

March 1, 2017

Honorable Scott M. Stringer  
Comptroller, City of New York  
One Centre Street  
Municipal Building  
New York, NY 10007

Re: **Property Inquiry – Midland Motor Inn**  
Location: 630 Midland Avenue, Staten Island, N.Y. 10306  
Tax Block: 3875, Tax Lot: 26  
Owner: Mr. Kanti Patel  
Midmot Corporation, 630 Midland Avenue, Staten Island, NY

Dear Comptroller Stringer: 

We are writing to request information about any past or current business relationships or contracts the owner of the referenced property may have had or has with the city, including the Department of Housing Preservation (HPD) and the Department of Homeless Services (DHS). Currently, the structure is vacant due to a 2015 fire and a subsequent vacate order issued by the Department of Buildings (DOB).

The Midland Beach community has endured this blight that was “legally permitted” to operate for decades. We have consistently acknowledged and hopelessly endured the incompatible non-conforming use that has been detrimental to the character of this community. On 07.22.15, there was a fire at the Midland Motor Inn. 138 members of the FDNY and EMS responded to the call. We believe the structure has been substantially damaged and cannot be reconstructed. Any reconstruction of the property would also have to comply with flood-resistant construction mandated by the building code as well as revised base flood elevations established by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) after Superstorm Sandy.

The structure had housed many accessory uses in the past including catering halls, bars, cabarets, night clubs and social clubs. The “rooms” in this hotel had been used as a homeless gathering point and has been a hub for a multitude of illegal activities, including drug and alcohol use, loitering, loud music, public urination, other acts of public lewdness and even gunfire.

We have been vociferous in our attempts to “clean up the place” for many years; our files contain numerous letters to various city agencies dating back to 2009.



Disturbingly, we are once again hearing rumblings that the owners are seeking to re-open their establishment, and we wish to know if any city agencies are unknowingly acting as a catalyst or an enabler in these attempts. If so, we hope you can help us in our efforts to prevent this blight on the Midland Beach community from springing back to life, like some Frankenstein monster that refuses to die.

Thank you for your kind attention, and we eagerly await your response.

Sincerely,

  
James S. Oddo  
President, Borough of Staten Island

  
Steven Matteo  
Councilmember, 50<sup>th</sup> District