

February 28, 2017

Honorable Thomas DiNapoli  
Comptroller, State of New York  
59 Maiden Lane  
New York, NY 10038

Re: Broadway Stages

Dear Comptroller DiNapoli:



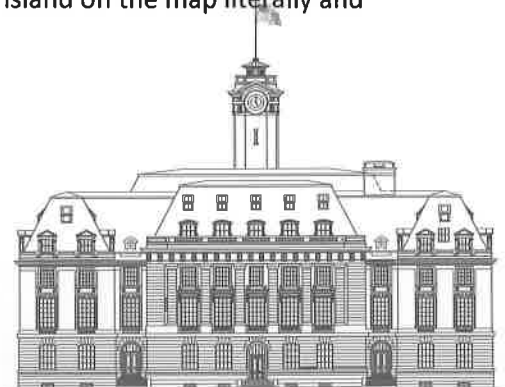
I am writing to assure you of my strong support of *Staten Island Stages*, the planned expansion of *Broadway Stages* at the site of the former Arthur Kill Correctional facility on Staten Island. As you know, this project has been extensively reviewed by the State of New York and various agencies, and has earned across-the-board local support in Staten Island. I believe that each day this project is delayed has a decidedly negative impact not only on my constituents, but on the residents of the City of New York and taxpayers throughout the state.

*Broadway Stages* is a family-owned and operated business that has been built from the ground up into one of the most successful and largest full-service film and TV production studios in New York City. Having grown from one to over forty soundstages in Brooklyn and Queens, *Broadway Stages* has an excellent track record of positive economic and social impacts. Their presence helps local communities by making investments in schools, supporting environmental causes, providing educational opportunities and creating jobs.

*Staten Island Stages* would take a vacant unproductive eyesore, the former Arthur Kill prison site, and economically energize the property. In doing so, they would be adding 1,500 jobs to the borough's and the city's workforce and make a lasting impact on local small businesses throughout the Staten Island.

We simply cannot afford to turn these production and ancillary jobs away, sending them to venues in New Jersey, Connecticut and other states.

I urge you to allow this project to move forward and ask that *Broadway Stages* and its owner/operators be granted the long-awaited opportunity to bring Staten Island and its residents the economic catalyst so urgently needed on the West Shore waterfront. Under my Administration, the Borough President's office has extended a welcome mat to location scouts and filmmakers. We are marketing Staten Island as a robust film and TV production locale. We want this industry here. Our businesses need this industry here. The *Staten Island Stages* production studio will put Staten Island on the map literally and figuratively within the film and TV industry.



OFFICE OF THE BOROUGH PRESIDENT  
10 RICHMOND TERRACE  
STATEN ISLAND, NY 10301

JAMES S. ODDO  
BOROUGH PRESIDENT  
718.816.2200  
WWW.STATENISLANDUSA.COM

I have met the owners, Tony and Gina Argento, and they have passionately articulated their vision to better the communities in which they operate – and that is what I ask of any business on Staten Island. For these reasons, this project needs to move forward. I hope you agree and will work with me on this important issue.

Sincerely,



James S. Oddo  
President, Borough of Staten Island

