NICOLE MALLIOTAKIS
Member of Assembly 64th District

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December 6, 2013

Hon. Michael R. Bloomberg
Mayor of the City of New York
City Hall
New York, NY 10007

Dear Mayor Bloomberg:

As we enter the concluding days of your administration, allow us to first to convey our gratitude for 12 years of service to our city, bookended by two unforeseeable tragedies that that could be addressed only by quick education and creative ideas. It could be said that the capstone to your administration's response to the latter seminal event, Hurricane Sandy, lies in the *NYC Build It Back* program. You may be aware, however, that the residents so dependent on this program have experienced frustration to the point that many have begun losing hope. This leads to our present correspondence.

NYC Build It Back recently launched a "Sandy Funding Tracker" on its website. We commend your administration for being so forthcoming with how funds have been allocated and the status of the program's 19,920 registrants. Unfortunately, this transparency has uncovered some alarming facts. Staten Islanders make up 4,647 of the total registration pool, of which 255 (4.8%) have received a damage assessment, and 42 (0.9%) have been offered an award. Furthermore, only $9.7 million (1.5%) of the $648 million allocated by the City of New York for housing recovery through *NYC Build It Back* has been expensed. The rate at which these dollars are reaching their intended recipients is much too slow.

With the transition into the next mayoralty now upon us, we implore you to make the distribution of *NYC Build It Back* funds a distinct priority for your final weeks in office. We are confident that the incoming administration will have the interests of all of New York's Sandy-impacted communities at heart, but remain conscious that a major overturn of personnel and change in operating procedures are bound to yield complications and further delay.

Most Sandy survivors regard this endeavor as the primary source of government aid in rebuilding their homes and restoring their lives. In some cases this was the only source. We respectfully urge you to increase the frequency at which these awards are being offered while, of course, preserving the integrity of the *NYC Build It Back* program.

Sincerely,

Nicole Malliotakis
Member of Assembly

Andrew Lanza
Senator

Steven Matteo
Councilman-Elect

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