



find the lot in your life.

www.596acres.org

July 18, 2013

VIA FIRST CLASS MAIL AND EMAIL

Don Appel
Records Access Officer
Department of Housing Preservation and Development
100 Gold Street, Room 5-U-9
New York NY 10038

RE: NYC Lots Impacted by Urban Renewal/FOIL request 856-12

Dear Mr. Appel,

Per my conversation on Tuesday with Mr. Charles Marcus at your office, I am writing to re-instate our FOIL request 856-12 for all records of Urban Renewal Plans (URPs).

On or about August 8, 2012, responsive to this request, your office provided me with a table listing all active and expired Plans, presumably current as of on or about August 8, 2012, plus some sample plans:

Bushwick II (Fifth Amended)
Williamsburg I (Eighth Amended)
Cadman Plaza (Second Amended)
West Bushwick

Plans were provided in hard copy and the statutory rate of \$.25 per page was paid.

As I have described to each of you, we are looking to create a single comprehensive resource that will show the affects of Urban Renewal Plans on lots in New York City. As such, we aim to create a spreadsheet that has a row for every lot included in every URP that captures the following information:

Borough, block, lot number
Name of Urban Renewal Plan
Plan Active/Expired (y/n)
Most Recent Plan Update: [Date]
Disposition Under Active Plan or Disposition Under Expired Plan

Although FOIL law does not require me to explain my goals or reasons for requesting the documents, I would like to bring to your attention that at today's hearing on the disposition of the

NYU expansion plan, whose footprint includes the LaGuardia Corner Gardens, city attorneys cited a 1954 URP for the area as a basis for their authority to re-assign use of the garden lot and others without going through some procedural requirements. These plans continue to be relevant to the current built environment.

We aim to extract information from every plan that exists. Freedom of Information Law furnishes us, as members of the public, with a statutory right to inspect all agency records. N.Y. Pub. Off. Law Art. 6, Section 87(2). The URPs fall squarely within the definition of documents available through FOIL.

596 Acres has a staff person who can devote a few hours a week to coming to your office with a laptop, inspecting the plans and recording the relevant information and would like to get going as soon as possible. Please give me a call to plan the next step.

Best,

/s/

Paula Z. Segal, Esq.
Executive Director, 596 Acres
(646) 276-3865

cc: Anthony Mohen, Esq. (via email)
Matthew Delsesto, 596 Acres (via email)
Charles Marcus, HPD (via email)