

Alida Camp
Chair

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**The City of New York
Manhattan Community Board 8**

February 26, 2018

Shola Olatoye
New York City Housing Authority, Chair
1 Centre Street, 19th Flr.
New York, NY 10007

RE: Disapproval of community center at Holmes Towers because of the loss of square feet to build affordable housing

Dear Chair Olatoye:

At the February 21, 2018 Community Board 8 Manhattan Full Board meeting, the board **approved** the following resolution by a vote of 29 in favor, 6 opposed, 0 abstention and 0 not voting for cause:

WHEREAS, our Community District 8 needs more affordable housing; and,

WHEREAS, all floor area available in the zoning lot of the Holmes Tower infill project needs to produce affordable housing; and,

WHEREAS, in the request for a proposal made by NYCHA there was never a request for a new community facility; and,

WHEREAS, there is an existing community center in the same zoning lot; and,

WHEREAS, in the northern section of the zoning lot there is a privately managed recreation center; and,

WHEREAS, one or both of them can easily redesign its function and become more useful for the community; and,

WHEREAS, the new community center is misusing 18,000 square feet; and,

WHEREAS, with 18,000 square feet we can create an additional 45 affordable studio apartments for our community; and,

WHEREAS, the soccer field will be required to have very high fences; and,

WHEREAS, the fences will require a variance application; and,

WHEREAS, for the 18,000 square feet we do not receive any affordable housing in return;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Community Board 8 disapproves this unnecessary community center because we are losing square feet to build affordable housing.

Please advise this office of any action taken regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

Alida Camp 

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Chair

Ed Hartzog 

Ed Hartzog
Chair, Housing Committee

cc: Honorable Bill de Blasio, Mayor of the City of New York
Honorable Carolyn Maloney, 14th Congressional District Representative
Honorable Liz Krueger, NYS Senator, 26th Senatorial District
Honorable Dan Quart, NYS Assembly Member, 73rd Assembly District
Honorable Rebecca Seawright, NYS Assembly Member 76th Assembly District
Honorable Ben Kallos, NYC Council Member, 5th Council District
Honorable Keith Powers, NYC Council Member, 4th Council District