



March 31, 2016

The Honorable William J. Bratton
Commissioner
Police Department, City of New York
1 Police Plaza
New York, NY 10038

The Honorable Polly Trottenberg
Commissioner
NYC Department of Transportation
55 Water Street, 9th Floor
New York, NY 10041

Re: Conditions at Whitehall Ferry Terminal

Dear Commissioners Bratton and Trottenberg:

We hope this letter finds you well.

A recent editorial in the Staten Island Advance highlighted the ongoing problems at the Whitehall Ferry Terminal, involving harassment – and even outright assault - by aggressive ticket sellers. We initially asked for attention to be paid to this matter in a letter dated June 1, 2015, but things seem to have gotten no better.

The economic development of Staten Island's north shore is proceeding at a rapid pace, and we anticipate an explosion in ferry ridership as the New York Wheel, Empire Outlets and Lighthouse Point projects come on line. Indeed, residential units at Ironstate's URBV are already being shown, and the first residents will be moving in within months.

It behooves us to start the cleanup of the areas adjoining the ferry terminal immediately. The Staten Island Ferry is an iconic attraction of great importance to both Staten Island and Manhattan, to tourists and commuters alike, and safety and security must be given the highest priority.

We urge you to re-double your efforts in this area; it is vitally important to both boroughs.

Sincerely,

James S. Oddo
President, Borough of Staten Island

Gale A. Brewer
President, Borough of Manhattan