

THE CITY OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10007

April 1, 2003

Rachel Shatz, Director
Planning & Environmental Review
Empire State Development Corporation
633 Third Avenue
New York, New York 10017

**Re: Lead Agency Designation
 Downtown Brooklyn Development
 Community Board 2, Brooklyn**

Dear Ms. Shatz:

In accordance with Executive Order 91 of 1977, as amended, and the Rules of Procedure for City Environmental Quality Review, found at Title 62, Chapter 5 of the Rules of the City of New York (CEQR), the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Economic Development and Rebuilding, in the Office of the Mayor, proposes to assume the role of lead agency for the environmental review of the above referenced action.

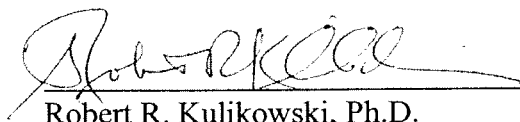
This assumption of lead agency status is consistent with the underlying mandate of CEQR that the appropriate lead agency should be the agency "primarily responsible for carrying out, funding or approving an action," as well as with the criteria listed in Section 5-03(h) of the Rules of Procedure for CEQR.

The Downtown Brooklyn Development project is a public planning effort to create opportunities for commercial, residential, retail, cultural and academic development and the creation of new public space and parking uses in Downtown Brooklyn. Discretionary actions included as part of the project include zoning map and text changes, street mapping changes, urban renewal actions, the disposition of City-owned property and related land use actions. The actions are focused on five locations within the area bounded generally by Adams Street/Boerum Place, Schermerhorn Street, Ashland Place and Tillary Street: 1) the Willoughby Street commercial core; 2) the Jay Street commercial and academic core; 3) Myrtle & Flatbush Avenues; 4) the Livingston Street-Schermerhorn Street corridor; and 5) the Brooklyn Academy of Music cultural district. Parts I and II of the draft Environmental Assessment Statement for the proposed actions are enclosed to provide additional information.

Your agency has been identified as a potentially involved agency for the review and approval of the proposed actions. If your agency concurs that the Deputy Mayor for Economic Development and Rebuilding should serve as lead agency for these proposed actions under CEQR, please so

indicate by signing a copy of this letter and returning it your earliest convenience to the contact person listed below.

Contact Person:
Tom McKnight
NYC Economic Development Corporation
110 William Street
New York, NY 10038
(212) 312-3747
(212) 312-3989 fax
tmcknight@nycedc.com



Robert R. Kulikowski, Ph.D.
Assistant to the Mayor
For the Deputy Mayor for Economic Development
and Rebuilding

Cc: Sharon Greenberger, Office of the Deputy Mayor for Economic
Development and Rebuilding
Andrew M. Alper, Economic Development Corporation
Amanda M. Burden, City Planning Commission
Iris Weinshall, Department of Transportation
Jerilyn Perine, Department of Housing Preservation and Development
Frank Chaney, Department of Citywide Administrative Services
Joel I. Klein, Department of Education
James Quinlivan, Housing Development Corporation

Encl: Downtown Brooklyn Development EAS Parts I and II

The undersigned hereby concurs with the Deputy Mayor for Economic Development and Rebuilding serving as lead agency for the proposed action described above pursuant to NYCRR 617.6(b).

EMPIRE STATE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
By:

Rachel Shatz, Planning & Environmental Review

Date