



CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

January 24, 2011, Calendar No. 1

C 100468 MMQ

IN THE MATTER OF an application submitted by the New York City Economic Development Corporation and the Department of Citywide Administrative Services, pursuant to Sections 197-c and 199 of the New York City Charter and Section 5-430 *et seq.* of the New York City Administrative Code, for an amendment to the City Map involving:

- the elimination, discontinuance and closing of 36th Street between 35th Avenue and 34th Avenue; and
- the delineation of a sewer corridor,

including authorization for any acquisition or disposition of real property related thereto, in Community District 1, Borough of Queens, in accordance with Map No. 5012, dated September 17, 2010 and signed by the Borough President.

The application (C 100468 MMQ) for an amendment to the City Map involving the elimination, discontinuance and closing of 36th Street between 35th Avenue and 34th Avenue; and the delineation of a sewer corridor, including authorization for any acquisition or disposition of real property related thereto, was filed by the New York City Economic Development Corporation and the Department of Citywide Administrative Services on June 22, 2010, to facilitate the creation of an outdoor filming area for Kaufman Astoria Studios in Queens.

BACKGROUND

The New York City Economic Development Corporation (“EDC”) and the Department of Citywide Administrative Services (“DCAS”) are proposing a change to the City Map involving the elimination, discontinuance and closing of 36th Street between 35th Avenue and 34th Avenue, and the delineation of a 35-foot-wide sewer corridor, in the Astoria neighborhood of Queens to facilitate the creation of an outdoor filming area for Kaufman Astoria Studios (“Kaufman Studios/Studio”), whose facilities are currently located on both sides of 36th Street.

Kaufman Astoria Studios is one of the largest motion picture and television production facilities in the United States. It is listed on the National and New York State Registers of Historic Places. Its main building, completed around 1920, is designated a New York City Historic Landmark.

Productions filmed at the Studio range from Marx Brothers films of the early 1930's to the film adaptation of the 1960's musical Hair, and from the long-running children's television program Sesame Street to the contemporary hit series Law and Order. The Studio employs approximately 50 full-time staff members. During the filming of large projects, employment can increase significantly, providing a boon for the local economy. A large majority of the Studio's full-time employees live in New York City, with more than half living in Queens and about a dozen in the Astoria/Long Island City neighborhoods. The Studio has several film-arts outreach programs, mostly in conjunction with the various schools in the surrounding neighborhood.

This portion of 36th Street is City-owned, 60 feet wide by 580 feet long, improved, open to one lane, one-way traffic southbound and has on-street parking on both sides of the street, though this parking is reserved for use by the Studio. The street currently sees relatively low volumes of traffic with a daily daytime average of approximately 2.6 vehicles per minute. Both 34th Avenue and 35th Avenue are open to two-way traffic.

The city map amendment, as proposed, will facilitate the disposition of the street and its associated development rights. However, the eliminated street would remain under City ownership and would be leased to the Economic Development Corporation (EDC), who would sub-lease it to the Studio for a term of approximately 39 years (to expire in 2049). The City's lease with EDC, and EDC's lease with the Studio, will not allow for the transfer or use of any of the potential 174,000 square feet of development rights generated by the area of street being eliminated for any permanent structures; those development rights will be retained by the City and may be disposed of in the future without further City Planning Commission review.

The 34,800 square-foot street-bed would become New York City's first and only dedicated outdoor film production stage, which would allow the Studio to shoot exterior footage, street scenes and related special effects on an as-needed and project-dependent basis, directly and conveniently adjacent to the Studio's interior sound stages. This would reduce the need for filming on active City streets, which can result in disruptions to local traffic, require parking restrictions, and cause other temporary disruptions to local residents. The outdoor stage would expand the Studio's capabilities and would attract clients who require more than a traditional

sound stage but for whom on-location filming in New York City may be too expensive.

A portion of the streetbed would be left visually intact as a traditional New York City street, but with "black box theatre walls" added so that productions could easily install temporary false building facades. These facades could be left in place for extended periods, an option that is not possible when filming on-location. Another portion of the street would be turned into a plaza area with the sidewalks removed for scenes that require a more open setting. This controlled environment would also allow for special effect shots that are not permitted or are technically difficult to execute on public streets. While the Studio's schedule of use of the streetbed will be project-dependent, in order to avoid disruptions to neighboring residents, night-time or weekend filming will comply with the limits on noise and light emissions imposed by the Mayor's Office of Film, Theatre and Broadcasting.

A gated main entrance would be installed at the south end of the street, near 35th Avenue. This entrance would consist of three gates: a large central gate for vehicles and two small pedestrian gates on each side. These gates would be set-back approximately 46 feet from 35th Avenue to allow for queuing of two vehicles. Street traffic at this intersection is controlled by timed light signals. This entrance would include a 12-foot-high guard-house, approximately 16 feet long by 11 feet wide, to be staffed 24 hours/day, 7 days/week. The vehicular gate would consist primarily of an approximately 4-foot-tall mechanically moveable planter boxes planted with columnar Hornbeam trees with a minimum height of approximately fifteen feet at the time of planting. Both the guard-house and the planter boxes would have exterior finishes of patinated copper.

At the north end of the street, secondary eight-foot tall vehicular and pedestrian gates would be installed approximately 30 feet from the 34th Avenue curb for emergency vehicles, production trucks and pedestrians. These gates would be flanked on each end by trees in square box planters. Street traffic at this intersection is also controlled by timed light signals.

The Studio's main three-story building is located on the westerly side of 36th Street (Lot 1, Block 643). On the easterly side of 36th Street in the middle of the block is the new filming stage building know as "Stage K" (Lot 45, Block 644) and the Studio's surface parking lot (Lot 43,

Block 644). At the north-end of this block is a vacant lot formerly used as a gas station and now owned by the Studio (Lot 28, Block 644). At the block's southerly end is the Museum of the Moving Image (Lot 1, Block 644). The Studio's parking lot is currently accessed via both 36th Street and 37th Street. Future access would be primarily through the proposed guarded gate at 35th Avenue except when the street-bed is actively being used for outdoor filming. For additional parking, when required, the Studio has agreements with various off-site properties (including a nearby high school and movie theatre). While the streets surrounding the Studio's buildings are often used for parking by Studio vehicles on an as-needed basis by permits, there would be no on-street parking permanently reserved for use by the Studio as a result of this application.

The Studio and the subject street are located within an M1-5 zoning district, as are the lots to the south of the site. To the southeast of the site are a restaurant and an elementary charter school within the Astoria Studios Historic District. To the southwest is the Frank Sinatra (High) School of the Arts, to the southwest is the Baccalaureate (High) School for Global Education and one block to the west of the site is Public School No. 166. The block to the north of the site lies within an R5 zoning district and is generally occupied by low-rise detached homes and apartments, with one restaurant located to the northwest of the site and a Catholic elementary school located further north. Adjacent to the M1-5 zoning district, to the south and east, is an M1-1 district consisting of a mix of low rise residences and commercial businesses. One avenue (approximately 900 feet) to the north of the site is the Broadway commercial corridor, while three blocks (approximately 700 feet) to the east of the site is the Steinway Street commercial corridor, both of which are within a C4-2A zoning district.

An inter-agency conference was held on this application on July 29, 2010. No agencies expressed any objections to the proposal.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

This application (C 100468 MMQ) was reviewed pursuant to the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA), and the SEQRA regulations set forth in Volume 6 of the New York Code of Rules and Regulations, Section 617.00 *et seq.*, and the City Environmental Quality Review (CEQR) Rules of Procedure of 1991 and Executive Order No. 91 of 1977. The

designated CEQR Number is 09DME013Q. The lead is the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Economic Development and Rebuilding. After a study of the potential environmental impact of the proposed action, a Negative Declaration was issued on July 16, 2010.

UNIFORM LAND USE REVIEW

This application (C 100468 MMQ) was certified as complete by the Department of City Planning on September 27, 2010, and was duly referred to Community Board 1 and the Borough President of Queens in accordance with Title 62 of the Rules of the City of New York, Section 2-02(b).

COMMUNITY BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

Community Board 1 held a public hearing on this application (C 100468 MMQ) on October 19, 2010, and on that day, by a vote of 20 to 12, with 1 abstention, adopted a resolution recommending approval of the application with the condition that “either Kaufman Astoria Studios or NYC Economic Development Corp. provide the following:

1. “Community amenities i.e. new street trees, additional street/building lighting etc. to be presented to the community for review
2. “Community outreach and hiring by Kaufman Studios be increased
3. “That Kaufman Studio provide all studio and production company employees parking on their site and No Restricted Parking for Kaufman Studios only on any of the surrounding or fronting City streets
4. “Additional school crossing guards to be provided for the intersection of the five schools in the vicinity of Kaufman Studios to safeguard the potential effect of the traffic deviations
5. “That the rear gate on 34th Avenue match the gate on 35th Avenue by setting the gate back 70 to 80 ft. into the demapped street to create a plaza area at both ends of the block”

BOROUGH PRESIDENT RECOMMENDATION

This application (C 100468 MMQ) was considered by the Borough President of Queens, who issued on December 2, 2010 a recommendation of approval with the following conditions:

- A. “The Department of Education and the New York City Police Department should review the adequacy of the number of school crossing guards deployed at the schools in the area of Kaufman Astoria Studios. If warranted, more school crossing guards should be assigned to assure student safety.;
- B. “KAS should review their plans for security lighting to see if there are any adjustments to be made to assure better public safety around their facility.” [Sic]

CITY PLANNING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING

On, December 1, 2010 (Calendar No. 3), the City Planning Commission scheduled December 15, 2010 for a public hearing on this application (C 100468 MMQ). The hearing was duly held on December 15, 2010 (Calendar No. 16).

There were ten speakers in favor of this application and none opposed. Among the speakers were several representatives of the applicant and of Kaufman Astoria Studios, who described the application and provided relevant background information about the Studio, the proposed lease agreements and the design of the proposed gates. Several neighboring business owners spoke favorably about the proposal, and the Studio and its outreach programs with the neighboring schools. There were no other speakers and the hearing was closed.

CONSIDERATION

The City Planning Commission believes that the proposed amendment to the City Map is appropriate. Although the subject street is open and in use by the public, its relatively low rates of traffic combined with the availability and ease-of-access to route alternatives provided by the dense street network surrounding the site will ensure that there will be no significant disruptions to traffic patterns in the neighborhood if the street is eliminated.

With respect to potential development rights accruing from the elimination of the street, given the specific purpose of the application to facilitate use of the streetbed as a back-lot film production facility, the Commission notes that in letters dated December 13, 2010 and December 29, 2010, EDC stated that the lease from the City to EDC and the sub-lease from EDC to

Kaufman Studios will each provide that no zoning floor area generated by the former street area may be used for permanent structures. This will allow for the construction of non-permanent structures or stages in the eliminated streetbed for film production purposes, consistent with the purpose of the proposal, as well as the security guard house as depicted on plans submitted by the applicant.

As one of the east coast's largest and most successful film and television production facilities, Kaufman Studios has helped add new commercial life to a formerly under-occupied manufacturing district of Queens. The Commission believes that the Studio's responsible growth and continued success are important for the neighborhood and for the City at large.

The Commission further notes and commends Kaufman Studios for its outreach programs with its neighboring schools and its commitment to hire locally whenever possible. Regarding studio and production company employee parking, the Commission notes that adequate off street parking will be provided on-site. On-street production vehicle parking typically occurs here and elsewhere throughout the city as necessary and is permitted by the Mayor's Office of Film and Television.

The Economic Development Corporation, in its letter dated December 29, 2010, has assured the Commission that, while crossing guards are primarily the responsibility of the departments of Education, Police and Transportation, it will work with the community and the Borough President's Office to address any issues that may arise with respect to community and child safety. With respect to the concerns that were raised about the adequacy of street/security lighting surrounding Kaufman Studios and the request for community amenities such as new street trees, the Commission encourages EDC and Kaufman Studios to work with the Community Board and the Borough President's office as the project progresses through its development to address their concerns.

RESOLUTION

Therefore, the City Planning Commission, deeming the proposed amendment to the City Map and any related acquisition or disposition to be appropriate, adopts the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the City Planning Commission finds that the action described herein will have no significant impact on the environment; and be it further

RESOLVED, by the City Planning Commission, pursuant to Sections 197-c and 199 of the New York City Charter, and Section 5-430 *et seq.* of the New York City Administrative Code, that based on the environmental determination and the consideration described in this report, the application (C 100468 MMQ) for the amendment to the City Map involving:

- the elimination, discontinuance and closing of 36th Street between 35th Avenue and 34th Avenue; and
- the delineation of a sewer corridor,

including authorization for any acquisition or disposition of real property related thereto, in Community District 1, Borough of Queens, in accordance with Map No. 5012, dated September 17, 2010 and signed by the Borough President, is approved; and be it further

RESOLVED that, pursuant to Section 5-432 of the New York City Administrative Code, the City Planning Commission determines that “such closing or discontinuance will further the health, safety, pedestrian or vehicular circulation, housing, economic development or general welfare of the City”; and be it further

RESOLVED that, pursuant to Section 5-433 of the New York City Administrative Code, the City Planning Commission adopts the legally required number of counterparts of Map No. 5012, dated September 17, 2010, providing for the discontinuance and closing of 36th Street between 35th Avenue and 34th Avenue, more particularly described as follows:

Starting at a Point of Beginning located on northeasterly side of 35th Avenue, said point being located 200.24 feet southeast of the intersection of the northeasterly line of 35th Avenue and the southeasterly line of 35th Street, as those streets are laid out on the City Map;

- 1) Thence running in a northeasterly direction, along a line perpendicular to the northeasterly line of 35th Avenue, 580.62 feet to a point on the southwesterly side

of 34th Avenue;

- 2) Thence running in a southeasterly direction, along a line forming an interior angle of 90 degrees with the previous course, 60.00 feet to a point on the southwesterly side of 34th Avenue;
- 3) Thence running in a southwesterly direction, along a line forming an interior angle of 90 degrees with the previous course, 580.62 feet to a point on the northeasterly side of 35th Avenue;
- 4) Thence running in a northwesterly direction, along a line forming an interior angle of 90 degrees with the previous course, 60.00 feet to the Point of Beginning.

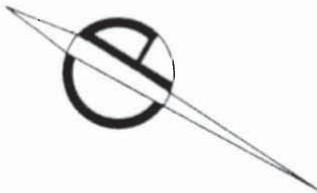
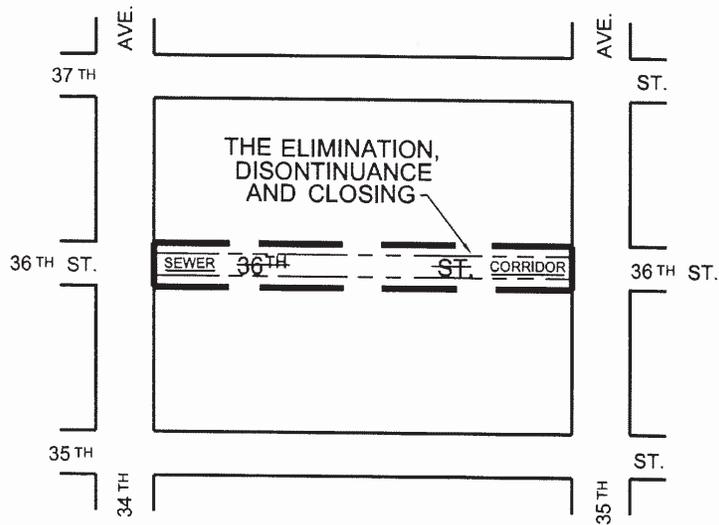
The described area contains 34,837.2 square feet (0.799 acre), more or less.

All such approvals being subject to the following conditions:

- a. The subject amendment to the City Map shall take effect on the day following the day on which certified counterparts of Map No. 5012 are filed with the appropriate agencies in accordance with Section 198 subsection c of the New York City Charter and Section 5-435 of the New York City Administrative Code;
- b. The subject street to be discontinued and closed shall be discontinued and closed on the day following the day on which such maps adopted by this resolution shall be filed in the offices specified by law; and

The above resolution (C 100468 MMQ), duly adopted by the City Planning Commission on January 24, 2011 (Calendar No. 1), is filed with the Office of the Speaker, City Council and the Borough President, in accordance with the requirements of Section 197-d of the New York City Charter.

AMANDA M. BURDEN, *FAICP*, Chair
KENNETH J. KNUCKLES, *Esq.*, Vice Chairman
ANGELA M. BATTAGLIA, RAYANN BESSER, IRWIN G. CANTOR, *P.E.*,
ALFRED C. CERULLO, *III*, BETTY Y. CHEN, MARIA M. DEL TORO,
RICHARD W. EADDY, NATHAN LEVENTHAL, ANNA HAYES LEVIN,
KAREN A. PHILLIPS, Commissioners



CITY PLANNING COMMISSION
CITY OF NEW YORK
DIAGRAM SHOWING PROPOSED
MAP CHANGE
ON SECTIONAL MAP
9b
BOROUGH OF
QUEENS

I. Sadko, PE

I. Sadko, P.E.
Chief Engineer

New York, Certification Date
SEPTEMBER 27, 2010



- NOTE:
- Indicates line of street legally adopted.
 - Indicates line of street proposed to be established.
 - - - Indicates line of street proposed to be eliminated.
(Discontinuing and Closing is shown on Alt. Map No. 00000).

THIS DIAGRAM IS FOR ILLUSTRATIVE PURPOSES ONLY.

Community/Borough Board Recommendation

CITY PLANNING COMMISSION
22 Reade Street, New York, NY 10007
FAX # (212) 720-3356

Application # C 100468 MMQ
CEQR # 09DME013Q
Community District No. 01 Borough: Queens
Community District No. _____ Borough: _____
Project Name: 36th STREET CITY MAP CHANGE

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Complete this form and return one copy to the Calendar Information Office, City Planning Commission, Room 2E, at the above address.

2. Send one copy of the completed form with any attachments to the applicant's representative at the address listed below, one copy to the Borough President, and one copy to the Borough Board, when applicable.

Docket Description:

IN THE MATTER OF an application submitted by the New York City Economic Development Corporation and the Department of Citywide Administrative Services, pursuant to Sections 197-c and 199 of the New York City Charter and Section 5-430 *et seq.* of the New York City Administrative Code, for an amendment to the City Map involving:

- the elimination, discontinuance and closing of 36th Street between 35th Avenue and 34th Avenue; and
- the delineation of a sewer corridor,

including authorization for any acquisition or disposition of real property related thereto, in Community District 1, Borough of Queens, in accordance with Map No. 5012, dated September 17, 2010 and signed by the Borough President.

Applicant(s):

NYC Economic Development Corporation
and
The Department of Citywide Administrative Services

Applicant's Representative:

Kay Zias
NYC Economic Development Corporation
110 William Street, 3rd Floor
New York, N.Y. 10038
212 312 3752

Community Board No. 1

Borough: Queens

Borough Board

Date of public hearing: 10/19/10

Location: _____

Was a quorum present? YES NO

A public hearing shall require a quorum of 20% of the appointed members of the board, but in no event fewer than seven such members.

Vote adopting recommendation taken: yes

Location: _____

RECOMMENDATION

Approve

Approve With Modifications/Conditions

Disapprove

Disapprove With Modifications/Conditions

Explanation of Recommendation-Modification/Conditions (Attach additional sheets if necessary)

See attached

Voting

In Favor: 20 Against: 12 Abstaining: 1 for cause Total members appointed to the board: 48

Vinicio Donato, Jr.
Community/Borough Board Officer

Chairperson
Title

Date

10/21/10

v.012006w



City of New York
Community Board #1, Queens
 American Museum of Moving Image
 36-01 35th Avenue
 Astoria, N.Y. 11106
 Tel: 718-786-3335, Fax: 718-786-3368

Helen Marshall,
President, Queens
 Barry Grodenchik,
Deputy Borough President
 Vinicio Donato,
Chairperson
 Lucille T. Hartmann,
District Manager

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Vinicio Donato
 Chairperson
 George L. Stamatiades
 First Vice Chairperson
 Norma Nieves-Blas
 Second Vice Chairperson
 John A. Scourakis
Executive Secretary
 Peter Pallos
Sergeant-at-Arms

COMMITTEES & CHAIRPERSONS

Airport Access
 Rosemarie Poveromo
Capable Disabled
 Daniel Aliberti
Capital/Expense, Community Development
 Elizabeth Erion
Consumer Affairs
 Joseph Risi Jr.
Education
 Linda Perno
Environmental Protection
 Joan Asselin
Health & Social Services/Senior
 Jean Marie D'Alleva
Housing
 Mary O'Hara
Industrial/Commercial
 Edward Babor
Parks & Recreation/Cultural Affairs/OTB
 Richard Khuzami
Public Safety
 Antonio Meloni
Street Festivals
 Ann Bruno
Transportation
 Robert Piazza
Youth
 Jose Batista
Zoning & Variance
 John Carusone

October 21, 2010

Ms Amanda Burden
 Chairperson/Commissioner
 City Planning Commission
 22 Reade Street
 New York, NY 10007

Dear Ms Burden:

RE: #C 100468 MMQ – 36th St. Map Change
 Astoria, Queens, NY

Community Board 1 held a Public Hearing at our October 19th full Board meeting regarding the above reference application. Following our Public Hearing a motion was made and passed by a vote of 20 in favor, 12 against, 1 abstention for cause with the following stipulations:

That either Kaufman Astoria Studios or NYC Economic Development Corp. provide the following:

- Community amenities i.e. new street trees, additional street/building lighting etc. to be presented to the community for review
- Community outreach and hiring by Kaufman Studios be increased
- That Kaufman Studio provide all studio and production company employees parking on their site and No Restricted Parking for Kaufman Studios only on any of the surrounding or fronting City streets
- Additional school crossing guards to be provided for the intersections of the five schools in the vicinity of Kaufman Studios to safeguard the potential effect of the traffic deviations

BOARD MEMBERS (cont.)

Rose Anne Alafogiannis
 George Alexiou
 Gus Antonopoulos
 Juanita Brathwaite
 Ann Bruno
 Gerald Caliendo
 Joanna D'Elia
 Dolores DeCrescenzo
 Mary Demakos
 Demetrios K. Demetrios
 Salvatore Gagliardo
 Anthony Gigantiello
 Evie Hantzopoulos
 Pauline Jannelli
 Jerry Kril
 Vincent G. Marsanico
 Frances Luhmann-McDonald
 Prabir Mitra
 Kevin Mullarkey
 Stella Nicolaou
 Rose Marie Poveromo
 Gus Prentzas
 Thomas Ryan
 Michael Serao
 Rudolfo Sarchese
 Aravella Simotas
 Marie Torniali
 Judy Trilivas
 Mannie Wilson
 John P. Ziedonis

- That the rear gate on 34th Avenue match the gate on 35th Avenue by setting the gate back 70 to 80 ft. into the dempapped street to create a plaza area at both ends of the block

Sincerely,


Vinicio Donato

cc: Hon. Helen Marshall
Hon. Carolyn Maloney
Hon. George Onorato
Hon. James Van Bramer
Hon. Peter Vallone, Jr.
Hon. Michael Gianaris
Hon. Catherine Nolan
Hon. Margaret Markey
Ms Kay Zias, NYC EDC
Mr. Hal Rosenbluth, KAS
Mr. John Young, DCP

Queens Borough President Recommendation

APPLICATION: ULURP #100468MMQ

COMMUNITY BOARD: Q01

DOCKET DESCRIPTION

IN THE MATTER OF an application submitted by the NYC Economic Development Corporation and the NYC Department of Citywide Administrative Services, pursuant to Sections 197-c and 199 of the New York City Charter and Section 5-430 et seq. of the NYC Administrative Code, for an amendment to the City Map involving:

- The elimination, discontinuance and closing of 36th Street between 35th Avenue and 34th Avenue; and
- The delineation of a sewer corridor;

Including authorization for any acquisition or disposition of real property related thereto, in Community District 1, in accordance with Map No. 5012, dated September 17, 2010 and signed by the Borough President, Zoning Map 9b, Astoria, Borough of Queens.

PUBLIC HEARING

A Public Hearing was held in the Borough President's Conference Room at 120-55 Queens Boulevard on Thursday, October 28, 2010, at 10:30 A.M. pursuant to Section 82(5) of the New York City Charter and was duly advertised in the manner specified in Section 197-c (i) of the New York City Charter. The applicant made a presentation. There were three (3) speakers in favor and one against (1). The hearing was closed.

CONSIDERATION

Subsequent to a review of the application and consideration of testimony received at the public hearing, the following issues and impacts have been identified:

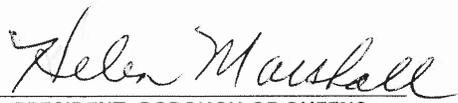
- The applicant is proposing to demap 36th Street between 34th & 35th Avenues in order to give companies using their film/television production facility an option to do exterior shoots in a controlled environment. This option is important especially in the highly competitive film production industry both in the United States and abroad that offer major incentives to film production companies.;
- The area surrounding the street to be demapped (36th Street between 34th & 35th Avenues is zoned M1-5) is developed with a mix of industrial/commercial and residential uses.
- There was an "all agency" meeting at which this demapping proposal was presented. There were no objections to this proposal from any city agencies and utilities. As requested, a sewer easement will delineated as a part of this application. The gates that will be placed at either end of the demapped portion of 36th Street have been designed in consultation with the NYC Department of Transportation and the emergency services to assure quick and easy access if needed.;
- Community Board 1 approved this application with conditions by a vote of twenty (20) in favor, twelve (12) against and one (1) abstention at a public hearing held on October 19, 2010. The conditions of approval were: Provision by the applicant of community amenities such as street trees, building/security lighting; increase on outreach and hiring by Kaufman Astoria Studios; all parking related to the studio should be contained on their site, removal of street parking reserved for the studio; provision of additional school crossing guards for the five schools in the vicinity of the studio; the proposed rear gate on 34th Avenue should be set back 70-80 feet to create a plaza area.
- At the Queens Borough President's Land Use Public Hearing the applicant stated their continued commitment to provide as much local employment as possible and to remain active in supporting community organizations and groups.

RECOMMENDATION

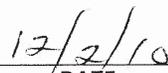
Kaufman Astoria Studios (KAS) is an important part of the film/television industry in New York City. The presence of KAS has played an active and significant role in the revitalization of the neighborhood around them. They have also been an active participant in community affairs and have been directly responsible for a number of neighborhood improvements including the recently opened Sinatra High School, sponsored events hosted by the Astoria Performing Arts Center and at the Socrates Sculpture Park.

Based on the above consideration, I hereby recommend approval of this application with the following conditions:

- The Department of Education and the New York Police Department should review the adequacy of the number of school crossing guards deployed at the schools in the area around Kaufman Astoria Studios. If warranted, more school crossing guards should be assigned to assure student safety.;
- KAS should review their plans for security lighting to see if there are any adjustments to be made to assure better public safety around their facility.



PRESIDENT, BOROUGH OF QUEENS



DATE