

BATTERY PARK CITY NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION ALTERNATIVE SITING LIAISON GROUP

July 8, 2021

Battery Park City Authority
Attn: BCPA Chairman George Tsunis
200 Vesey Street, 24th Floor
New York, New York 10281

Re: Reaction and Concerns to Essential Workers Monument in Battery Park City

Dear Chairman Tsunis:

Many voices in our community have expressed a preference that the State NOT build the monument within Battery Park City since becoming aware of the project on June 28, 2021.

While the BPC Neighborhood Association (BPCNA) acknowledges and appreciates that the monument was moved from Rockefeller Park, we continue to believe that more time and consideration should be given to the Essential Workers monument regarding a suitable design and location.

Should Governor Cuomo determine that the monument be constructed next to the Irish Hunger Memorial, the BPC Neighborhood Association will work in partnership with the BPC Authority and expects the commitments below to be followed:

1. **Respect for Irish Hunger Memorial.** The BPC Authority will engage with the Irish community and the local community and will recognize the importance of a Monument that is cohesive, respectful and sensitive with the surrounding area and particular attention to the intention and location of the Irish Hunger Memorial.
2. **Consider Alternatives for Carbon-Fueled Flame.** The BPC Authority will consider eliminating the carbon-fueled flame entirely and find a safe and eco-friendly alternative. It will consider comments that the flame does not represent BPC's historical stance in being a carbon neutral leader; does not reflect the current administration's policies on climate change; BPC residents are concerned with the safety of their children and the potential for the flame to attract more daring/careless individuals to the site. Finally, and most importantly, many BPC residents have survived the trauma of 9/11 and believe the flame makes the area even more of a target for potential attacks in the future.
3. **Add Green Space.** The BPC Authority will add alternative green space for any space that is paved over (6-9k sq ft).

4. **Design Consultation and Modifications.** The BPC Authority will consult BPCNA on a timely and as-needed basis concerning the progress and any changes to the monument's design.
5. **BPCNA Partnership.** The BPC Authority will keep up the initial inroads they've built with the BPC community, continue their work addressing the major issues facing the community including ground rent, affordability and resiliency plans.

Very truly yours,

Alternative Siting Liaison Group
Battery Park City Neighborhood Association

Cc: Nicholas Sbordone