Open Letter to Amazon **Chief Executive Jeff Bezos**

Dear Mr. Bezos:

New Yorkers do not want to give up on the 25,000 permanent jobs, 11,000 union construction and maintenance jobs, and \$28 billion in new tax revenues that Amazon was prepared to bring to our state. A clear majority of New Yorkers support this project and were disappointed by your decision not to proceed. We understand that becoming home to the world's industry leader in e-commerce, logistics and web services would be a tremendous boost for our state's technology industry, which is our fastest growing generator of new jobs. As representatives of a wide range of government, business, labor and community interests, we urge you to reconsider, so that we can move forward together.

We know the public debate that followed the announcement of the Long Island City project was rough and not very welcoming. Opinions are strong in New York—sometimes strident. We consider it part of the New York charm! But when we commit to a project as important as this, we figure out how to get it done in a way that works for everyone.

Governor Cuomo will take personal responsibility for the project's state approval and Mayor de Blasio will work together with the governor to manage the community development process, including the workforce development and infrastructure investments that are necessary to ensure that the Amazon campus will be a tremendous benefit to residents and small businesses in the surrounding communities.

New York attracts the best, most diverse talent from across the globe. We are a dynamic new center of the country's most inclusive tech economy. We all hope you reconsider and join us in building the exciting future of New York.

Sincerely,

Ajay Banga

Plinio Ayala President & CEO, Per Scholas, Inc.

President & CEO, Mastercard

President, Hunters Point Parks Conservancy

Eric Benaim CEO, ModernSpaces

Neil Blumenthal Co-Founder & Co-CEO, Warby Parker

Seth Bornstein Executive Director, Queens Economic Development Corporation

Josh Bowen Owner, John Brown Smokehouse

Charles Boyce President and CEO, Boyce Technologies, Inc. Gianna P. Cerbone

Owner & Chef, Manducatis Rustica VIG; President, Queens Council on the Arts and Board Member, LIC YMCA

Kenneth I. Chenault Chairman & Managing Director, General Catalyst **Partners**

Mark A. Christie President, Hunters Point Community Development Corporation

Mario Cilento President, NYS, AFL-CIO

Claudia Coger Tenant Association President, Astoria Houses

Chief Executive Officer, Citigroup Inc. Hon. David Dinkins Former Mayor, City of New York

Michael L. Corbat

Danny Donahue President, Civil Service **Employees Association**

Donna Drimer President, Matted LIC

Hazel Dukes President, NAACP New York State Conference

Catherine Engelbert Chief Executive Officer, Deloitte

Hector J. Figueroa President, 32BJ SEIU William E. Ford Chief Executive Officer, General Atlantic LLC

James P. Gorman Chairman & CEO, Morgan Stanley **Thomas Grech**

President & CEO, Queens Chamber of Commerce Rev. Dr. Johnnie Green Mount Neboh Baptist Church & President of MPAC

(Mobilizing Pastors & Communities) George Gresham

President, 1199 SEIU **Andrew Hamilton** President, New York

University **Christopher Hanway** Executive Director,

Jacob A. Riis Neighborhood Settlement **Robin Hayes** President & CEO,

JetBlue Airways Corporation Jukay Hsu Founder & CEO, Pursuit

Hon. Hakeem Jeffries Congressman, U.S. House of Representatives **Marion Jeffries**

President, NAACP Astoria/ LIC Branch Kristina Johnson Chancellor,

State University of New York Jelena Kovacevic Dean, Tandon School of Engineering, New York

University Gary LaBarbera President, Building & **Construction Trades Council** of Greater New York

Mary Beth Labate President, Commission on Independent Colleges and Universities

Kevin S. Law President & CEO, Long Island Association Joey Levin

Chief Executive Officer, IAC **Anthony Lopez** Executive Director, Zone 126 Elizabeth Lusskin President, Long Island City Partnership

Hon. Carolyn Maloney Congresswoman, U.S. House of Representative Rev. Corwin Mason Community Church of Astoria CAC

Felix Matos Rodriguez Chancellor Designee, The City University of New York

Bill McDermott Chief Executive Officer, SAP Hon. Gregory Meeks

Congressman, U.S. House of Representatives **Gail Mellow**

President, LaGuardia Community College **Marc Morial** Chief Executive Officer,

National Urban League **Anne Cotton Morris**

Woodside Houses Michael Mulgrew President, United Federation of Teachers

Deanna M. Mulligan President & CEO, The Guardian Life Insurance Company of America

Hon. Catherine Nolan Assemblywoman, New York State Assembly Jon Oringer

Founder & CEO, Shutterstock, Charles E. Phillips, Jr.

Chief Executive Officer, Infor **Rev. Gilbert Pickett**

Mount Horeb Baptist Church

President, Cornell University **Miriam Porto** Owner, Madera Cuban Grill & Steakhouse and R40

Martha Pollack

Congressman,

Frank "Turtle" Raffaele Founder, COFFEED Hon. Max Rose

Argentinian Restaurant

U.S. House of Representatives Steven Rubenstein Chairman, Association for a Better New York

Robert Rubin Former Secretary, U.S. Treasury

William C. Rudin Co-Chairman & CEO, Rudin Management Company, Inc.

Kevin P. Ryan Chairman & Founder, Zola, Workframe, Nomad Health, MongoDB, Inc.

Kris Schrey President, Long Island City

Parents Group

Carlo Scissura President & CEO,

New York Building Congress **April Simpson**

Tenant Association President, Queensbridge Houses David M. Solomon

Chairman & CEO, Goldman Sachs & Co. **Rob Speyer**

President & CEO, Tishman Speyer Douglas C. Steiner Chairman, Steiner Studios

Alan Suna Tenant Association President, Chief Executive Officer, Silvercup Studios

Steven R. Swartz

President & CEO, Hearst **Bishop Mitchell Taylor** Senior Pastor, Center of Hope

International & Co-Founder, Urban Upbound **Dennis Walcott** President & CEO,

Queens Library George H. Walker Chairman & CEO, Neuberger Berman Group LLC

Peter T. Ward President, New York Hotel

Trades Council Carol Wilkins Tenant Association President, Ravenswood Houses

Fred Wilson Managing Partner & Chairman, CSNYC; Co-Chair, Tech:NYC; & Partner, Union **Square Ventures**

Tom Wright President, Regional Plan Association

Kathryn S. Wylde President & CEO, Partnership for New York

Rev. Patrick Henry Young First Baptist Church of East Elmhurst CAC