



January 28, 2014

Kathleen Grimm  
Deputy Chancellor  
New York City Department of Education  
Tweed Courthouse  
52 Chambers Street  
New York, NY 10007

Lorraine Grillo  
President  
New York City School Construction Authority  
30-30 Thomson Avenue  
Long Island City, NY 11101

Dear Deputy Chancellor Grimm and President Grillo:

We are writing to follow up on our letter dated November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2013 (see attached), regarding the Department of Education's (DOE) proposed Capital Plan for Fiscal Years 2015-2019 and the need for a public school at the Seward Park Urban Renewal Area (SPURA) site.

In its December 17<sup>th</sup> response to our letter, DOE acknowledges the need for a school in the SPURA site (see attached), writing that "we recognize that the existing capacity of schools in the area may not be able to accommodate the demand generated by the new housing planned at SPURA."

However, DOE's understanding of SPURA's construction timeline seems to be inaccurate. Based on construction plans presented by the City and the development team working on SPURA, hundreds of housing units, many of which will house families, are projected to begin construction in 2015 and be completed by 2018 – a date well within the current 2015-2019 Capital Plan.

It is concerning that DOE is basing its decision on a mistaken understanding of SPURA's timeline. Therefore, we request that DOE review the SPURA construction plans and amend the 2015-2019 Capital Plan and add a public school to the SPURA site.

Thank for your attention to this matter and we look forward to hearing from you on this issue. Should you have any questions, you may contact any of us or Senator Squadron directly at 212-298-5565.

Sincerely,



Daniel Squadron  
State Senator



Sheldon Silver  
Assembly Member



Gale A. Brewer  
Manhattan Borough President



Margaret Chin  
Council Member



Rosie Mendez  
Council Member