

BROOKLYN QUEENS LAND TRUST
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October 25, 2015

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Honorable Eric L. Adams
Brooklyn Borough President
209 Joralemon Street
Brooklyn NY 11201

Re: 237 Maple Street, Brooklyn, NY, 11225

Dear Borough President Adams:

This letter is in support of the gardeners of the community garden located at 237 Maple Street in the Prospect Lefferts Gardens neighborhood of Brooklyn (Block 5030, Lot 72).

The Maple Street gardeners are requesting that the NYC Department of Parks and Recreation acquire 237 Maple Street to preserve it as open space and a community garden. Gardeners have transformed the lot from a dumping ground and a neighborhood nuisance into a community gathering space that is attractive to new and long term residents.

It seems that a group claiming the lot – Housing Urban Development LLC – failed to develop the lot and left it vacant for more than a decade. Recently their ownership has been called into question during several court cases when it seems that the group filed fraudulent paperwork.

The Maple Street Community Garden has shown itself to be a responsible and resourceful entity. The gardeners have earned the respect and support of local elected officials, State Senator Jesse Hamilton and Assembly Member Diana Richardson, as well as numerous partner organizations such as ours.

Brooklyn Queens Land Trust (BQLT) fully supports the 237 Maple Street Garden group. BQLT is the owner of the land of 34 community gardens – 27 in Brooklyn and 7 in Queens. We are a 501c3 non-profit organization, and our mission is “to establish a community of gardeners in Brooklyn and Queens, and to promote the interests of gardeners and open space preservation through education and programs.”

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Meg Fellerath', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Meg Fellerath, President
Board of Directors
Brooklyn Queens Land Trust

Cc: State Senator Jesse Hamilton
Assembly Member Diana Richardson