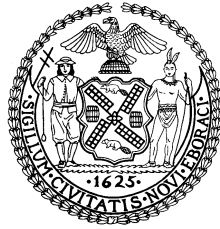


Alida Camp
Chair

Will Brightbill
District Manager



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The City of New York
Community Board 8 Manhattan

November 2, 2020

Linda A. Lacewell
Superintendent
NYS Dept. of Financial Services
1 State Street
New York, NY 10004

RE: Roosevelt Island

Dear Superintendent Lacewell:

Community Board 8 very recently learned that Amalgamated Bank has abandoned Roosevelt Island, leaving two ATMs that accept only withdrawals to fill the banking needs of the residential, business, and academic communities. There is currently no bank on Roosevelt Island.

We call on you to bring banking to Roosevelt Island immediately.

As you may know, many of the 11,661 (as of the 2010 Census) Roosevelt Island residents are elderly or disabled. In addition, many community members have not left the Island during the pandemic. To get to a bank requires driving or taking public transportation to Queens or Manhattan.

As the State's banking regulator, you are charged with ensuring that there are sufficient banks for communities. Amalgamated's abandonment, with no alternative for those that enjoyed its services, leaves the Roosevelt Island community with a banking deficit. Although online banking and direct deposit may be used by some, there are many, many others who do not use those alternatives for all or even any of their banking needs.

Community Board 8, as one of the representatives of Roosevelt Island, asks that you immediately cause a bank to locate on Roosevelt Island, or at the very least, provide banking services at no cost to Roosevelt Island constituents.

Please advise our office of any action taken on this matter.

Sincerely,

Alida Camp

Alida Camp
Chair

cc: Honorable Bill de Blasio, Mayor of the City of New York
Honorable Carolyn Maloney, 12th Congressional District Representative
Honorable Gale Brewer, Manhattan Borough President
Honorable Liz Krueger, NYS Senator, 28th Senatorial District
Honorable Jose M. Serrano, NYS Senator, 29th Senatorial District
Honorable Dan Quart, NYS Assembly Member, 73rd Assembly District
Honorable Rebecca Seawright, NYS Assembly Member 76th Assembly District
Honorable Robert Rodriguez, NYS Assembly Member, 68th Assembly District
Honorable Ben Kallos, NYC Council Member, 5th Council District
Honorable Keith Powers, NYC Council Member, 4th Council District