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THE SENATE
STATE OF NEW YORK



DAVID STOROBIN
SENATOR, 27TH DISTRICT

June 28, 2012

Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg
City Hall
New York, NY 10007

Dear Mayor Bloomberg:

I am writing this letter to discuss the hundreds of residents of Sheepshead Bay who expressed their disappointment with the way the city handled the controversy surrounding the proposed Mosque/Community Center at 2812 Voorhies Avenue, Brooklyn NY, 11235.

Many neighborhood residents told me that they view this construction as a manipulation of zoning laws and building codes by the developer.

The proposed community facility will be able to accommodate up to 1,500 people a day, but not a single parking spot has been allocated for this construction. Many residents also believe that the traffic will negatively affect both drivers and pedestrians living in the area and this may pose a danger to public safety.

There have been multiple fines totaling nearly \$30,000 to date, as well as other serious violations. So far there are 29 complaints, 15 ECB violations, 1 DOB violation, and 1 OSHA violation, 2 full stop work orders. Despite this, construction was allowed to continue. DOB still denies the public access to building plans. Furthermore, online diagrams have not been updated since October 2011.

My office and I received dozens of phone calls from the neighborhood residents who are asking for help.

These residents have brought to city officials and government departments their many concerns, but the community feels their voices have not been heard.




The residents are also concerned with who is backing this construction, saying that there is evidence that MAS (Muslim American Society), the organization that is in charge of overlooking the project, has links to radical organizations, and been under numerous investigations by federal authorities due to their alleged support for Hamas and Hezbollah. Both are listed by the U.S. State Department as terrorist organizations.

After meeting with residents and seeing the proposed center in question, I would like the City of New York to answer the residents' concerns. I will follow up with your office for an update on what has been done to seriously address this issue.

Attached documents were presented to me for review. Enclosed please find the supporting documents.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this very important matter.

Truly Yours,


David Storobin
Senator Storobin