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December 20, 2013

Hon. Daniel Kummer, Chair  
Brooklyn Community Board 6  
250 Baltic Street  
Brooklyn, New York 11201

Re: New York Methodist Hospital  
Center for Community Health  
BSA Cal. No. 289-13-BZ

Dear Mr. Kummer:

We are counsel to New York Methodist Hospital (“NYM” or the “Hospital”), which, as you know, is seeking a variance from the Board of Standards and Appeals (the “BSA”) to allow the development of a new outpatient care facility, known as the Center for Community Health, on the Hospital’s main campus in Park Slope. We are writing in response to the November 19, 2013, letter of Stuart Klein to the Landmarks and Land Use Committee, sent on behalf of Preserve Park Slope in opposition to NYM’s application.

Mr. Klein alleges that NYM has failed to submit “relevant evidence” in support of its programmatic need for the requested variance, relying on comparisons of the Hospital’s application with those for other educational and medical facilities for which the BSA has granted a variance. While we strongly disagree that NYM’s application is deficient in this or any other respect—or for that matter, that it is a useful exercise to compare the details of applications that seek different zoning waivers for facilities serving different institutional needs—we note that NYM is preparing a response to the BSA’s Notice of Comments that will contain additional information on the Hospital’s programmatic need. This response will make Mr. Klein’s letter moot.

We would like to assure Community Board 6 that neither the Hospital nor Kramer Levin would treat this application as requiring any less attention or quality of care than an application for a property in Manhattan or any other borough. Mr. Klein’s suggestion to the contrary is, quite frankly, insulting. (It is also, for that matter, based on a misattribution of the NY Presbyterian and Memorial Sloan-Kettering applications to Kramer Levin.) NYM remains

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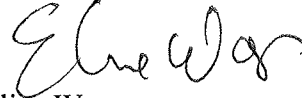
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KRAMER LEVIN NAFTALIS & FRANKEL LLP

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committed to engaging the community in discussions about the proposed Center as it proceeds through the application process.

Yours very truly,



Elise Wagner

EW

cc: Hon. Brad Lander, City Council  
Mr. Craig Hammerman, Community Board 6

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