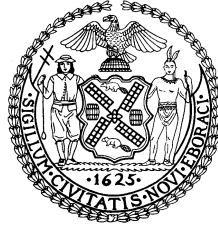


Alida Camp
Chair

Will Brightbill
District Manager



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

October 30, 2020

Andrew Cuomo
Governor
New York State
New York State Capitol
Albany, NY 12224

Shelton J. Haynes
Acting President and CEO
Roosevelt Island Operating Corporation
591 Main Street
Roosevelt Island, NY, 10044

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

RE: Roosevelt Island

Dear Governor Cuomo, Acting President Haynes, and Superintendent Lacewell:

At the Full Board meeting of Community Board 8 Manhattan held on October 21, 2020, the board unanimously approved the following resolution by a vote of 43 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions, and 0 not voting for cause:

WHEREAS Roosevelt Island has more than 11,000 residents (as of the 2010 census), small businesses, including shops and restaurants, and is the home to Cornell Tech;

WHEREAS Roosevelt Island is a Banking Development District;

WHEREAS Amalgamated Bank was the only bank branch on Roosevelt Island;

WHEREAS in September 2020, Amalgamated Bank abandoned Roosevelt Island by closing the only bank on Roosevelt Island;

WHEREAS Roosevelt Island has two ATMs, both of which handle withdrawals only, leaving the residents, businesses, and students, faculty and administration of Cornell Tech ("Roosevelt Islanders") without a place or mechanism to make deposits, ask questions, apply for loans, open Certificates of Deposits or money-market or other savings or checking accounts or perform other banking business;

WHEREAS New York City, like the rest of the country, is in a pandemic;

WHEREAS if any Roosevelt Islanders would like or need to make a deposit or perform bank-related tasks other than withdrawals, they need to travel to Queens or Manhattan by car or public transportation;

WHEREAS Roosevelt Island is home to many elderly and disabled residents;

WHEREAS travel to Queens or Manhattan to bank is difficult, at best, and impossible at worst, for elderly and disabled Roosevelt Islanders and Roosevelt Islanders who have been sheltering-in-place to avoid the pandemic;

WHEREAS banking is a necessity;

WHEREAS Amalgamated Bank's abandonment, leaves Roosevelt Island as a banking desert;

THEREFORE, be it resolved that CB8 calls on our elected officials and government agencies to reestablish full service banking services on Roosevelt Island and to provide access to such services to Roosevelt Island residents until such services are reestablished on Roosevelt Island.

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