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

October 29, 2024

Honorable Adrienne E. Adams  
Speaker of the New York City Council  
City Hall  
New York, NY 10007

**RE: City Council Resolution 0132 regarding Governance and Democracy on Roosevelt Island**

Dear Speaker Adams,

At the Full Board meeting of Community Board 8 Manhattan held on October 23, 2024, the board unanimously approved the following resolution with a vote of 37 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions, and 0 not voting for cause.

**WHEREAS** the Roosevelt Island Operating Corporation (“RIOC”) is a New York State public-benefit corporation whose function is to plan, design, develop, operate, and maintain Roosevelt Island; and

**WHEREAS** the board of RIOC is made up of 9 members, all appointed by the State of New York, seven being residents of the island and two being employees of NY State; and

**WHEREAS** approximately 12,000 people live on Roosevelt Island; and

**WHEREAS** almost 1,100 residents of Roosevelt Island have signed the following petition:

“We are asking for all RIOC Board members to be directly elected by residents of Roosevelt Island. We have had too many years of lackadaisical and ineffective management at RIOC. We need better oversight of RIOC.

The current administration is not functioning. The most senior members of RIOC Management are in litigation over their employment and are clearly no longer engaged in the management of RIOC for the benefit of the Roosevelt Island community. This situation is untenable and needs fixing.

There are a lot of staff at RIOC who do a great job for the community, including a number of very capable members of middle management. However, a number of senior administration officials appeared to have been hired without being appropriately qualified for their roles and without RIOC conducting a public executive search for the position.”;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that Community Board 8 supports City Council Resolution 0132, calling on the NY State Legislature and Government to grant residents of Roosevelt Island the power to vote for members of the board of the Roosevelt Island Operating Corporation.

Please advise us of any action taken on this matter.

Sincerely,

*Valerie S. Mason*

Valerie S. Mason  
Chair

*Paul Krikler*

Paul Krikler  
Chair, Roosevelt Island Committee

cc: Honorable Kathy Hochul, Governor of New York State  
Honorable Eric Adams, Mayor of the City of New York  
Honorable Mark Levine, Manhattan Borough President  
Honorable Jerry Nadler, 12th Congressional District Representative  
Honorable Liz Krueger, NYS Senator, 28th Senatorial District  
Honorable José M. Serrano, NYS Senator, 29th Senatorial District  
Honorable Edward Gibbs, NYS Assembly Member 68th Assembly District  
Honorable Alex Bores, NYS Assembly Member, 73rd Assembly District  
Honorable Rebecca Seawright, NYS Assembly Member 76th Assembly District  
Honorable Keith Powers, NYC Council Member, 4th Council District  
Honorable Julie Menin, NYC Council Member, 5th Council District  
Honorable Diana Ayala, NYC Council Member, 8th Council District