

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 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.

Hon. David Dinkins
Former Mayor,
City of New York

Danny Donahue
President, Civil Service
Employees Association

Donna Drimer
President, Matted LIC

Hazel Dukes
President, NAACP New York
State Conference

Catherine Engelbert
Chief Executive Officer,
Deloitte

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
of Greater New York

Mary Beth Labate
President, Commission
on Independent Colleges
and Universities

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.

Charles E. Phillips, Jr.
Chief Executive Officer, Infor

Rev. Gilbert Pickett
Mount Horeb Baptist Church

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
Berman Group LLC

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