

Brad Lander New York City Council



Brian Kavanagh New York State Senate

Jo Anne Simon New York State Assembly

March 30, 2021

Commissioner Melanie La Rocca New York City Department of Buildings 280 Broadway New York, NY 10007

Dear Commissioner Rocca,

We write regarding ongoing noise complaints from Fortis Property Group's River Park V property located at 347 Henry Street in Cobble Hill, Brooklyn. Fortis will soon hold closings for condos within the building, yet as significant issues remain outstanding, we are requesting that the Department of Buildings help ensure that this issue is fully rectified before a Certificate of Occupancy is issued.

Since December 2020, the Cobble Hill community has experienced repeated noises caused by the River Park V buildings during high winds. These troubling noises, best described as whistling and screeching sounds, can be heard on the street and inside many homes throughout the neighborhood. The Cobble Hill Association (CHA) has compiled numerous complaints from neighbors throughout the community, as have our offices. These sounds have impacted residents' ability to work from home, impeded children's ability to sleep, and added additional stressors during an already challenging time when residents are more likely to be home.

Since CHA raised these concerns on January 25, 2021, an acoustic engineer hired by Fortis to inspect the site has determined that the balcony railings are the source of the noise. While Fortis implemented a temporary measure to mitigate the noise, the measure was unsuccessful.

While we appreciate the attention Fortis has and continues to give to this issue, the noise still persists as a disruption to many residents. Given that Fortis has not yet been able to resolve the

issue caused by their building for the past three months, we respectfully request that the Department of Buildings not provide a Certificate of Occupancy until this issue is fully rectified.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact any of us directly or via Nicole Krishtul in Councilmember Lander's office at <u>nkrishtul@council.nyc.gov</u>, Greer Mayhew in Senator Kavanagh's office at <u>gmayhew.nysenate@gmail.com</u>, or Donna Newton in Assemblymember Simon's office at <u>newtond@nyassembly.gov</u>.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

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Brad Lander City Councilmember

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cc: Kazimir Vilenchik, P.E., Borough Commissioner Vincent Sapienza, Commissioner, NYC Department of Environmental Protection Ezana Bocresion, President, Cobble Hill Association George Fontas, Chief Executive Officer, Fontas Advisors