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## Council Small Business Chair visits Queen Chamber

City Council Member Diana Reyna, chair of City Council Committee on Small Business met with leaders of Queens Chamber of Commerce and members of the Chamber's Committees on Legislative Advocacy and Communications and Public Affairs this morning (Friday, April 15, 2011). Reyna, who uses her committee chair position to advocate for the over 220,000 small businesses across the five boroughs, discussed matters before the Council and the Committee including such matters of importance to the Chamber as the development of Willets Point and making sure it continues to include a much-needed convention center – the subject of a City Council hearing yesterday, the need for credit centers/ micro-lending to help small business seeking financing, increasing support for Industrial Business Zones (IBZs), opposition to congestion pricing and tolls and the Department of Transportation emphasis on plazas and bicycle lanes ahead of a focus on improving inter-borough and intra-borough bus service.

The Queens Chamber of Commerce represents thousands of businesses and firms of all sizes that do business from and/ or in our vibrant borough. On behalf of its 1,200 members, collectively employing 500,000 residents of Queens County, the Chamber through its programs and advocacy, works to promote the general welfare of the Borough of Queens and to foster its commerce. The meeting with Council Member Reyna continues a series a meetings with Queens elected officials organized by the Chamber's Committees on Legislative Advocacy and Communications and Public Affairs. The Committee previously hosted meetings with Council Land Use Chair Leroy Comrie and Zoning Chair Mark Weprin.

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Left to right: Queens Economic Development Executive Director Seth Bornstein, Queens Chamber of Commerce Chief of Operations Sophia Ganosis, Council Member Diana Reyna, Committee on Legislative Advocacy co-chairs Vincent Petraro and Joshua Bienstock, and Chamber Vice President Joseph Ficalora, CEO/ President of New York Community Bank. [Photo by Jacqueline Donadio, Queens Chamber of Commerce.]



Left to right: Queens Chamber Executive Director Jack Friedman, Verizon Government Affairs Director June Jee, Queens Economic Development Executive Director Seth Bornstein, Queens Chamber of Commerce Chief of Operations Sophia Ganosis, Council Member Diana Reyna, Committee on Legislative Advocacy co-chairs Vincent Petraro and Joshua Bienstock, and Chamber Vice President Joseph Ficalora who is CEO/ President of New York Community Bank. [Photo by Jacqueline Donadio, Queens Chamber of Commerce.]



Left to Right: Queens Economic Development Corporation Executive Director Seth Bornstein, chamber member Jon Postyn of John Hancock Financial Network NY Partners Group, Legislative Advocacy Committee co-chair and attorney Vincent Petraro, Chamber VP Joseph Ficalora, Council Member Diana Reyna, Chamber Policy Advisor Corey Bearak, Legislative Advocacy Committee co-chair Joshua Bienstock of Resolve It, Inc., attorney and Chamber member Barry Gogel, and Port Authority General Manager for LaGuardia Airport Thomas Bosco and sitting Chamber Chief of Operations Sophia Ganosis, Chamber member and Recon Construction President Gloria Kemper, Verizon's June Jee, Queens Chamber Executive Director Jack Friedman. [Photo by Jacqueline Donado, Queens Chamber of Commerce.]