

American Lung Association of the Northeast ♦ American Institute of Architects New York ♦ Bronx Health Reach ♦ Center for Working Families ♦ Environmental Defense Fund ♦ General Contractors Association ♦ Metropolitan Waterfront Alliance ♦ Natural Resources Defense Council ♦ Natural Resources Protective Association ♦ New York Building Congress ♦ New York League of Conservation Voters ♦ Pratt Center for Community Development ♦ Real Estate Board of New York ♦ Regional Plan Association ♦ The Sallan Foundation ♦ Transportation Alternatives ♦ Urban Green Council ♦ WE ACT for Environmental Justice

December 13, 2013

Jennifer Jones Austin, Co-Chair, Transition NYC
Carl Weisbrod, Co-Chair, Transition NYC

Dear Ms. Austin and Mr. Weisbrod:

We write to urge Mayor-elect de Blasio to keep the Office of Long-Term Planning and Sustainability (OLTPS) - including the Special Initiative for Rebuilding and Resiliency (SIRR) - an integral part of the Mayor's Office, which we believe is key to the effective integration of sustainability goals and practices into the work of city agencies.

Climate change, a fast-changing economy and new pressures to preserve our environment combine to make urban sustainability an urgent priority. We believe maintaining a robust OLTPS close to the Mayor's Office of Operations, rather than transferring it to an agency, is the best way to smartly and comprehensively use sustainability as a tool to improve public health, encourage economic growth, create good-paying jobs, deliver savings for taxpayers and reduce our carbon footprint.

OLTPS coordinates with all 25 city agencies to develop, implement and track the progress of the city's sustainability and resiliency initiatives across a broad spectrum of departments and functions. OLTPS's focus on rigorous analytics, outcomes and public accountability - coupled with its convening authority and experience working with diverse and often-competing stakeholder groups - is especially important to preserve.

Mayor-elect de Blasio has been a strong advocate for a healthy and clean environment throughout his career in public service. We look forward to working closely with his administration to make New York City the most sustainable urban center in the world.

Sincerely,

Richard T. Anderson
President
New York Building Congress

Nancy Anderson
Executive Director
The Sallan Foundation

Rick Bell
Executive Director
American Institute of Architects New York

Joan Byron
Director of Policy
Pratt Center for Community Development

Marcia Bystryn
President
New York League of Conservation Voters

Rory Christian
Director, New York Smart Power
Environmental Defense Fund

Eric A. Goldstein
New York City Environment Director
Natural Resources Defense Council

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