

## Queens Cívic Congress

P.O. Box 238, Flushing, NY 11363 (718) 343-6779 fax: (718) 225-3366 www.queensciviccongress.org queensciviccongr@aol.com

President: Corey Bearak **Executive Vice President: Patricia Dolan** 

Secretary: Seymour Schwartz Treasurer: James Trent

**Vice Presidents:** 

**Founders:** 

Tyler Cassell Richard Hellenbrecht Paul Kerzner David Kulick Barbara Larkin Audrey Lucas Kathy Masi Nagassar Ramgarib Harbachan Singh Edwin Westley Dorothy Woo President *Emeritus* Sean Walsh Albert Greenblatt Robert Harris

September 29, 2008

Hon. Michael Bloomberg Mayor City Hall New York, NY 10007

Dear Mr. Mayor:

On behalf of Queens Civic Congress, I write to oppose any real property tax gouge and propose a sound and practical alternative. Your administration can make a real difference by reforming the real property tax system to re-introduce equity and fairness into the system as proposed by Queens Civic Congress. Hiking property taxes across the board – makes no sense.

Queens Civic Congress – in testimonies, statements, other advocacy and, most recently, our "<u>REAL</u> Property Tax Reform" forum – advocates an <u>improvement</u> that bring equity, fairness and transparency to the City's antiquated, inequitable and unfair real estate tax regime AND nets the City some five billion dollars – yes, \$5,000,000,000, without gouging middle and working class homeowners, businesses and tenants. <u>CIVIC2030</u> includes this and other Queens Civic Congress reforms.

Queens Civic Congress advocates most of the net revenues, not for the city the embark on a spending spree, but to help it strategically reform its tax system, address long-term borrowing issues and re-structure its out of whack budget. Clearly, this sound reform also covers the need to address core services for our needy.

It remains clear from much can be done to raise revenue and at the same time give the middle and working class (homeowners and tenants) a break. City assessment practices that unfairly benefit the wealthiest New Yorkers and luxury homes and apartments require change. Queens Civic Congress will continues its conversation with the City Assessors (and Appraisers) Local 1757 and concerned state and city electeds to reform a system that so unfairly treats those who struggle to get by each day. For more details, click <a href="here">here</a>. Instead of taxing New Yorkers, many of them struggling in tough economic times, implement the Queens Civic Congress REAL Property Tax Reform.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Corey Bearak

Corey B. Bearak President

## **Queens Civic Congress Members**

Association of Old Forest Hills ♦ Auburndale Improvement Association ♦ Bayside Civic Database ♦ Bayside Clear-Spring Council ♦ Bayside Hills Civic Association ♦ Bayswater Civic Association ♦ Bay Terrace Community Alliance, Inc. ♦ Bellaire-BellVill Civic Association ♦ Belle Harbor Property Owners Association ◆ Bellerose Commonwealth Civic Association ◆ Bellerose Hillside Civic Association ◆ Bell Park Manor Terrace Community Council ♦ Bowne Park Civic Association ♦ Briarwood Community Association ♦ Cambria Heights Civic Association ♦ Civic Association of Utopia Estates ♦ C.O.M.E.T. (Communities of Maspeth-Elmhurst Together) ♦ Concerned Citizens of Laurelton ♦ Cornucopia Society ◆ Creedmoor Civic Association ◆ Deerfield Area Association ◆ Doug-Bay Manor Civic Association ◆ Douglas Manor Association ◆ Douglaston Civic Association ♦ Dutch Kills Civic Assn. of Long Island City ♦ East Elmhurst Corona Civic Association ♦ East Flushing Civic Association ♦ Federated Block Associations of Laurelton ◆ Federation of Civic Associations of Southeast Queens ◆ Floral Park Community Council ◆ Flushing Heights Civic Association ◆ Flushing on the Hill Taxpayers Association ◆ Forest Hills Chamber of Commerce ◆ Forest Hills Crescents Association ◆ Forest Hills-Van Court Association ◆ Fresh Meadows Homeowners Association ◆ Georgetown Mews ◆ Glendale Civic Association of Queens ◆ Glen Oaks Village Owners, Inc. ♦ Greater Astoria Historical Society ♦ Greater Whitestone Taxpayers Civic Association ♦ Harding Heights Civic Association ♦ Hillcrest Estates Civic Association ♦ Hilltop Village Co-Op #1 ♦ Hilltop Village Co-Op #2 ♦ Hilltop Village Co-Op #3 ♦ Hilltop Village Co-Op #4 ♦ Hollis 11423 Block Association ♦ Hollis Hills Civic Association ◆ Holliswood Civic Association ◆ Hollis Park Gardens Civic Association ♦ Holly Civic Association ♦ Hyde Park Gardens Cooperative ♦ Jackson Heights Beautification Group ♦ Jamaica Estates Association ♦ Jamaica Hill Community Association ◆ Juniper Park Civic Association ◆ Kew Gardens Civic Association ◆ Kew Gardens Hills Homeowners Association ♦ Kew Gardens Improvement Association ♦ Kissena Park Civic Association ♦ Little Neck Bay Civic Association ♦ Little Neck Pines ♦ Long Island City Alliance ♦ Malba Civic Association ♦ Meadowlark Gardens Owners ♦ Middle Village Property Owners Association ♦ Mitchell Linden Civic Association ♦ Neponsit Property Owners Association ♦ Newtown Civic Association ♦ North Bellerose Civic Association ♦ North Flushing Civic Association ♦ North Hills Estates Civic Association ♦ Northwest Clearview Homeowners Association ♦ Norwood Civic Association ◆ Oakland Terrace/ Gardens Community Council ◆ Off Broadway Homeowners Association ◆ Our Neighborhood Improvement Association ◆ Our Neighbors Association of Ozone Park, Inc. ♦ Parkway Village Historical Society ♦ Queensboro Hill Neighborhood Association ◆ Queens Colony Civic Association ♦ Queens Community Civic Corp. ♦ Queens Preservation Council ♦ Queens Village Civic Association ♦ Ramblersville-Hawtree Civic Association ♦ Richmond Hill Historical Society ♦ Ridgewood Property Owners and Civic Association ♦ Rockaway Park Homeowners/ Residents ◆ Rocky Hill Civic Association ◆ Rosedale Civic Association ◆ Royal Ranch Association. ◆ Southeast Queens Concerned Neighbors ◆ South Ozone Park West Civic Association ◆ Springfield/Rosedale Community Action Association ◆ Station Road Civic Assoc. of Auburndale ◆ Sunnyside Gardens/Harrison Place Homeowners ◆ Surrey Estates Civic Association ◆ Union Turnpike Merchants Association ◆ United Forties Civic Association ◆ United Neighbors Civic Association ◆ Waldheim Neighborhood Association ◆ Wayanda Civic Association ◆ West Cunningham Park Civic Association ♦ Westmoreland Association ♦ Woodside Community Council