

Celestial Church Buffalo Center

179 Utica Avenue,
Brooklyn, NY 11213

GreenThumb
49 Chambers Street Room 1020
New York, New York 10007

Re: Blocks and Lot Numbers: 1363 - Lot 7
Agency: Housing Preservation and Development

Dear Mr. Roland Chouloute,

Celestial Church Buffalo Center would like to utilize the vacant land on 173 Buffalo Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11213. This lot has been vacant for some time now. We hope to revitalize this lot and create a temporary garden and small recreation area for the neighborhood and community. Our community residents feel that by coming together to create a garden and recreation area, we can facilitate a great educational and preservation tool. It would also provide a place for younger children to interact with their peers in a safe and protected environment. Having both a garden and recreation area will encourage and cultivate hands-on interactive, kinesthetic, multisensory environmental learning. The garden and recreation area would also create community unity, community integrity, and community pride.

A few ideas in which to accomplish these are:

- Organic gardening and compost
- Incorporating a children's garden and community class to teach children how to tend to the lot and the plants
- Reading events to encourage learning and education

- Free movie nights
- Events hosted by neighborhood residents such as block parties
- A mural on the adjacent building to clean up the graffiti and add to the atmosphere

The revitalization of the lot would help the Housing Preservation and Development by:

- Lot maintenance: all trash would be picked up and the sidewalks maintained around the lot weekly

- Snow removal

- A sense of satisfaction knowing that the lot is well attended, provides a nice space for the neighborhood, and improves the environment.

We have been coordinating with 596acres, lobby, and community board 3 as well with some of the local businesses in the area to help make this happen and have collected support of over 25 members of the community. We are also in the process of raising money to pay for insurance, maintenance, and other costs associated with the project.

Sincerely,

Celestial Buffalo Center

Pastor Timothy Olatokun – 718-629-8574 – 173 Buffalo Ave. Brooklyn, NY 11213

Joy Aleyene – 718-573-1350 – 914 Hancock St. Brooklyn, NY

Jane Lewis – 718 -735-5879 – 447 Kings Borrough Apt. 25 D, Brooklyn, NY

Ted Clarke – 11 Mckeene Pl. Apt. 5A

Rita Fashek – 347-627-6437 – 1933 Union St. #2E

Charles Akinseye – 347-869-2087 – 179 Utica Ave. Brooklyn, NY 11213

Paul Obahar – 347-715-3262 – 245 Wortman Ave. Apt 11G, Brooklyn, NY 11207
Yvonne Dingle – 917-225-3130 – 9715 Horace Harding Expressway, Corona, NY 11368
Mabel Agho – 536 Chester St. Brooklyn, NY 11212
Michael Olatokun – 646-346-4331 – 173 Buffalo Ave. Brooklyn, NY 11213
Yemisi Olatokun – 718-735-4347 – 179 Utica Ave. Brooklyn, NY 11213
Cecilia Scharsch – 917-373-7355 - 9705 Horace Harding Expressway, Corona, NY 11368
Rosemary Schultus – 917-753-3135 – 114 Thomas Boyland St. Brooklyn, NY
Alice Atfuwa – 536 Chester St. Brooklyn, NY 11212
Felicia Olatokun – 718-735-4347 – 179 Utica Ave. Brooklyn, NY 11213
Alabi Aduwo – 347-526-1506 – 735 Lincoln Ave. Brooklyn, NY
Sister Aduwo – 347-249-8991 – 735-Lincoln Ave. Brooklyn, NY