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RPA STATEMENT ON CITY COUNCIL'S VOTE REJECTION OF KINGSBRIDGE ARMORY PROJECT

(New York, NY) Today's City Council rejection of the zoning change that would have allowed redevelopment of the Kingsbridge Armory sets a dangerous precedent. The project had made its way through the city's land use review process, ULURP, and was voted down because there was no provision to provide a minimum wage of \$10 / hour to employees of the retail complex that would have been built. Regardless of the merits of living wage laws that set a level playing field for all employers, this would in effect require one developer to meet conditions that are not required of others. By linking approval to issues that have nothing to do with the land use impacts of the project, it also weakens the effectiveness of the ULURP process for providing predictability and a level playing field for the city's development process.

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