Why Not a Preservation Coordinator?

Upon sharing the June 8 email below to just a few civic advocates and activists, I received these comments (thus far). As more come in when this post gets widely circulated, please watch for updates. Please share your reaction. I certainly found it "interesting" to receive such an email on the eve of a City Hall rally to press the Mayor to restore cuts to community boards which the City Charter empowers to weigh in on service delivery and land use.

"So when is the Mayor going to have a community advocate who has any power? I know, foolish question."

"This is horrible!"

"Now the mayor is formally joining the expediting process. Next thing, he and his DOB commish will start hanging out at the offices of the regulating agencies to offer their services. And just think of it-the mayor does not accept campaign donations. He's doing this for our sakes! Geeez."

In a message dated 6/8/2009 4:59:26 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, MyNYC@nyc.gov writes:



June 8, 2009

MAYOR'S OFFICE LAUNCHES DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR INITIATIVE

On June 1st the City launched a Brooklyn pilot of the Development Coordinator Initiative, a new resource for developers, contractors, and licensed professionals. The Initiative is a forum for senior leadership from across City agencies to resolve specific interagency conflicts that may be slowing down development.

There are a wide range of problems which may qualify for the Brooklyn pilot. For example, an architect could seek assistance from the Development Coordinator because a project site in Brooklyn contains a fire hydrant, tree, sidewalk vault, and utility pole, making it

impossible to comply with the builder's pavement plan requirements. Or, a developer could seek assistance for a waterfront development where multiple agencies have offered conflicting interpretations of regulations. In each instance, the developer, contractor, or licensed professional is "stuck" and needs interagency coordination to get a resolution.

To submit your Brooklyn project for consideration, visit www.nyc.gov/devcoordinator and complete the brief questionnaire. Applicants will be contacted within 48 hours of submission.

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