

Statement of Queens Community Board 13
Empire State Development Public Hearing on the Creedmoor Mixed Use Project
General Project Plan and its Draft Environmental Impact Statement
January 30, 2025

Queens Community Board 13 (“QCB13”) demands that Empire State Development (“ESD”) immediately withdraw its General Project Plan for its Creedmoor Mixed Used Project and replace it with the Queens Community Board 13/Community Plan to build no more than 1000 new housing units on the approximately 59 acre site.

On July 18, 2024, Queens Community Board 13 submitted comments on the Draft Scope of Work (“DSOW”) for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (“DEIS”). Queens Community Board 13 testified that, following ESD’s release of the DSOW, a group of fellow civic leaders met with community board leaders and found it essentially changed very little from the misnamed “Creedmoor Community Master Plan” released the previous winter that FAILED to follow community recommendations. Queens Community Board 13 and the Community then and to this day strongly and smartly recommend no more than 1,000 units and with no supportive housing. 1000 units would provide the proper amount of density for this site in our eastern Queens community.

Queens Community Board 13 also pointed out the failure to include our Community Plan as a study alternative as part of the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) process means we still face a grossly out-of-scale project for this community. Queens Community Board 13 raised the ESD scheme to impose additional supportive housing as part of the so-called Mixed Use Project would exacerbate existing oversaturation of supportive housing in Queens Community Board 13.

Five months later, in a letter to the ESD board, Queens Community Board 13 urged withdrawal of a resolution that provided “Authorization to Adopt the Proposed General Project Plan (“GPP”); Acceptance of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (“DEIS”) as Satisfactory with Respect to its Scope, Content and Adequacy Under the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act and its Implementing Regulations (“SEQRA”) and for its Publication, Circulation and Filing; Authorization to Hold a Public Hearing on the GPP, Pursuant to the UDC Act, and the DEIS, Prepared Pursuant to SEQRA, and in Accordance with Other Applicable Law; and Authorization to Take All Related Actions.” ESD’s board ignored the community’s position that ESD withdraw its resolution and commit instead to work with QCB13 and the community on implementing the QCB13/Community plan which emphasizes community affordability. No plan to develop this Creedmoor site can be ultimately realized without the support of Queens Community Board 13 and its community.

As a result, Queens Community Board 13 demands ESD to cease all activity with respect to its scheme and collaborate with Queens Community Board 13 and the community to actualize and develop the QCB13/Community plan.