Block 2880, Lot 17 on the Tax Map of the City of New York.
  - c. "Expiration Date" shall mean the earlier to occur of (i) a date which is forty (40) years from the Effective Date, (ii) the date of the expiration or termination of the Regulatory Agreement, or (iii) the date upon which the Exemption Area ceases to be owned by either a housing development fund company or an entity wholly controlled by a housing development fund company.
  - d. "HDFC" shall mean 1520 Sedgwick Housing Development Fund Corporation or a housing development fund company that acquires the Exemption Area with the prior written consent of HPD.



- e. "HPD" shall mean the Department of Housing Preservation and Development of the City of New York.
  - f. "New Exemption" shall mean the exemption from real property taxation provided hereunder with respect to the Exemption Area.
  - g. "Nominal Tax" shall mean the amount of one hundred dollars (\$100).
  - h. "Owner" shall mean, collectively, the HDFC and the Partnership.
  - i. "Partnership" shall mean WFHA 1520 Sedgwick L.P. or any other entity that acquires the beneficial interest in the Exemption Area with the prior written consent of HPD.
  - j. "Prior Exemption" shall mean the exemption from real property taxation for the Exemption Area approved by the New York City Council on May 31, 2012 (Resolution No.1356).
  - k. "Regulatory Agreement" shall mean the regulatory agreement between HPD and the Owner that is executed after April 1, 2019 establishing certain controls upon the operation of the Exemption Area during the term of the New Exemption.
2. The Prior Exemption shall terminate upon the Effective Date.
3. All of the value of the property in the Exemption Area, including both the land and any improvements (excluding those portions, if any, devoted to business, commercial, or community facility use), shall be exempt from real property taxation, other than assessments for local improvements, for a period commencing upon the Effective Date and terminating upon the Expiration Date.
4. Commencing upon the Effective Date, and during each year thereafter until the Expiration Date, the Owner shall make real property tax payments in the sum of the Nominal Tax. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the total annual real property tax payment by the Owner shall not at any time exceed the amount of real property taxes that would otherwise be due in the absence of any form of exemption from or abatement of real property taxation provided by any existing or future local, state, or federal law, rule, or regulation.
5. Notwithstanding any provision hereof to the contrary:
- a. The New Exemption shall terminate if HPD determines at any time that (i) the Exemption Area is not being operated in accordance with the requirements of Article XI of the Private Housing Finance Law, (ii) the Exemption Area is not being operated in accordance with the requirements of the Regulatory Agreement, (iii) the Exemption Area is not being operated in accordance with the requirements of any other agreement with, or for the benefit of, the City of New York, (iv) any interest in the Exemption Area is conveyed or transferred to a new owner without the prior written approval of HPD, or (v) the construction or demolition of any private or multiple dwelling on the Exemption Area has commenced without the prior written consent of HPD. HPD shall deliver written notice of any such determination to Owner and all mortgagees of record, and, where there has been an unauthorized conveyance or transfer of any interest in the Exemption Area, to the new owner of such interest in the Exemption Area, which notice shall provide for an opportunity to cure of not less than sixty (60) days. If the noncompliance specified in such notice is not cured within the time period specified therein, the New Exemption shall prospectively terminate.
  - b. The New Exemption shall apply to all land in the Exemption Area, but shall only apply to a building on the Exemption Area that exists on the Effective Date.



- c. Nothing herein shall entitle the HDFC, the Owner, or any other person or entity to a refund of any real property taxes which accrued and were paid with respect to the Exemption Area prior to the Effective Date.
  - d. All previous resolutions, if any, providing an exemption from or abatement of real property taxation with respect to the Exemption Area are hereby revoked as of the Effective Date.
6. In consideration of the New Exemption, the owner of the Exemption Area shall, for so long as the New Exemption shall remain in effect, waive the benefits of any additional or concurrent exemption from or abatement of real property taxation which may be authorized under any existing or future local, state, or federal law, rule, or regulation. Notwithstanding the foregoing, nothing herein shall prohibit the granting of any real property tax abatement pursuant to Sections 467-b or 467-c of the Real Property Tax Law to real property occupied by senior citizens or persons with disabilities.

HPD recommends approval of this matter and requests that it be referred to the appropriate committee at the next scheduled meeting of the Council.

Sincerely,



Louise Carroll

