

116th Precinct Community Task Force

134-14 230th Street, Laurelton, New York 11413

Phone: (917) 969-6215 | Email: bessdebetham1@gmail.com

PRESS RELEASE

116th PRECINCT COMMUNITY TASK FORCE LAUDS BUDGET RESTORATION

The 116th Police Precinct Community Task Force is extremely pleased and gratified by Mayor de Blasio's announcement today that the funding for the new 116th Police Precinct in Rosedale, Queens has been restored to the City's capital budget. Funding for the precinct was removed from the capital budget in June 2020.

Bess DeBetham, Task Force Co-Chair said after the Mayor's announcement: "We thank the Mayor for taking this very timely and critical action that will fill the void in police protection for the communities of Southeast and Northeast Queens and help stem the tide of rising crime". Co-Chair Rich Hellenbrecht added: "We are also grateful for the outpouring of support we received from our elected officials led by Congressman Gregory Meeks, Borough President Donovan Richards and City Councilmember Selvena Brooks Powers with supportive urgings from many other elected officials, including State Senators Leroy Comrie, John Liu and James Sanders, Jr., Assembly Members Alicia Hyndman, Clyde Vanel, David Weprin and Ed Braunstein, and City Council Members Barry Grodenchik and Adrienne Adams." Speaking about the Task Force's campaign to restore precinct funding, Bill Perkins, Task Force President, said: "Our initiative began in the 1970s, brought together over 20 local civic associations in Southeast and Northeast Queens for unified action and stands as a model of effective cooperation and teamwork."

The new 116th Precinct will cover the communities of Rosedale, Brookville, Laurelton, Springfield Gardens and the southern portion of Cambria Heights, and our vision and is that the precinct will set the standard for community policing for the world.

Dated: Queens, New York
April 20, 2021

Contacts: Bess DeBetham
(917) 969-6215

Richard Hellenbrecht
(646) 732-5784

116th Precinct Community Task Force

Association, Inc.; Concerned Gen X,Y,Z Residents of Laurelton; Creedmoor Civic Association; Eastern Queens Alliance, Inc; Federated Blocks of Laurelton; Glen Oaks Village Owners, Inc; Lost Community Civic Association; North Bellerose Civic Association; Queens Colony Civic Association; Queens Village Civic Association; Rocky Hill Civic Association; Rosedale Civic Association, Inc; Royal Ranch Civic Association; Spring-Gar Civic Association, Inc.; Springfield Gardens Taxpayers Association, Inc; Springfield/Rosedale Community Action Association, Inc; United Neighbors Civic Association of Jamaica Inc; Wayanda Civic Association, Inc.

COMMITTEES
AGING
FINANCE
HEALTH
IMMIGRATION
LAND USE
PARKS AND RECREATION
SMALL BUSINESS
TRANSPORTATION

SUB-COMMITTEES
CAPITAL BUDGET / FINANCE



THE COUNCIL
OF
THE CITY OF NEW YORK
SELVENA N. BROOKS-POWERS
COUNCIL MEMBER, 31ST DISTRICT, QUEENS

ROCKAWAY OFFICE
1931 MOTT AVENUE, SUITE 410
FAR ROCKAWAY, NY 11691
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LAURELTON OFFICE
234-26A MERRICK BLVD.
LAURELTON, NY 11422
(718) 527-4356
FAX: (718) 527-4402

CITY HALL OFFICE:
250 BROADWAY, SUITE 1731
NEW YORK, NY 10007
(212) 788-7216
FAX: (212) 227-1210

April 19, 2021

SENT VIA E-MAIL

Mayor Bill de Blasio
City Hall
New York, NY 10007

Dear Mayor de Blasio,

In light of decades of unmet needs in Southeast Queens, the recent rise in crime, and your long-stated commitment secured by unprecedented capital investments in 2016, our community stands together to urge the delivery of the promised, new NYPD 116th Precinct in Rosedale.

The current 105th Precinct covers nearly 13 square miles and 354 miles of roadway, with its station house located in the northern end of the vertically-long territory. Its size poses consistent challenges to fully serving neighborhoods in the southern half of its jurisdiction, resulting in long-standing disparities in response times and safety for the families of the district. The new 116th Precinct, requested by the community since the 1970s, was designed and slated to remedy this gap.

The full funding for the 116th Precinct was secured years ago, but abruptly diverted last year in a significant disservice to the communities most directly impacted by this divestment. This is a chance to carry-out your broader vision for community-based policing, and bring an important element of your progressive track record to life.

Together, we ask that you fully restore funding for the 116th Precinct -- while preserving the critical plans underway for the community center at Roy Wilkins Park -- in your FY22 Executive Capital Plan, and allow the stalled project to proceed with haste. Thank you for prioritizing the safety and well-being of Queens.

Respectfully,

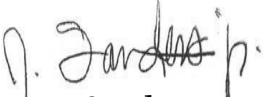

Selvena N. Brooks-Powers
New York City Council Member, District 31



Gregory W. Meeks
U.S. Representative, District 5



Donovan Richards, Jr.
Queens Borough President



James Sanders, Jr.
New York State Senator, District 10



Leroy Comrie
New York State Senator, District 14



Alicia Hyndman
New York State Assembly, District 29



Clyde Vanel
New York State Assembly, District 33

Cc:

116th Precinct Community Task Force
The Bellerose Commonwealth Civic Association
Bellerose Hillside Civic Association
Creedmore Civic Association
The Federated Blocks of Laurelton
Glen Oaks Village Co-op
North Bellerose Civic Association
Queens Colony Civic Association, Inc.
Queens Village Civic Association
Rocky Hill Civic Association, Inc.
Rosedale Civic Association, Inc.
Royal Ranch Civic Association
Spring-Gar Community Civic Association, Inc.
Springfield/Rosedale Community Action Association, Inc.
United Neighbors Civic Association of Jamaica

116th Precinct Community Task Force

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March 15, 2021

Hon. Bill de Blasio
Mayor
City Hall
New York, NY 10007

Re: 116th Police Precinct Follow up

Dear Mayor de Blasio:

In our previous letters, dated July 20, August 24 and November 17, 2020 (copies attached), the 116th Precinct Community Task Force (“Task Force”) sought your commitment to restore the funding for the approved and announced new 116th Police Precinct in Rosedale, Queens. To date, our Task Force has not received any response from City Hall. With only a few months remaining before vote and final decision on New York City’s 2021-22 budget our Task Force, representing civic associations in Northeast and Southeast Queens, reiterates our request that you restore the funding — approved in budgets prior to this fiscal year — to for the 116th Precinct which you suddenly and inexplicably removed from the budget, adopted June 2020.

Recent relevant and supportive developments include statements from area elected officials, re-designation of the 116th Precinct as its number one capital budget priority by Queens Community Board #13 and similar support from the Queens Borough President, Queens Borough Board and Queens Council Delegation.

Moreover, the current surge in shootings and other violent crimes in southeast Queens underscores and highlights the already thoroughly documented need for the new precinct. It remains critically necessary to restore its funding. Again, OUR COMMUNITY WANTS IT BACK!

The Task Force and our community would greatly appreciate your attention to this important matter and the courtesy of your response by the end of this month.

Very truly yours,



Bess DeBetham
Co-Chairperson



Richard Hellenbrecht
Co -Chairperson

and 116th Precinct Community Task Force Members (see next page):

116th Precinct Community Task Force

134-14 230th Street, Laurelton, New York 11413

Phone: (917) 969-6215 | Email: bessdebetham1@gmail.com

Addisleigh Park Civic Association President Michael Scotland
Bellerose Commonwealth Civic Association President Lourdes V. Hartrick
Bellerose-Hillside Civic Association President Jerry Wind
Cambria Heights Civic Association President Bryan Block
Creedmoor Civic Association President Michael O’Keeffe
Eastern Queens Alliance President Barbara E. Brown
Federation Blocks Laurelton President Robert Glover
Glen Oaks Village Co-op President Bob Friedrich
Concerned Gen X, Y, Z of Laurelton rep. Dr. Melva Miller
Lost Community Civic Association President Michael Castellano
North Bellerose Civic Association Acting President Corey Bearak
Queens Colony Civic Association President Angela Augugliaro
Queens Village Civic Association Mohamood Israel
Rocky Hill President Civic Association President Suzanne Peritz
Rosedale Civic Association President Marcia O’Brien
Royal Ranch Civic Association President Rhonda Kontner
Spring-Gar Civic Association President Lenny Glover
Springfield Gardens Taxpayers & Citizens Association President Jacqueline Kellum Foster
Springfield/Rosedale Community Action Association President Barbara E. Brown
United Neighbors Civic Association of Jamaica President Joyce Denny
Wayanda Civic Association President Cynthia Curtin

- c. Hon. Dean Fuleihan, First Deputy Mayor
Hon. Emma Wolfe, Deputy Mayor and Chief of Staff to the Mayor
Hon. Gregory Meeks, Member of Congress, (5th District)
Hon. Tom Suozzi, Member of Congress, (3rd District)
Hon. Donovan Richards, Queens Borough President
Hon. Leroy Comrie, New York State Senator, 14th District
Hon. James Sanders, Jr., New York State Senator, 10th District
Hon. John C. Liu, New York State Senator, 11th District
Hon. Khaleel Anderson, New York State Assembly Member, 31st District
Hon. Clyde Vanel, New York State Assembly Member, 33rd District;
Hon. David Weprin, New York State Assembly Member, 24th Assembly District
Hon. Ed Braunstein, New York State Assembly Member, 26th Assembly District
Hon. Corey Johnson, New York City Council Speaker
Hon. Selvena Brooks-Powers, New York City Council Member, District 31
Hon. Barry Grodenchik, New York City Council Member, District 23
Hon. I. Daneek Miller, New York City Council Member, District 27
Hon. Adrienne Adams, New York City Council Member, District 28
Hon. Alicia Hyndman, New York State Assembly Member, 29th District
Community Board 13 Queens

116th Precinct Community Task Force

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Queens Borough President Budget Hearing

Monday, February 1, 2021

Borough President, City Council Members and Board Chairs, good morning.

The 116th Community Precinct Task Force is a group of civic leaders representing the diverse neighborhoods in the north and south areas of the 105th Police Precinct.

The task force was formed in 2007 to support the efforts of the numerous area civic associations to advocate for an independent and fully staffed precinct to cover the southern portion of Community District 13 – which is coterminous with the 105th Precinct.

Police response times to crime and other needs in the area are often delayed due to the distance from the 105th Precinct station house in Queens Village with increasing traffic and few alternate routes.

Following increasing concerns of crime and drug activity in southeast Queens, a new precinct was proposed in the early 1970s. In 1977 then Mayor Ed Koch designated the 116th Precinct, but no action followed. In 1983, Queens Community Board 13 voted the 116th precinct it's number one capital budget priority, where it remained until 2016.

Finally, after over 30 years of united efforts by the northern and southern communities, Mayor deBlasio included a construction budget in the 2017 Capital Budget ultimately allocating \$92 million.

The Mayor and local **officials repeatedly and proudly highlighted this great success for their constituents. Design of the state-of-the-art precinct building was reviewed and praised by the community and nearly finalized.** A required street demapping was concluded with the overwhelming and enthusiastic support of the community.

However, members of the community were devastated on June 30, 2020 to learn that Mayor deBlasio reneged on his promise from the 2021 Budget.

The \$92 million fund remained in the budget but was diverted to other uses. On an over whelming vote last fall Community Board 13 once again included the 116th Precinct as its number one Capital Budget priority.

Crime in the area has increased and response time from the 105th Precinct is not keeping pace. Shootings, such as the one on November 24, demonstrate the increase in violent crime in the area. The satellite precinct office is helpful, **but safety and equity for the people of southeast Queens demands a dedicated precinct covering this area.**

The civic associations and residents of the north and the south communities in Community District 13 remain united in asking the Queens Borough President, Borough Board and Queens Council Delegation to demand the return of the \$92 million Capital Budget funding previously allocated for this critical facility, the 116th Precinct, and so include this project as a Borough Board Budget Priority. Thank you.

Bess DeBetham

Federated Blocks of Laurelton & CB13Q Board Member,
and Member, 116th Precinct Community Task Force

116th Precinct Community Task Force

134-14 230th Street, Laurelton, New York 11413
Phone: (917) 969-6215 | Email: bessdebetham1@gmail.com

August 24, 2020

Mayor Bill de Blasio
City Hall
New York, NY 10007

Re: 116th Police Precinct Follow up

Dear Mayor de Blasio:

By our letter dated July 20, 2020, we requested your response to our demand that you restore the funding for the construction of the approved 116TH Precinct. You have not responded and accordingly we await your response in a climate and spirit of urgency.

While we surely understand that you and your Administration are facing several critical issues, we believe that the criticality and urgency of this matter is deserving of your timely and substantive response.

Again, we and our co-signing civic associations (see their letters attached) would deeply appreciate your response in the immediate next days.

Sincerely,

Bess DeBetham
116th Precinct Task Force

Richard Hellenbrecht
116th Precinct Task Force

Cc: Dean Fuleihan, First Deputy Mayor
Gregory Meeks, U.S. Representative, New York 5th District
Sharon Lee, New York City Acting Queens Borough President
Corey Johnson, New York City Council Speaker
Donovan Richards, New York City Council Member, District 31
Barry Grodenchik, New York City Council Member, District 23
I. Daneek Miller, New York City Council Member, District 27
Adrienne Adams, New York City Council Member, District 28
Alicia Hyndman, New York State Assembly Member, 29th District
Clyde Vanel, New York State Assembly Member, 33rd District
James Sanders, Jr., New York State Senator, 10th District
John C. Liu, New York State Senator, 11th District
Leroy Comrie, New York State Senator, 14th District
Community Board 13 Queens

116th Precinct Community Task Force

134-14 230th Street, Laurelton, New York 11413

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September 8, 2020

Dermot Shea
Police Commissioner
1 Police Plaza Path
New York, NY 10038

Re: 116th Police Precinct

Dear Commissioner Shea:

We formally and directly invite you to support our initiative to restore funding for the previously approved 116th Precinct. Attached are copies of the Task Force letters to Mayor de Blasio, dated July 20, 2020 and August 24, 2020, urging such action as well as letters from our local civic associations.

As outlined in the letters, the establishment of the 116th Precinct will bring substantial public safety benefits to the Southeast and Northeast Queens communities. It will also be the cornerstone for neighborhood policing in our community.

Again, we invite your support, believing that we can form a mutually beneficial relationship. Please let us hear from you in the coming days.

Sincerely,

Bess DeBetham
116th Precinct Community Task Force

Richard Hellenbrecht
116th Precinct Community Task Force

Cc: Dean Fuleihan, First Deputy Mayor
Gregory Meeks, U.S. Representative, New York 5th District
Sharon Lee, New York City Acting Queens Borough President
Corey Johnson, New York City Council Speaker
Donovan Richards, New York City Council Member, District 31
Barry Grodenchik, New York City Council Member, District 23
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Adrienne Adams, New York City Council Member, District 28
Alicia Hyndman, New York State Assembly Member, 29th District
Clyde Vanel, New York State Assembly Member, 33rd District
James Sanders, Jr., New York State Senator, 10th District
John C. Liu, New York State Senator, 11th District
Leroy Comrie, New York State Senator, 14th District
Community Board 13 Queens



ALICIA HYNDMAN
Assemblywoman 29th
District

THE ASSEMBLY
STATE OF NEW YORK
ALBANY

CHAIR
Subcommittee on
Tuition Assistance Programs

COMMITTEES
Education
Economic Development, Job Creation,
Commerce and Industry
Governmental Operations
Higher Education
Small Business
Transportation

September 30, 2020

Mayor Bill de Blasio
City Hall
New York, NY 10007

Re: Support for the 116th Police Precinct

Dear Mayor de Blasio,

I'm writing to you on behalf of the residents of South East Queens demanding that the appropriated \$92 million capital funding designated for the construction of the 116th Precinct be made available for the intended project.

At a time where the safety and security of our communities are of utmost importance, it's very disheartening to see over 40 years of advocacy and hard work from a resilient community go down the drain.

While I understand the economic hardship facing the City, eliminating funds for the 116th Precinct that is very much needed and already in the final phase of planning is a slap in the face to your fellow New Yorkers in South East Queens.

Having only one Precinct, the 105th, which cover such a large area, the largest geographical area for Precincts in the City has led to years of law enforcement being unable to build proper relations with the communities in which they serve. It's also not surprising that the 105th Precinct has the highest response time in the City.

As elected officials, we need to do better for our communities and listen to their needs. While the idea of a community center is great, we need to do right by the people of South East Queens and provide them with the vital resources they need and have been fighting to gain for so long.

I urge you to heed the concerns of the residents of South East Queens and re-appropriate the \$92 million back to its intended purpose of constructing the 116th Precinct.

Sincerely,

Hon. Alicia L. Hyndman
29th Assembly District,
New York State Assembly

cc: Emma Wolfe, Chief of Staff
Queens Community Board 13
116th Precinct Community Task Force
Rosedale Civic Association
North Bellerose Civic Association
Queens Village Civic Association
Royal Ranch Civic Association
Federated Blocks of Laurelton
Octagon Civic Association



DAVID I. WEPRIN
MEMBER OF ASSEMBLY
24TH DISTRICT

THE ASSEMBLY
STATE OF NEW YORK
ALBANY

CHAIR
Correction Committee

COMMITTEES
Banks
Codes
Judiciary
Ways and Means

TASK FORCE
Puerto Rican/Hispanic Task Force
Asian Pacific American Task Force

April 6, 2021

Mayor Bill de Blasio
City Hall
New York, NY 10007

Dear Mayor de Blasio,

I write to you today on behalf of the 21 civic associations in Northeast and Southeast Queens and Queens Community Board 13. They are alarmed by the City’s decision to revoke funding from the creation of the 116th Precinct. Community members and residents have voiced their support for the creation of a new precinct for over thirty years. My heart goes out to families in Rosedale, Brookville, Laurelton, Springfield Garden, and Cambria Heights who feel the lack of a new police precinct is a threat to their safety and quality of life. On behalf of those families, I ask that you restore the \$92 million in capital funding that was allocated for this project.

Back when I was a City Councilman, I strongly supported dividing the 105th precinct in two. My fellow Councilman Barry Grodenchik heavily advocated for the creation of a new precinct. He allocated funding from the city budget for the project. Senator James Sanders, Jr., who was a Councilman at that time, gave his wholehearted support for the project as well. We were excited when the site for the new precinct was unveiled in 2017. Our support for creating the 116th precinct remains steadfast.

The residents of Northeast and Southeast Queens have expressed their need for this new police precinct. Think, too, of the 105th Precinct police officers. They are stretched thin covering such a large geographic area. The area is far too large for a single precinct to cover. This has created a dangerous situation. Establishing the 116th Precinct will allow law enforcement to respond more quickly to community needs. Now is not the time to cut back. We must put the public safety needs of the community first. I implore you to follow through your commitment to building the 116th Precinct.

Sincerely,

David Weprin
Member of Assembly, 24th Assembly District

Cc: New York Police Commissioner Dermot Shea

North Bellerose Civic Association

P.O. Box 135, Glen Oaks, NY 11004

NorthBellerose@gmail.com

August 7, 2020

Mayor Bill de Blasio
City Hall
New York, NY 10007

Re: 116th Police Precinct

Dear Mr. Mayor:

On June 30, 2020, you broke your promise to the communities and residents of Northeast and Southeast Queens when you took \$92 million in capital funding away for the construction of the 116th Police Precinct. **OUR UNITED COMMUNITIES WANT IT BACK.** The North Bellerose Civic Association signed on to the original community/civic based 116th Precinct Task Force letter you already received (but apparently only indirectly acknowledged based on anecdotal contacts. This letter directly from our civic representing the residents of some 1,000 homes in Bellerose serves to emphasize strong support of our community for our neighbors in Southeast Queens who looked forward to improvements in their quality of life, public safety and police-community relations the new precinct would afford.

As you know from my work in and out of government, I worked on Justice issues and reform policies including drafting the original legislation that became the ban on racial profiling and policy initiatives to strengthen the CCRB as an Independent NYPD Monitor.

Diverting the funding allocated in the Fiscal Year 2019 budget for the 116th Precinct represents a direct assault on all the communities of Queens Community Board 13. All of our communities bonded together and worked tirelessly in unity since the early 1970's on this mutually beneficial endeavor essential to the quality of life for residents in both Northeast and Southeast Queens. These very same people thrice voted you into office – two times as our mayor. These same communities put their trust in you and expected you to honor and follow through on your commitment. For several decades Community 13Q advocated the 116th Precinct to correct the gross deficiency imposed by coterminality; previously three precincts covered parts of District 13; since that time one precinct and response times to crimes in progress escalated. To date the city created new precincts in Upper Manhattan and Staten Island serving communities that endured less lengthy response times that our united communities continue to suffer.

The 116th Precinct would ensure high quality and effective policing for the neighborhoods of Rosedale, Brookville, Laurelton, Springfield Gardens and (the southern portion of) Cambria Heights. For these communities of color in Southeast Queens the 116th Precinct siting and the commitment you and others made remain as consistent with Black Lives Matter.

Despite the long and hard-fought battle to get the 116th Precinct, our primary goal was never about building a new police station for the sake of having another instrument to enforce stringent controls in our neighborhoods. From the beginning, our objective has always been about quality of life and equity. All essential preparations are complete, and resident-voters have seen the architectural designs and building plans for the multi-functional “Community Space” for intergenerational use.

This is not about one community fighting with another about something it did not get. This is about what taking from our communities without the consideration of the damage it would cause.

Consequently, this civic association strongly recommends that you follow through on your promise to these communities and our residents and restore the \$92 million investment to finish the construction of the new 116th Precinct.

The North Bellerose Civic Association looks forward to an appropriate resolution of this injustice.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and please favor your constituents with an early reply.

Sincerely,



COREY B. BEARAK, Esq.
Acting President

[The 116th Precinct Task Force letter to the Mayor (two pages) and a three page “history” follow.]

116th Precinct Community Task Force

July 20, 2020

Mayor Bill de Blasio
City Hall
New York, NY 10007

Re: 116th Police Precinct

Dear Mayor de Blasio:

On June 30, 2020, you broke your promise to Northeast and Southeast Queens when you took \$92 million in funding away for the construction of the 116th Police Precinct. **WE WANT IT BACK!**

Diverting the funding allocated in the Fiscal Year 2019 budget for the 116th Precinct is a direct assault on all the communities of Community Board 13 which bonded together and have worked tirelessly since the early 1970's on an endeavor that is mutually beneficial and essential to the quality of life for residents in both Northeast and Southeast Queens. These are the same communities that put their trust in you and expected you to honor and follow through on your commitment.

This act of disregard to the expressed needs of our communities is an egregious insult to residents and voters who have put their heart and soul into fighting the blatant inequities. The City's inadequate investment in the public safety of the neighborhoods in Community Board 13 is constant battle that we must contend. With the creation of the 116th Precinct, Northeast Queens will get the level of service it deserves from the 105th Precinct; and Rosedale, Brookville, Laurelton, Springfield Gardens and the southern portion of Cambria Heights will finally get consistent and high-quality effective policing from the new precinct.

Mayor de Blasio, do not be mistaken. We are steadfast and united in our mission to see you follow through on your promise and restore the \$92 million investment needed to finish the process of construction for the new 116th Precinct. We are awaiting a satisfactory response from you as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Bess DeBetham
116th Precinct Task Force

Richard Hellenbrecht
116th Precinct Task Force

116th Precinct Community Task Force

Cc: Dean Fuleihan, First Deputy Mayor
Sharon Lee, New York City Acting Queens Borough President
Corey Johnson, New York City Council Speaker
Donovan Richards, New York City Council Member, District 31
Barry Grodenchik, New York City Council Member, District 23
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Community Board 13 Queens

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September 8, 2020

Queens Community Board 13
219-41 Jamaica Avenue
Queens Village, NY 11428

Re: 116th Police Precinct Follow up

Dear Queens Community Board 13:

The 116th Precinct Community Task Force has started an initiative to have the funding for the previously approved 116th Precinct restored. As the precinct had historically been the number one Community Board 13 priority, we, humbly request the Board to continue treating it as such.

Attached please find copies of letters from local civic associations to the Mayor in support of this effort.

Thank you in advance for this consideration. It will ensure the residents of Southeast and Northeast Queens have the public safety resources they deserve.

Sincerely,

Bill Perkins
116th Precinct Community Task Force

Donald Clarke, Sr.
116th Precinct Community Task Force

Cc: Dean Fuleihan, First Deputy Mayor
Gregory Meeks, U.S. Representative, New York 5th District
Sharon Lee, New York City Acting Queens Borough President
Corey Johnson, New York City Council Speaker
Donovan Richards, New York City Council Member, District 31
Barry Grodenchik, New York City Council Member, District 23
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James Sanders, Jr., New York State Senator, 10th District
John C. Liu, New York State Senator, 11th District
Leroy Comrie, New York State Senator, 14th District
Community Board 13 Queens



CAMBRIA HEIGHTS CIVIC ASSOCIATION
Founded in 1932
United for Community Progress

August 21, 2020

Mayor Bill de Blasio

City Hall

New York, NY 10007

Re: 116th Police Precinct

Dear Mayor de Blasio:

On June 30, 2020, you broke your promise to the communities and residents of Northeast and Southeast Queens when you took \$92 million in capital funding away for the construction of the 116th Police Precinct. WE OF THE CAMBRIA HEIGHTS COMMUNITY AND THE UNITED COMMUNITIES DEMAND THE RETURN OF THE FUNDING FOR THIS MUCH NEEDED PRECINCT.

Diverting the funding allocated in the Fiscal Year 2019 budget for the 116th Precinct represents a direct assault on the residents and institutions in Queens Community Board 13. This is a slap in the face to our communities who have worked tirelessly in unity since the early 1970's on this endeavor which is essential to the quality of life for residents in both Northeast and Southeast Queens.

For decades our united communities advocated for the 116th Precinct to correct the deficiency of having one precinct (105th Precinct) patrol an area that was previously covered by three. It is, therefore, no surprise that response times to crimes in progress in our communities immediately escalated. Even more infuriating is that to date the City has created two precincts one in Upper Manhattan and the other in Staten Island serving communities who endured less lengthy response times.

Despite the long and hard-fought battle to get the 116th Precinct, our primary goal was never about building a new police station for the sake of having another instrument to enforce stringent controls in our neighborhoods but about **quality of life and equity**. The 116th Precinct is **NOT** about one community fighting with another about something it did not get.



CAMBRIA HEIGHTS CIVIC ASSOCIATION

Founded in 1932

United for Community Progress

This is about you taking something vital from the communities of Northeast and Southeast Queens without considering the damage it would cause. The 116th Precinct will ensure high quality and effective policing for the neighborhoods of Rosedale, Brookville, Laurelton, Springfield Gardens and (the southern portion of) Cambria Heights. In addition, the 116th Precinct would address the uptick in shootings that recently have occurred in the 105th Precinct.

Consequently, we demand that you follow through on your promise to our communities and residents and restore the \$92 million investment to finalize the construction of the 116th Precinct.

Sincerely,

Bryan J. Block

President

Cambria Heights Civic Association



The Bellerose Commonwealth Civic Association Inc.

August 21, 2020

Mayor Bill de Blasio
City Hall
New York, NY 10007

**P.O. Box 260225
Bellerose, NY 11426**

Re: 116th Police Precinct

Dear Mayor de Blasio:

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

President

Lourdes Villanueva Hartrick

Vice President

Anthony Aguilar

Recording Secretary

Elizabeth Aguilar

Corr. Sec'y/Treasurer

Richard C. Hellenbrecht

Directors

James Delaney

Ron DiMaria

Lauren Fiorentino

Michael Mallia

Shewanna Owens

John Reh

Indra Seepersaud

Michael Weisbord

Delegate-Queens

Civic Congress

Richard Hellenbrecht

Delegate-105th

Precinct Community

Lourdes V. Hartrick

On June 30, 2020, you broke your promise to the communities & residents of Northeast and Southeast Queens when you took \$92 million in capital funding away for the construction of the 116th Police Precinct. OUR UNITED COMMUNITIES WANT IT BACK.

Diverting the funding allocated in the Fiscal Year 2019 budget for the 116th Precinct represents a direct assault on all the communities of Queens Community Board 13. All of our communities bonded together and worked tirelessly in unity since the early 1970's on this mutually beneficial endeavor essential to the quality of life for residents in both Northeast and Southeast Queens. These very same people thrice voted you into office – two times as our mayor. These same communities put their trust in you and expected you to honor and follow through on your commitment. For several decades Community 13Q advocated the 116th Precinct to correct the gross deficiency imposed by coterminality; previously three precincts covered parts of District 13; since that time one precinct and response times to crimes in progress escalated. To date the city created new precincts in Upper Manhattan and Staten Island serving communities who endured less lengthy response times that our united communities continue to suffer.

The 116th Precinct would ensure high quality and effective policing for the neighborhoods of Rosedale, Brookville, Laurelton, Springfield Gardens and Cambria Heights.

From the beginning, our objective has always been about quality of life and equity. All essential preparations are complete, and resident-voters have seen the architectural designs and building plans for the multi-functional "Community Space" for intergenerational use.

This is not about one community fighting with another about something it did not get. This is about what taking from our communities without the consideration of the damage it would cause. Consequently, we demand that you follow through on your promise to these communities and our residents and restore the \$92 million investment to finish the construction of the new 116th Precinct. We await a satisfactory response from you as soon as possible.

Sincerely,


Lourdes Villanueva Hartrick

BELLEROSE HILLSIDE CIVIC ASSOCIATION

**80-20 242nd Street
Bellerose, New York 11426-1363
(718) 347-3881
BHCACIVIC@AOL.COM**

August 16, 2020

Hon. Bill de Blasio
Mayor
City Hall
New York, NY 10007

Dear Mayor de Blasio,

Several years ago, our community, along with the other communities in the Queens Community Board 13 realized that the response time from our local police precinct, the 105th, was affected by the large geographic size of the area it serves. After extensive discussions, we concluded that a new precinct situated in the southern half of the precinct area was the solution. Since then, Queens Community Board 13 has kept this a top priority.

We were very happy when we finally received approval for the construction of the new 116th Precinct and were equally unhappy when the project was eliminated in the new New York City Budget and the money was diverted to a project in another Community Board. The City has already spent a great deal of money for the planning of the 116th Precinct which was in its final phase.

In light of recent events, the need for this new precinct is more important than ever and we demand that the funding for this project be completely restored without further delay.

Sincerely,

Jerry Wind, President

cc: Hon. John Liu
Hon. Barry Grodenchik
Hon. Corey Johnson
Hon. Sharon Lee

Creedmoor Civic Association, Inc.

PO Box 260143 Bellerose, NY 11426 718 464-3369 creedmoorcivic@gmail.com

Mayor Bill de Blasio City Hall
New York, NY 10007
August 17, 2020

Re: 116th Police Precinct

Dear Mr. Mayor:

On June 30, 2020, you broke your promise to the communities and residents of Northeast and Southeast Queens when you took \$92 million in capital funding away for the construction of the 116th Police Precinct. **OUR UNITED COMMUNITIES WANT IT BACK!**

Diverting the funding allocated in the Fiscal Year 2019 budget for the 116th Precinct represents a direct assault on all the communities of Queens Community Board 13. The fact that this deletion was a last-minute change to the budget on June 30 was both unfair and insulting.

The Creedmoor Civic Association signed on to the original community/civic based 116th Precinct Task Force letter you already received. This letter specifically represents the members of the Creedmoor Civic Association, which includes some 1,000 families in Bellerose, west of the Cross Island Parkway between 88 Ave and Braddock Ave.

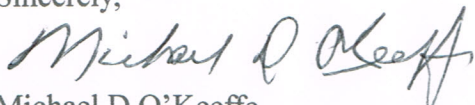
All of our communities have bonded together and worked tirelessly and in unity since the early 1970's on this important endeavor, crucial to the quality of life for residents in both Northeast and Southeast Queens. During this time, Community Board 13Q has determined that this is the highest priority project, due to the extremely large coverage area of the 105th Precinct and resulting slow response times.

The 116th Precinct would ensure high quality and effective policing for the neighborhoods of Rosedale, Brookville, Laurelton, Springfield Gardens and the southern portion of Cambria Heights. The new precinct has been specifically designed as a welcoming place that would bring the community and the Police Department together. As recent events have shown, this is more important than ever.

The Creedmoor Civic Association strongly requests that you follow through on your promise to these communities and restore the \$92 million investment to finish the construction of the new 116th Precinct.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We request a prompt response.

Sincerely,



Michael D O'Keeffe
President, Creedmoor Civic Association



EQA

Eastern Queens Alliance, Inc.

*A Federation of Civic Associations
in Southeast Queens*

Board of Directors

Chairperson

Barbara E. Brown

Vice Chairperson

Gloria Boyce-Charles

Treasurer

Patrick L. Evans

Recording Secretary

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Corresponding Secretary

Michael Scotland

Financial Secretary

Lonnie W. Glover

Civic Association Membership

Addisleigh Park Civic Association Inc.

Federated Blocks of Laurelton
Rosedale Civic Association, Inc.

Spring-Gar Civic Association, Inc.

Springfield/Rosedale
Community Action Association,
Inc.

Springfield Gardens Taxpayers
Citizens Association, Inc.

St. Albans Civic Improvement
Association

United Neighbors Civic
Association, Inc.

Wayanda Civic Association, Inc.

Associate Members

A Better Jamaica, Inc.
Concerned Citizens of Laurelton

Professional Membership

Richard Belgrave,
Environmental Science

Gloria Boyce-Charles
Business/Education

Dawn Roberts-Semple, Phd.
Environmental Science

July 31, 2020

Mayor Bill de Blasio
City Hall
New York, NY 10007

Dear Mayor de Blasio,

The Eastern Queens Alliance (EQA), a federation of civic associations representing the Southeast Queens communities of Brookville, Laurelton, Queens Village, Rosedale, Springfield Gardens, and St. Albans, is writing to express our outrage on the removal of approved funding for the NYPD 116th Precinct. We demand that funding for the Precinct be reinstated.

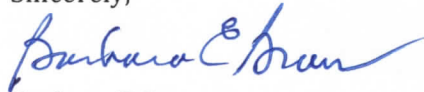
The defunding of the 116th Precinct is, without question, an insult to the Southeast Queens community and demonstrates a total disregard for the efforts of the community leaders, clergy and elected officials, particularly Congressman Gregory Meeks, whose office worked tirelessly with the NYPD 105 Command to win approval for the Precinct. Your decision does not reflect any effort on your part to consult with the residents, leaders and organized groups in our community who would be most directly affected and who have been working so closely with the NYPD 105th Precinct and Command over the last 50 years.


We have heard the cries to defund the police, a concept that has different meanings to many. However, we do not believe that those cries for defunding call for the blanket removal of money and critical police resources in the absence of community-specific considerations. Now, more than ever, the NYPD is being called upon to build bridges between the Police and the communities they serve. Accomplishing that will require significant, thoughtful reform of police methods, training and hiring qualifications, and a clear and strict policy of prohibiting and reporting the excessive use of force against black and brown people, and sometimes even against peaceful protesters.


Our community is well aware that not all police are responsible for the use of excessive force. We acknowledge that an ethical, well-trained, community-oriented police force is essential to our quality of life, and we have never suggested otherwise. Since the COVID pandemic, we are very concerned about some of the trends that we are seeing in our community and in New York City in general. NYPD shooting statistics show an increase of 81% over last year, including the shooting death of a one-year old child. Court cases are backlogged. At the same time, NYPD Police Officers

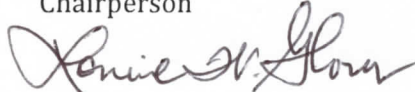
are seeking retirement in record numbers and there have been no additional NYPD Officers graduating from the NYC Police Academy. Officers remaining on the job maintain that they are strained to fulfill the day-to-day assignments as required. All of this suggests that this is the time to reimagine, refuel and retrain our police force. Our community wants, deserves, but most importantly, we need a 116th Precinct. In summary, we demand the restoration of the funding that will permit us to move forward on this important, essential initiative.


Sincerely,



Barbara E Brown,
Chairperson

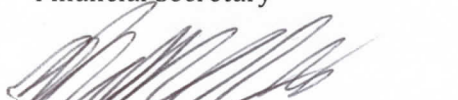

Gloria Boyce-Charles
Vice Chairperson



Patrick L. Evans,
Treasurer


Lonnie W. Glover,
Financial Secretary



Michael Scotland
Corresponding Secretary



Louis Kilkenny
Recording Secretary



Michael Scotland, President
Addisleigh Park Civic Association Inc.

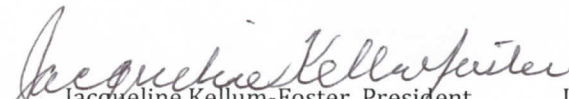

Robert Glover, President
Federated Blocks of Laurelton

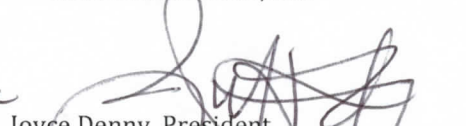

Emmlynn L. Taylor, President
Rosedale Civic Association, Inc.


Lonnie Glover, President
Spring-Gar Civic Association, Inc


Barbara E. Brown, President
Springfield/Rosedale Community
Action Association, Inc.


Cynthia Curtin, President
Wayanda Civic Association, Inc.


Jacqueline Kellum-Foster, President
Springfield Gardens Taxpayers
and Citizens Association, Inc.


Joyce Denny, President
United Neighbors Civic Association, Inc.

CC: Congressman Gregory W. Meeks
NYC Council Speaker Corey Johnson
NYC Council Member Adrienne Adams
NYC Council Member I-Daneek Miller
NYC Council Member Donovan Richards
Assembly Member Alicia Hyndman
Assembly Member Clyde Vanel
State Senator Leroy Comrie
State Senator James Sanders
Queens Borough President Lee
NYPD 116 Precinct Task Force
NYPD Commissioner Dermot Shea
NYPD PBQS Commander, Assistant Chief Ruben Beltran
NYPD 105 Precinct Commander, Inspector Neties Gilbert
Community Board 13 Chairperson



116th Precinct Community Task Force

July 20, 2020

Mayor Bill de Blasio City Hall
New York, NY 10007
Re: 116th Police Precinct

Dear Mayor de Blasio:

The Board of Directors of Glen Oaks Village Co-op are in agreement with the 116th Precinct Community Task Force conclusion that on June 30, 2020, you broke your promise to Northeast and Southeast Queens when you took \$92 million in funding away for the construction of the 116th Police Precinct. WE WANT IT BACK!

Glen Oaks Village is the largest garden apt co-op in New York with 10,000 residents and we work closely with the 105th Precinct to bring NYPD resources into our community. The 40-year battle to split the 105th Precinct which runs from North Shore Towers in the north to JFK in the south ended two years ago when all of NYC's elected officials including you, agreed for the need to split the precinct and provide funding for it.

Diverting the funding allocated in the Fiscal Year 2019 budget for the 116th Precinct is a direct assault on all the communities of Community Board 13 which bonded together and have worked tirelessly since the early 1970's on a mutually beneficial and essential mission to improve the quality of life for residents in both Northeast and Southeast Queens. This action by you is egregious and voters who have put their heart and soul into fighting this battle will NOT REMAIN SILENT. The City's inadequate investment in the public safety of the neighborhoods in Community Board 13 is real and palatable. With the creation of the 116th Precinct, Northeast Queens will get the level of service it deserves from the 105th Precinct; and Rosedale, Brookville, Laurelton, Springfield Gardens and the southern portion of Cambria Heights will finally get consistent and high-quality effective policing from the new precinct.

Mayor de Blasio, do not be mistaken. We are steadfast and united in our mission to see you follow through on your promise and restore the \$92 million investment needed to finish the process of construction for the new 116th Precinct. We are awaiting a satisfactory response from you as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Bob Friedrich, President
Glen Oaks Village Co-op

QUEENS COLONY CIVIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

P.O. BOX 20371

FLORAL PARK, NEW YORK 11002-0371

August 24, 2020

Mayor Bill DeBlasio
City Hall
New York, NY 10007

Re: 116th Police Precinct

Dear Mayor DeBlasio:

On June 20, 2020 you broke your promise to the communities and residents of Northeast and Southeast Queens when you took the \$92 million in capital funding away for the construction of the 116th Police Precinct. **OUR UNITED COMMUNITIES WANT IT BACK!!!**

Diverting the funding allocated in the Fiscal Year 2019 budget for the 116th Precinct represents a direct assault on all the communities within Queens Community Board 13. All our communities bonded together and worked tirelessly in unity since the early 1970s on this mutually beneficial endeavor essential to the quality of life for residents in both Northeast and Southeast Queens. These very same people thrice voted you into office – two times as our mayor. These same communities put their trust in you and expected you to honor and follow through on your commitment. For several decades Community 13Q advocated the 116th Precinct to correct the gross deficiency imposed by coterminality; previously three precincts covered parts of District 13; since that time one precinct and response times to crimes in progress escalated. To date, the city created new precincts in Upper Manhattan and Staten Island serving communities who endured less lengthy response times that our united communities continue to suffer.

The 116th Precinct would ensure high quality and effective policing for the neighborhoods of Rosedale, Brookville, Laurelton, Springfield Gardens and Cambria Heights.

From the beginning, our objective has always been about quality of life and equity. All essential preparations are complete, and resident-voters have seen the architectural designs and building plans for the multi-functional “Community Space” for intergenerational use.

This is not about one community fighting with another about something it did not get. This is about what taking from our communities without the consideration of the damage would cause. Consequently, we demand that you follow through on you promise to finish the construction of the new 116th Precinct.

We await a satisfactory response from your as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Angela Augugliaro

Angela Augugliaro
Interim President
Queens Colony Civic Association, Inc.

QUEENS VILLAGE CIVIC ASSOCIATION

P.O Box 0766 Queens Village N.Y. 11428-0766

Web Address: <http://www.qvca.org>

We Don't Complain About Problems – We Work On Solutions

August 11, 2020

Mayor Bill de Blasio
City Hall
New York, NY 10007

Re: 116th Police Precinct

Dear Mayor de Blasio: (bdeblasio@cityhall.nyc.gov also copy ewolfe@cityhall.nyc.gov)

On June 30, 2020, you broke your promise to the communities and residents of Northeast and Southeast Queens when you took \$92 million in capital funding away for the construction of the 116th Police Precinct. OUR UNITED COMMUNITIES WANT IT BACK.

Diverting the funding allocated in the Fiscal Year 2019 budget for the 116th Precinct represents a direct assault on the residents and institutions in Queens Community Board 13. This is a slap in the face to our communities who have worked tirelessly in unity since the early 1970's on this endeavor which is essential to the quality of life for residents in both Northeast and Southeast Queens.

For decades Community 13Q advocated for the 116th Precinct to correct the gross deficiency of having one precinct (the 105th Precinct) patrol an area that was previously covered by three (precincts). It is, therefore, no surprise that response times to crimes in progress in our communities immediately escalated. Even more infuriating is that to date the city has created two new precincts one in Upper Manhattan and the other in Staten Island serving communities who endured less lengthy response times.

Despite the long and hard-fought battle to get the 116th Precinct, our primary goal was never about building a new police station for the sake of having another instrument to enforce stringent controls in our neighborhoods. From the beginning, our objective has always been about quality of life and equity. Furthermore, this is also not about one community fighting with another about something it did not get. This is about you taking something vital from the communities of Northeast and Southeast Queens without the consideration of the damage it would cause.

The 116th Precinct will ensure high quality and effective policing for the neighborhoods of Rosedale, Brookville, Laurelton, Springfield Gardens and (the southern portion of) Cambria Heights. All essential preparations are complete, and residents and voters have seen the architectural designs and building plans for the multi-functional "Community Space" for intergenerational use.

We thrice voted you into office – two times as our mayor, and we put our trust in you. Consequently, we demand that you follow through on your promise to our communities and our

residents and restore the \$92 million investment to finish the construction of the new 116th Precinct. We await a satisfactory response from you as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Mo Ishmael

Mohamood Ishmael
President

cc:

Dean Fuleihan: dfuleihan@cityhall.nyc.gov, copy also FRigertink@cityhall.nyc.gov

Sharon Lee, Queens Borough President: info@queensbp.org, SLEE@queensbp.org

Gregory Meeks, US House of Representative Member: gwmny06@gmail.com

Corey Johnson, Speaker NYC Council: SpeakerJohnson@council.nyc.gov

Donovan Richards NYC Council Member: drichards@council.nyc.gov

Barry Grodenchik, NYC Council Member : BGrodenchik@council.nyc.gov copy
also: agershman@council.nyc.gov

I. Daneek Miller, NYC Council Member: daneek7@hotmail.com, IDMiller@council.nyc.gov copy
also: ARasoulinejad@council.nyc.gov

Adrienne Adams, NYC Council Member: Adams@council.nyc.gov

Alicia Hyndman, NYS Assembly Member: hyndmana@nyassembly.gov

Clyde Vanel, NYS Assembly Member: vanelc@nyassembly.gov

James Sanders, NYS Senate Member: sanders@nysenate.gov

John C. Liu, NYS Senate Member: liu@nysenate.gov, john@johnliusenate.com copy
also: akshar@johnliusenate.com

Leroy Comrie, NYS Senate Member: comrie@nysenate.gov copy also: ddavis@nysenate.gov
Community Board 13 Queens: aaugugliaro@qcb13.org , mmcmillan@qcb13.org

Rocky Hill Civic Association, Inc.

82-38 235th St. Bellerose Manor, N.Y. 11427
Serving the Community for over Ninety Years

President
Suzanne Peritz

August 6, 2020

Vice President
Frank Toner

Mayor Bill de Blasio
City Hall
New York, NY 10007

Treasurer
Bridget Indar

Sergeant at Arms
William Schmidt

Re: 116th Police Precinct

Dear Mayor de Blasio:

Executive Board

Joseph Cohen
Ranpali Fernando
Deneille Loprete
Patricia Morales
Michael Paparo
Joaquin Pradas
Manite Vilmeney

On June 30, 2020, you broke your promise to the communities and residents of Northeast and Southeast Queens when you took \$92 million in capital funding away for the construction of the 116th Police Precinct. **OUR UNITED COMMUNITIES WANT IT BACK.**

Diverting the funding allocated in the Fiscal Year 2019 budget for the 116th Precinct represents a direct assault on the residents and institutions in Queens Community Board 13. This is a slap in the face to our communities who have worked tirelessly in unity since the early 1970's on this endeavor which is essential to the quality of life for residents in both Northeast and Southeast Queens.

For decades Community 13Q advocated for the 116th Precinct to correct the gross deficiency of having one precinct (the 105th Precinct) patrol an area that was previously covered by three (precincts). It is, therefore, no surprise that response times to crimes in progress in our communities immediately escalated. Even more infuriating is that to date the city has created two new precincts one in Upper Manhattan and the other in Staten Island serving communities who endured less lengthy response times.

Despite the long and hard-fought battle to get the 116th Precinct, our primary goal was never about building a new police station for the sake of having another instrument to enforce stringent controls in our neighborhoods. From the beginning, our objective has always been about quality of life and equity. Furthermore, this is also not about one community fighting with another about something it did not get. This is about you taking something vital from the communities of Northeast and Southeast Queens without the consideration of the damage it would cause.

The 116th Precinct will ensure high quality and effective policing for the neighborhoods of Rosedale, Brookville, Laurelton, Springfield Gardens and (the southern portion of) Cambria Heights. This would also improve the quality of policing in the 105th Precinct, which will continue to cover Northeast Queens. All essential preparations are complete and residents and voters have seen the architectural designs and building plans for the multi-functional “Community Space” for intergenerational use.

We thrice voted you into office – two times as our mayor, and we put our trust in you. Consequently, we demand that you follow through on your promise to our communities and our residents and restore the \$92 million investment to finish the construction of the new 116th Precinct. We await a satisfactory response from you as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Peritz
Rocky Hill Civic Association

Rosedale Civic Association, Inc.

Covering the community of Rosedale



P.O. BOX 220116 • ROSEDALE, NEW YORK 11422 | [facebook.com/RCA1946/](https://www.facebook.com/RCA1946/)

August 21, 2020

Mayor Bill de Blasio
City Hall
New York, NY 10007

Re: 116th Police Precinct

Dear Mayor de Blasio:

On June 30, 2020, you broke your promise to the communities and residents of Northeast and Southeast Queens when you took \$92 million in capital funding away for the construction of the 116th Police Precinct. **OUR UNITED COMMUNITIES WANT IT BACK.**

Diverting the funding allocated in the Fiscal Year 2019 budget for the 116th Precinct represents a direct assault on the residents and institutions in Queens Community Board 13. This is a slap in the face to our communities who have worked tirelessly in unity since the early 1970's on this endeavor which is essential to the quality of life for residents in both Northeast and Southeast Queens.

For decades Community 13Q advocated for the 116th Precinct to correct the gross deficiency of having one precinct (the 105th Precinct) patrol an area that was previously covered by three (precincts). It is, therefore, no surprise that response times to crimes in progress in our communities immediately escalated. Even more infuriating is that to date the city has created two new precincts one in Upper Manhattan and the other in Staten Island serving communities who endured less lengthy response times.

Despite the long and hard-fought battle to get the 116th Precinct, our primary goal was never about building a new police station for the sake of having another instrument to enforce stringent controls in our neighborhoods. From the beginning, our objective has always been about quality of life and equity. Furthermore, this is also not about one community fighting with another about something it did not get. This is about you taking something vital from the communities of Northeast and Southeast Queens without the consideration of the damage it would cause.

The 116th Precinct will ensure high quality and effective policing for the neighborhoods of Rosedale, Brookville, Laurelton, Springfield Gardens and (the southern portion of) Cambria Heights. All essential preparations are complete, and resident and voters have seen the architectural designs and building plans for the multi-functional "Community Space" for intergenerational use.

(Page 1)

Since 1946, the Rosedale Civic Association, Inc. has maintained its mission to preserve and enhance the quality of life in Rosedale and Southeastern Queens, and your continued support is vital to our community's growth, safety and happiness.

Rosedale Civic Association, Inc.

Covering the community of Rosedale



P.O. BOX 220116 • ROSEDALE, NEW YORK 11422 | facebook.com/RCA1946/

We thrice voted you into office – two times as our mayor, and we put our trust in you. Consequently, we demand that you follow through on your promise to our communities and our residents and restore the \$92 million investment to finish the construction of the new 116th Precinct. We await a satisfactory response from you as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Emmalynn Taylor".

Emmalynn Taylor
President & Board Chair
Rosedale Civic Association, Inc.

Cc: Dean Fuleihan, First Deputy Mayor
Gregory Meeks, U.S. Representative, New York 5th District
Sharon Lee, New York City Acting Queens Borough President
Corey Johnson, New York City Council Speaker
Alicia Hyndman, New York State Assembly Member, 29th District
James Sanders, Jr., New York State Senator, 10th District
Leroy Comrie, New York State Senator, 14th District
Community Board 13 Queens

Royal Ranch Civic Association
69-11 261st Street
Floral Park, NY 11004
royalranchcivicasociation@yahoo.com

August 7th, 2020

Mayor Bill de Blasio
City Hall
New York, NY 10007

Re: 116th Police Precinct

Dear Mayor de Blasio:

On June 30, 2020, you broke your promise to the communities and residents of Northeast and Southeast Queens when you took \$92 million in capital funding away for the construction of the 116th Police Precinct. **OUR UNITED COMMUNITIES WANT IT BACK.**

Diverting the funding allocated in the Fiscal Year 2019 budget for the 116th Precinct represents a significant disservice on the residents and institutions in Queens Community Board 13. Our communities have worked tirelessly in unity since the early 1970's on this endeavor which is essential to the quality of life for residents in both Northeast and Southeast Queens.

For decades Community 13Q advocated for the 116th Precinct to correct the gross deficiency of having one precinct (the 105th Precinct) patrol an area that was previously covered by three (precincts). It is, therefore, no surprise that response times to crimes in progress in our communities immediately escalated. Even more infuriating is that to date the city has created two new precincts one in Upper Manhattan and the other in Staten Island serving communities who endured less lengthy response times.

Despite the long and hard-fought battle to get the 116th Precinct, our primary goal was never about building a new police station for the sake of having another instrument to enforce stringent controls in our neighborhoods. From the beginning, our objective has always been about quality of life and equity. Furthermore, this is also not about one community fighting with another about something it did not get. This is about you taking something vital from the communities of Northeast and Southeast Queens without the consideration of the damage it would cause.

The 116th Precinct will ensure high quality and effective policing for the neighborhoods of Rosedale, Brookville, Laurelton, Springfield Gardens and (the southern portion of) Cambria Heights. All essential preparations are complete, and resident and voters have seen the architectural designs and building plans for the multi-functional “Community Space” for intergenerational use.

We thrice voted you into office – two times as our mayor, and we put our trust in you. Consequently, we demand that you follow through on your promise to our communities and our residents and restore the \$92 million investment to finish the construction of the new 116th Precinct. We await a satisfactory response from you as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rhonda Kontner".

Rhonda Kontner, President
Royal Ranch Civic Association, Floral Park, NY

Spring-Gar Community Civic Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 300283
Jamaica, New York 11430-0283

August 8, 2020

Mayor Bill de Blasio
City Hall
New York, NY 10007

Dear Mayor de Blasio,

The Spring-Gar Community Civic Association having been advised of your decision to remove the NYPD 116 Precinct from the Fiscal 2021 budget, can only receive this as a **“Slap in the Faces”** of community leaders, clergy and elected officials in Queens. Not only have you removed the nearly 90 Million dollars from the NYPD 116 Precinct budget, but reassigned that money for a recreational center within Roy Wilkens Park. The communities within the 105 Precinct were looking forward to a recreational or community center, residing within the confines of the 116 Precinct.

Community leaders, clergy, elected officials and the NYPD 105 Precinct Commanders, have worked for decades to establish the 116 Precinct. Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly outlined the need to reduce the geographical boundary of the NYPD 105 Precinct during his first administration under Mayors David Dinkins and Rudy Giuliani. He stated then that the area covered by the 105 Precinct, is the third largest in the City of New York. Covered on the North from Grand Central Pkwy, East to the Nassau County line and South adjacent to JFK Airport.

We agree with the right of protestors to demonstrate against Police Officers using excessive force, causing the death of Blacks. However, how and where money is taken away from NYPD Officers, should not be applied just to satisfy protestors demands. The protections of our City should always be the primary concern. We the community will not stand by to see the entire NYPD Police Department punished for the actions of a few within their ranks. Those few need to be identified and removed from the department.

Currently, NYPD Officers are dealing with assignments and responsibilities related during this COVID pandemic. Stress and health issues have an impact on them as well as their families. Reports indicate there are record numbers of Officers retiring, with no increase to the NYPD force forthcoming, as hiring has ceased due to the COVID-19 pandemic since March. Shootings in the City of New York have increased 81%, with an innocent 1 year old child becoming a victim. OATH, (Courts) caseload is also backlogged since March, with criminal offenders still walking our streets committing crimes.

New York State has done an extremely effective job on controlling the spread of COVID-19, having been the Worlds epicenter on the virus. We also need to be as effective and SMART on the control of our Law Enforcement decisions. Donald Trump is clearly waiting on the sidelines for any excuse to deploy Federal Law Enforcement troops to the City of New York.

Let us **NOT** give Donald Trump a reason to police our City, but **DO** give more respect to community leaders who help minimize crime within the 105 Precinct. We will continue to work to **build bridges between community and police. We need the NYPD 116 Precinct approved and funding reinstated.**

Respectfully submitted,

Lonnie W. Glover, Spring-Gar President

cc: NYPD 116 Precinct Task Force
NYPD Commissioner Dermot Shea
NYPD Community Affairs Chief Jeffrey Maddrey
NYPD PBQS Commander Assistant Chief Ruben Beltran
NYPD 105 Commander Inspector Neteis Gilbert
Congressman Gregory W. Meeks
NYC Council Speaker Corey Johnson
NYC Council Chair of Public Safety, Donovan Richards
Spring-Gar Comm. Civic File



***SPRINGFIELD/ROSEDALE
COMMUNITY ACTION ASSOCIATION, INC.***

Proudly serving the Brookville Community since 1989

P. O. Box 300165
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SRCAAINc@aol.com
(718) 525-4399

Barbara E. Brown
President

August 23, 2020

Crystal Brown
First Vice President

Mayor Bill de Blasio
City Hall
New York, NY 10007

Louis Kilkenny
Second Vice President

Re: 116th Police Precinct

Valencia Butler
Treasurer

Dear Mayor de Blasio,

Jessie Herriott
Financial Secretary

The Springfield/Rosedale Community Action Association, Inc. (SRCAAINc.) is outraged by your decision on June 30, 2020, to withdraw funding for the construction of the 116th police precinct in Southeast Queens. We implore you to reverse your decision and permit the construction of the precinct as promised.

Gloria Boyce-Charles
Recording Secretary

Mr. Mayor, you are well aware of the facts. The 105 precinct covers one of the largest geographic areas in New York City, resulting in response times that have historically been the worst in the city. For over 50 years residents of both Northeast and Southeast Queens have been united in our efforts to establish a new precinct in Southeast Queens.

Kendra Hardy
Corresponding Secretary

We were overjoyed in April 2018 when you committed \$92 million in your executive budget for the construction of the 116th precinct, knowing that the precinct would improve the quality and overall effectiveness of neighborhood policing.

Greta I. Salsbury
Parliamentarian

Economists and criminologists alike agree that crime spikes when the economy plummets and unemployment rates rise, a situation that New York City is already experiencing. With the looming reality of increased crime, the public safety of both Northeast and Southeast Queens will be in jeopardy in the absence of the new precinct. By not honoring your commitment Mr. Mayor, the blood will be on your hands.

Members-at-Large

Pamela Miller
Calvin Morgan
Serge Rigaud
Felipe Ruiz
Kimberly Wallace

Mr. Mayor, now is not the time to cave to political pressure or expediency. Now is the time for bold leadership. Now is the time to honor your promise to the people of Southeast Queens who overwhelmingly supported you in your last election, based partly on your commitment to build the precinct.

The SRCAA Inc. demands you restore the funding needed to construct the new 116th precinct!

Sincerely,

Barbara E. Brown,
President

CC. Office of the Mayor: E. Wolfe, dfuleihan, frigertink@cityhall.nyc.gov
Congressman Meeks, Speaker Johnson, Councilmembers Adrienne Adams, Donovan Richards, I. D. Miller, Barry Grodenchik, Assembly Member C. Vanel, State Senators Leroy Comrie, John Liu, James Sanders, Borough President Sharon Lee, Community Board 13, Inspector NGilbert



UNITED NEIGHBORS CIVIC ASSOCIATION *of Jamaica, Inc.*

Proudly Serving the Baisley Park and Springfield Gardens Areas Since 1954

P.O. Box 341246 | Jamaica, NY 11434 | Ph: (718) 775-8661

Email: unca.org@gmail.com

Mayor Bill de Blasio
City Hall
New York, NY 10007

Re: 116th Police Precinct

Dear Mayor de Blasio:

On June 30, 2020, you broke your promise to the communities and residents of Northeast and Southeast Queens when you took \$92 million in capital funding away for the construction of the 116th Police Precinct. **OUR UNITED COMMUNITIES WANT IT BACK.**

Diverting the funding allocated in the Fiscal Year 2019 budget for the 116th Precinct represents a direct assault on the residents and institutions in Queens Community Board 13. This is a slap in the face to our communities who have worked tirelessly in unity since the early 1970's on this endeavor which is essential to the quality of life for residents in both Northeast and Southeast Queens.

For decades Community 13Q advocated for the 116th Precinct to correct the gross deficiency of having one precinct (the 105th Precinct) patrol an area that was previously covered by three (precincts). It is, therefore, no surprise that response times to crimes in progress in our communities immediately escalated. Even more infuriating is that to date the city has created two new precincts one in Upper Manhattan and the other in Staten Island serving communities who endured less lengthy response times.

Despite the long and hard-fought battle to get the 116th Precinct, our primary goal was never about building a new police station for the sake of having another instrument to enforce stringent controls in our neighborhoods. From the beginning, our objective has always been about quality of life and equity. Furthermore, this is also not about one community fighting with another about something it did not get. This is about you taking something vital from the communities of Northeast and Southeast Queens without the consideration of the damage it would cause.

The 116th Precinct will ensure high quality and effective policing for the neighborhoods of Rosedale, Brookville, Laurelton, Springfield Gardens and (the southern portion of) Cambria Heights. All essential preparations are complete, and resident and voters have seen the architectural designs and building plans for the multi-functional "Community Space" for intergenerational use.

We thrice voted you into office – two times as our mayor, and we put our trust in you. Consequently, we demand that you follow through on your promise to our communities and our residents and restore the \$92 million investment to finish the construction of the new 116th Precinct. We await a satisfactory response from you as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Civic President: Joyce Denny

Civic Name: United Neighbors Civic Association of Jamaica, Inc.

Cc: Dean Fuleihan
FRigertink@cityhall.nyc.gov
Sharon Lee
Gregory Meeks
Corey Johnson
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The History Behind the Creation of the 116th Precinct

“Thanks to the tireless efforts of the NYPD, New York City is the safest big city in America. Every New York City neighborhood deserves the same quality of service and safety we’ve come to expect from the NYPD. That is why we are making unprecedented investments in establishing high-quality precincts. The future 116th Precinct will help reduce current response times in Southeast Queens and expand coverage throughout the community.”

- Mayor Bill de Blasio (July 17, 2017)

“We're going to keep working on response times. And this is something I think will happen at some point in the future, with the 116th Precinct, but right now it was right to reallocate those resources to a community center, the Roy Wilkins Center, and to really focus on young people.”

- Mayor Bill de Blasio (July 1, 2020)

The Facts

- The 105th Precinct is the fifth largest in the City, covering 12.43 square miles and 354 miles of roadway in South East Queens.
- The 105th Precinct average emergency response time is approximately 9 minutes while the citywide average is approximately 7 minutes.
- In 2019, the 105th Precinct had the highest number of 911 calls for Emotionally Disturbed Persons out of any precinct in the borough.

Background:

Our journey began in the early 1970’s when crime and drug activity were major concerns in South East Queens. Recognizing that something had to be done, the late Mayor Edward Koch reached out to the community and took the first big step and committed to building a new precinct in South East Queens. The City did give a name to the future precinct – the 116th Police Precinct, but nothing more was done. Despite this disappointment, in the years that followed, the new 116th Precinct initiative continued to gain momentum as chronicled below.

- In 1983, Queens Community Board 13 identified the formation of the 116th Precinct its number one priority, and it remained in the top spot until April 2016 when you approved the funding for it.

- In 2007, the 116th Precinct Task Force (“the Task Force”) was created uniting North and South East Queens civics, community leaders and residents who had previously campaigned independently for this initiative. As a result of this partnership, the Task Force engaged and garnered the support of block associations, schools, business owners and elected officials. It also launched a petition campaign collecting thousands of signatures which further demonstrated the need and overwhelming support for the 116th Precinct. The demand for a dedicated precinct to cover Springfield Gardens, Brookville, Rosedale, Laurelton and the southern part of Cambria Heights is to finally get adequate response time to emergencies and to improve overall public safety. These are long-standing issues which preceded the formation of Community Board 13 and the related configuration of its jurisdiction. This situation, by the way, was actually worsened with the territorial shape of the 105th Precinct from the Nassau County border in North East Queens of Glen Oaks, Bellerose, North Queens Village (continuing into Cambria Heights), the South-Eastern Queens communities of Laurelton, Brookville and Rosedale up to the uttermost southern section on Rockaway Parkway at “Five Towns Mall” of which 80% is in Rosedale.
- In March 2016, then Queens Borough President Melinda Katz included the creation of the 116th Precinct in the Queens Borough Board Expense and Capital Priorities Fiscal Year 2016 Preliminary Budget.
- In April 2016, Mayor Bill de Blasio confirmed that the City would create a new 116th Precinct and committed \$70 million in the Capital plan for it.
- In July 2017, Mayor Bill de Blasio announced the location for the new 116th Police Precinct would be in Rosedale on North Conduit Avenue to cover Rosedale, Brookville, Laurelton and eastern part of Springfield Gardens.
- In April 2018, Mayor Bill de Blasio secured \$92 million in the executive budget for the construction of the new 116th Precinct.
- In October 2018, the Queens Community Board 13 unanimously approves de-mapping of North Conduit Avenue in Rosedale for the construction of the 116th Precinct.
- In September 2019, Councilman Donovan Richards announced that the tentative date for the groundbreaking ceremony for the new 116th Precinct could be in December (2019).

How the new 116th Precinct serves to EMPOWER Southeast Queens

As the vehicle to connect law enforcement and the community in an entirely new and progressive way, once in operation, the 116th Precinct will immediately:

- **relieve** pressure on the 105th Precinct which since inception has had to cover one of the largest geographic areas in New York City with the Cross Island Parkway as the sole major route connecting the northern and southern portions of the precinct;
- **enhance** public safety in both the North and South East Queens communities;
- **improve** the quality and overall effectiveness of neighborhood policing; and
- **reduce** response times that have historically been the worst in the City.

How stealing the funds represents a DISINVESTMENT in the very communities so-called reform advocates seek to support

Taking this \$92 million **investment** in Community Board 13 and re-allocating these funds outside the district ill-serves the needs of the southeast Queens neighborhoods the 116th Precinct would empower. Re-allocating funds outside [Roy Wilkins Park already has sports, arts and recreational programs based in a fully operational multipurpose building to serve its neighborhoods.]. The new building included a community center. **The new 116th Precinct includes planning for services** for our growing number of children, youth and young adults **via its multi-functional “Community Space”**. Instead, the residents of Community Board 13 get nothing – **NOT** the needed new Precinct and **NOT** a much-needed youth center it would include.

Sources:

<https://www.dattner.com/projects/view/116th-precinct-station-house/>

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<https://www.nydailynews.com/new-york/queens/city-unveils-location-new-nypd-precinct-queens-article-1.3333385>

<https://www1.nyc.gov/office-of-the-mayor/news/483-17/mayor-de-blasio-nypd-new-116th-precinct-stationhouse-aid-response-time-and#/0>

<https://qns.com/story/2018/10/26/construction-new-116th-precinct-southeast-queens-clears-another-hurdle-board-13-meeting/>

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