Open Letter to Amazon Chief Executive Jeff Bezos

Dear Mr. Bezos:

New Yorkers do not want to give up on the 25,000 permanent jobs, 11,000 union construction and maintenance jobs, and \$28 billion in new tax revenues that Amazon was prepared to bring to our state. A clear majority of New Yorkers support this project and were disappointed by your decision not to proceed. We understand that becoming home to the world's industry leader in e-commerce, logistics and web services would be a tremendous boost for our state's technology industry, which is our fastest growing generator of new jobs. As representatives of a wide range of government, business, labor and community interests, we urge you to reconsider, so that we can move forward together.

We know the public debate that followed the announcement of the Long Island City project was rough and not very welcoming. Opinions are strong in New York—sometimes strident. We consider it part of the New York charm! But when we commit to a project as important as this, we figure out how to get it done in a way that works for everyone.

Governor Cuomo will take personal responsibility for the project's state approval and Mayor de Blasio will work together with the governor to manage the community development process, including the workforce development, public education and infrastructure investments that are necessary to ensure that the Amazon campus will be a tremendous benefit to residents and small businesses in the surrounding communities.

New York attracts the best, most diverse talent from across the globe. We are a dynamic new center of the country's most inclusive tech economy. We all hope you reconsider and join us in building the exciting future of New York.

Sincerely,

Plinio Ayala President & CEO, Per Scholas, Inc.

Ajay Banga President & CEO, Mastercard

Rob Basch President, Hunters Point

Parks Conservancy
Eric Benaim
CEO, ModernSpaces

Neil Blumenthal Co-Founder & Co-CEO,

Warby Parker
Seth Bornstein
Executive Director,

Queens Economic Development Corporation

Josh Bowen Owner, John Brown Smokehouse

Charles Boyce President and CEO, Boyce Technologies, Inc.

Mary Cunningham Boyce
Dean of Engineering and
Applied Science, Columbia
University

Gianna P. Cerbone Owner & Chef, Manducatis Rustica VIG; President, Queens Council on the Arts and Board Member, LIC YMCA

Kenneth I. Chenault Chairman & Managing Director, General Catalyst Partners

Mark A. Christie President, Hunters Point Community Development Corporation

Mario Cilento President, NYS, AFL-CIO

Claudia Coger Tenant Association President, Astoria Houses

Michael L. Corbat Chief Executive Officer, Citigroup Inc

Citigroup Inc. **Hon. David Dinkins**Former Mayor,

City of New York

Danny Donohue President, Civil Service Employees Association

Donna Drimer President, Matted LIC Hazel Dukes

Deloitte

President, NAACP New York State Conference Catherine Engelbert Chief Executive Officer, Hector J. Figueroa President, 32BJ SEIU

William E. Ford Chief Executive Officer, General Atlantic LLC

James P. Gorman Chairman & CEO, Morgan Stanley Thomas Grech

President & CEO, Queens Chamber of Commerce Rev. Dr. Johnnie Green

Mount Neboh Baptist Church & President of MPAC (Mobilizing Pastors & Communities)

George Gresham President, 1199 SEIU

Andrew Hamilton President, New York University

Christopher Hanway Executive Director, Jacob A. Riis Neighborhood Settlement

Robin Hayes President & CEO, JetBlue Airways Corporation

Jukay Hsu Founder & CEO, Pursuit Hon. Hakeem Jeffries

Congressman, U.S. House of Representatives Marion Jeffries

President, NAACP Astoria/ LIC Branch **Kristina Johnson** Chancellor,

State University of New York

Jelena Kovacevic

Dean, Tandon School of
Engineering, New York

University

Gary LaBarbera

President, Building &

Construction Trades Council

Mary Beth Labate President, Commission on Independent Colleges and Universities

of Greater New York

Kevin S. Law
President & CEO,
Long Island Association
Joey Levin
Chief Executive Officer, IAC

Anthony Lopez

Executive Director, Zone 126 Elizabeth Lusskin President, Long Island City Partnership Hon. Carolyn Maloney Congresswoman, U.S. House of Representative

Rev. Corwin Mason Community Church of Astoria CAC

Felix Matos Rodriguez
Chancellor Designee, The
City University of New York
Bill McDermott

Chief Executive Officer, SAP **Hon. Gregory Meeks**

Congressman, U.S. House of Representatives Gail Mellow

President, LaGuardia Community College Heidi Messer

Co-Founder & Chairman,

Collective[i]

Marc Morial

Chief Executive Officer,

National Urban League

Anne Cotton Morris Citywide President and Tenant Association President, Woodside Houses

Michael Mulgrew President, United Federation of Teachers

Deanna M. Mulligan President & CEO, The Guardian Life Insurance Company of America

Hon. Catherine Nolan Assemblywoman, New York State Assembly

Jon Oringer Founder & CEO, Shutterstock, Inc.

Chief Executive Officer, Infor Rev. Gilbert Pickett Mount Horeb Baptist Church

Charles E. Phillips, Jr.

Martha Pollack
President, Cornell University
Miriam Porto

Owner, Madera Cuban Grill & Steakhouse and R40 Argentinian Restaurant

Frank "Turtle" Raffaele Founder, COFFEED Hon. Max Rose

Congressman,

U.S. House of Representatives Steven Rubenstein Chairman, Association for a Better New York

Robert Rubin
Former Secretary,
U.S. Treasury

William C. Rudin

Co-Chairman & CEO, Rudin Management Company, Inc.

Kevin P. Ryan Chairman & Founder, Zola, Workframe, Nomad Health,

MongoDB, Inc.

Kris Schrey

President, Long Island City

Parents Group

Carlo Scissura President & CEO, New York Building Congress

April Simpson Tenant Association President, Queensbridge Houses

David M. Solomon Chairman & CEO, Goldman Sachs & Co.

Rob Speyer President & CEO, Tishman Speyer Douglas C. Steiner

Chairman, Steiner Studios Alan Suna Chief Executive Officer,

Silvercup Studios Steven R. Swartz President & CEO, Hearst

Bishop Mitchell Taylor Senior Pastor, Center of Hope International & Co-Founder,

Urban Upbound

Dennis Walcott

President & CEO,

Queens Library

George H. Walker

Chairman & CEO, Neuberger

Chairman & CEO, Neuberger Berman Group LLC Peter T. Ward

Peter T. Ward
President, New York Hotel
Trades Council
Carol Wilkins

Tenant Association President, Ravenswood Houses

Fred Wilson Managing Partner & Chairman, CSNYC; Co-Chair, Tech:NYC; & Partner, Union Square Ventures Tom Wright

President, Regional Plan Association

Kathryn S. Wylde President & CEO, Partnership for New York City

Rev. Patrick Henry Young First Baptist Church of East Elmhurst CAC