



July 15, 2025

Dear Brooklyn Marine Terminal Task Force Chair, Vice Chairs, and members:

As leaders of organizations with a deep interest in and commitment to the well-being of Brooklyn and New York City, we write to ask you to vote in favor of the New York City Economic Development Corporation's (NYCEDC) vision plan for the Brooklyn Marine Terminal. The plan responds to the priority needs of the community, the borough, and the city as a whole with respect to supporting development of new housing, preparing residents for the workplace of the future, and generating thousands of new living wage jobs. The recent primary elections demonstrated how strongly New Yorkers feel about the need to expand housing, educational and employment opportunities. The Brooklyn Marine Terminal plan is critical to addressing these needs and we urge you to allow it to move forward.

At the most basic level, the vision will bring enormous new jobs and investment to this dilapidated port. The scale of the opportunity is staggering: 37,000 construction jobs, 2,000 permanent operational jobs, and more than \$18 billion in economic impact over the coming decades. And the Brooklyn Marine Terminal will be the centerpiece of the city's Blue Highways – a sector which could grow by up to 8,000 new jobs across the five boroughs by 2035, according to a recent analysis by NYCEDC.

But the vision goes deeper than just big numbers. All City-funded construction at the Brooklyn Marine Terminal will be governed by what's called a Project Labor Agreement with organized labor, which besides ensuring good pay and benefits, also includes community hiring goals to maximize job opportunities for underrepresented groups, prioritizing residents from the Red Hook Houses nearby.

To complement these thousands of jobs, the vision includes a permanent, new physical space: a 15,000 square-foot, \$17 million experiential learning center at Pier 11. The plan also commits \$12 million to workforce development programming in the community to reconnect New York City youth to our living, working, urban waterfront; to train young adults in maritime, logistics, or construction industry skills; and to connect new workers to thousands of good-paying careers. There will even be dedicated maritime programs for NYCHA residents – the Red Hook Houses, Gowanus Houses, and Wyckoff Gardens – ranging from a maritime degree scholarship fund, to support in obtaining required federal credentials, to opportunities to shadow maritime workers.

These jobs and comprehensive workforce initiatives are just one part of a bigger, ambitious plan for the Brooklyn Marine Terminal – one that includes a modern, sustainable, electric port, much-needed affordable housing, and new transit options for what will be a thriving neighborhood buzzing with energy and opportunity.

For the generations of New Yorkers that will study, train, live, and work on the revived waterfront, NYCEDC's vision for the Brooklyn Marine Terminal merits your full support.

Sincerely,

Kathy Wylde, President and Chief Executive Officer, Partnership for New York City
Evelyn Ortiz, Co-Chief Executive Officer, Opportunities for a Better Tomorrow
Jako Douglas-Borren, Chief Program Officer, The HOPE Program
Aaron Shiffman, Executive Director, Brooklyn Workforce Innovations
Lisa Sorin, President, The New Bronx Chamber of Commerce
Laurice Arroyo, General Counsel, Chief Compliance and Litigation Officer, National Grid
Plinio Ayala, Chief Executive Officer, Per Scholas
Tom Grech, President & Chief Executive Officer, Queens Chamber of Commerce
Randy Peers, President & Chief Executive Officer, Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce
T.R. Ludwig, Chief Executive Officer, Brooklyn SolarWorks
Leah Rambo, President, Nontraditional Employment for Women (NEW)
Leslie Lambert, President, Brighter Opportunities Through Trade Foundation
Regina Myer, President, Downtown Brooklyn Partnership
Suri Dutich, President, Kingsborough Community College