

**Letters from elected officials in support of PortSide NewYork getting
Atlantic Basin Pier 11 building space**

NYS Assemblyman Felix Ortiz

NYS Assemblywoman JoAnne Simon

Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams

Brooklyn Community Board 6



FÉLIX W. ORTIZ
ASSISTANT SPEAKER
51st District
Kings County

THE ASSEMBLY
STATE OF NEW YORK
ALBANY

COMMITTEES
Ways and Means
Rules
Labor
Correction

February 28, 2019

Ms. Allison Dees
Senior Associate, Asset Management, PortNYC
New York City Economic Development Corporation

Dear Ms. Dees:

I am writing to express my support for the PortSide New York efforts to fulfill their vision of creating a dynamic, future-focused maritime center by expanding into the Pier 11 warehouse in Atlantic Basin, Red Hook, Brooklyn next to the tanker Mary A. Whalen.

Access to the Pier 11 warehouse as a permanent location for PortSide New York would allow PortSide to expand its community-based work and programming and provide the opportunity for our city's working waterfront to engage with the creativity of Brooklyn and make PortSide an even more valuable asset to the Red Hook community and beyond.

My staff has worked closely with founder Carolina Salguero. She is the epitome of persistence and works with great heart following a great vision. I hope that we can all work together to fulfill that vision.

Sincerely,

Félix W. Ortiz
Assistant Speaker



**THE ASSEMBLY
STATE OF NEW YORK
ALBANY**

CHAIR
Subcommittee on Workplace Safety

COMMITTEES
Consumer Affairs
Higher Education
Judiciary
Labor
Transportation

JO ANNE SIMON
Assemblymember 52nd District

February 27, 2019

Ms. Allison Dees
Senior Associate, Asset Management, PortNYC
New York City Economic Development Corporation
Via email to Adees@edc.nyc

Dear Ms. Dees:

I am writing to express my unequivocal support for the PortSide New York efforts to fulfill their long-standing vision of creating a dynamic, future-focused maritime center by expanding into the Pier 11 warehouse in Atlantic Basin, Red Hook, Brooklyn next to the tanker Mary A. Whalen.

Access to the Pier 11 warehouse as a permanent location for PortSide New York's programming would allow PortSide to expand its wide range of community work that includes, but is not limited to educating visitors of all ages on the dynamic nature of the waterfront through lessons on resiliency, waterfront history, and hands on STEM education. Shore space would also allow PortSide to transition from a pop-up primarily offering special events to a place offering year-round programs even during conditions, like rain and extreme weather, which currently limit use of the Mary A. Whalen. It would provide the opportunity for our city's working waterfront to engage with the creativity of Brooklyn and make PortSide an even more valuable asset to the Red Hook community and beyond.

Founded in 2005 to create a forward-looking maritime center combining a working waterfront, public access, and community development, PortSide New York has created an opportunity for New Yorkers and visitors from around the world to experience a piece of the past, present, and future of New York's waterfront. The Mary A. Whalen has been an exceptional asset for New York City students and programs like the African American Maritime Heritage program, Red Hook Water Stories, simple machine classes, and lessons on resiliency leave a lasting impression on the next generation.

I heartily support this expansion and it is my hope that PortSide will soon be able to continue their important work on land and sea as they continue to serve Brooklyn.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jo Anne Simon".

Jo Anne Simon
Member of Assembly



OFFICE OF THE BROOKLYN BOROUGH PRESIDENT

ERIC L. ADAMS
President

March 26, 2019

Allison Dees
Senior Associate
Asset Management, Transportation Systems
New York City Economic Development Corporation
110 William Street
New York, NY 10038

Re: Letter from Borough President Adams in support of PortSide New York's efforts to create a new maritime center

Dear Ms. Dees:

I am writing in support of PortSide New York (PortSide)'s efforts to create a new maritime center, which they are proposing to build into the Pier 11 warehouse at the Atlantic Basin in Brooklyn's Red Hook community.

Establishing a permanent location next to the historic Mary A. Whalen oil tanker will create an enhanced educational space for schools, organizations, and the general public to learn more about marine life and the vitality of this littoral space while providing PortSide with an opportunity to expand its community-based work and programming on our city's working waterfront.

It is my understanding that negotiations to fund and site this development are ongoing. I urge the New York City Economic Development Corporation (EDC) and PortSide to work together in order to make this project a reality. PortSide has long served to educate on the importance of Brooklyn's waterfront and has shown a genuine passion in harnessing that knowledge and sharing it with the greater Brooklyn community at-large.

Thank you for your consideration. Should you have any questions, please contact Borough President Adams' transportation policy analyst, Anthony Drummond, at adrummond@brooklynbp.nyc.gov or (718) 802-2682.

Sincerely,

Eric L. Adams
Brooklyn Borough President

ELA/acd



BROOKLYN COMMUNITY BOARD SIX

Eric Adams
Borough President

Peter D. Fleming
Chairperson

Michael Racioppo
District Manager

March 1, 2019

Allison Dees,
New York City- Economic Development Corporation
110 William Street
New York, New York 10038

Dear Ms. Dees:

I am writing to advise you that at its February 25th, 2019 meeting Brooklyn Community Board 6's Economic, Waterfront, Community Development and Housing Committee unanimously supported Portside NY's Business plan and the need for the New York City's Economic Development Corporation (EDC) to provide them with building space at the south end of the Pier 11 warehouse which sits in close proximity to their ship, The Mary A. Wheelan.

Community Board 6 has seen, and been impressed with, the accomplishments of Portside NY since their founding in 2005. For those reasons we have listed them as a priority in our budget recommendations in years past and intend to continue supporting such needs. In this case we believe, by granting Portside NY a stable home base to which to operate out of, will enable an organization that has overcome many challenges to flourish, and greatly benefit our community in the years ahead. We hope that EDC grants this request as quickly as possible.

We thank you for an opportunity to comment on this worthy project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter D. Fleming".

Peter D. Fleming
Chairperson

PortSide New York

16 Letters in support of getting Atlantic Basin Pier 11 building space

From January 2019

In alpha order

1. **Mishka Aminov** – Red Hook resident
2. **Natasha Campbell** – Executive Director, Summit Academy Charter School
3. **Priscilla Figueroa** – Principal, Red Hook Neighborhood School P.S. 676
4. **Molly Garfinkel**– Director, Place Matters Program, City Lore
5. **Beth Greenberg** – Opera Stage Director
6. **Lee F. Gruzen** – author, preservationist, co-found SeaportSpeaks
7. **Robert J Hughes Jr.** – VP & GM, Erie Basin Marine Associates
8. **Historic Ship Coalition**
9. **Roland Lewis** – Waterfront Alliance
10. **Molly Malone** – Red Hook resident, youth educator
11. **Kevin Moore** – owner Red Hook restaurant Kevin’s and Moore Parties catering
12. **Captain Richard Naruszewicz** – ex-Mary Whalen crew member, 40 year career in port of New York, 9/11 maritime first responder
13. **Maria Pagano** – Carroll Gardens Neighborhood Association
14. **Alf Pettersen Jr.** – Ex-Brooklynite San Diego resident whose father worked on similar tankers in Brooklyn
15. **Resilient Red Hook Committee**
16. **Christine Van Lenten** – consultant to New York Academy of Sciences & others

Hi Carolina,

A quick note to thank you and the PortSide Organization for all you do and offer Red Hook, and greater New York City community. As a Red Hook resident I value the Mary Whalen as a spot to spend time with friends, relax, and feel connected to the neighborhood's past. I hope PortSide is able to expand and I appreciate all that your organization does.

Having an interior space would be great resource for not only the local community, but as a means to attract people from other parts of the city. All New Yorkers will benefit from spending more time by our waterfront. I recently attended an event at the River Project NYC space at Pier 40 and felt as though Red Hook, with its deep marine history, needs a space to hold activities of its own.

Please let me know how I can get more involved in supporting PortSide. I would love to volunteer my time and resources to such a worthwhile cause.

Thank you.

Mishka Aminov

86 Visitation Place
Brooklyn, NY 11231
aminovm@gmail.com



SUMMIT ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL

27 Huntington Street • Brooklyn, New York 11231 • Phone (718) 875-1403 • FAX (718) 875-1891

Natasha A. Campbell
Founder
Executive Director

Cheryl L. Swift
Principal

Allison Dees
Senior Associate, Asset Management, Transportation Systems
New York City Economic Development Corporation
www.edc.nyc 212.312.1220 (w) 646.770.2031 (m)

Dear Allison Dees,

I greet you on behalf of Summit Academy Charter School in Red Hook, Brooklyn. Summit Academy Charter School, a 510(c)3 non-profit organization, is a New York City Public School serving middle and high school scholars from Red Hook, Carroll Gardens, Cobble Hill, Boerum Hill, Park Slope, Sunset Park and the Windsor Terrace.

The school's mission aims to bridge the gap between aspirations and realities by preparing scholars to gain acceptance to, excel in and graduate from college. The school community –staff, scholars, parents and the community at large –is continuously and consistently engaged in supporting Summit scholars in an academically rigorous, college-preparatory curriculum. Moreover, our goal is to ensure that every graduate of Summit Academy Charter School, regardless of prior academic achievement levels or socio-economic status, will go on to succeed in and graduate from college

I had the honor of leading the effort to open Summit Academy in 2008 and could not be more thrilled to write this recommendation for PortSide NY. A native of Brooklyn, NY, I have dedicated my professional life to pursuing my calling to serve people in the social sector. I worked at the Police Athletic League, with a majority of her time being spent at the Miccio Center in Red Hook, Brooklyn, making me no stranger to Red Hook.

Summit Academy began working with PortSide about a year ago, and all the experiences have been very positive. We worked with PortSide to create the African American Maritime History Challenge. The challenged not only strengthened academic skills that scholars need to be successful but it also opened our children up to a world of history that is rarely addressed. It was an amazing feeling to hear what our scholars learned while doing research on African Americans in the Maritime field.

"Bridging the GAP ... Reaching New HEIGHTS"

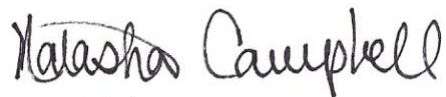
PortSide works well with teachers to create new and engaging programs. Several of our classes have made field trips to PortSide. Our photography class visits PortSide's ship often. The 6th and 8th grades have visited. Our AP Environmental Science class was recently there and their science teacher John Russo had the following to say:

"The kids came back and were telling everyone about the critters, and the kayaking, and the overall good time they had... the kids would like to come back in the Spring, and do everything again."

Many of our students have no experience with the harbor or boats, and PortSide opens up new worlds to them and shows them a new aspect of their city. PortSide is a unique and valuable resource in Red Hook, and it would be a huge asset to us all if PortSide had building space so that they could offer new programs and suffer less weather impacts on the programs they already offer. Summit Academy looks forward to growing our relationship with PortSide New York. This organization brings tremendous value to our school and the community.

Summit Academy is honored to recommend PortSide New York and is more than willing to answer any additional questions that you may have. I can be reached at (347) 853-9574 or via email at ncampbell@sacsny.org at any time.

With Children First,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Natasha Campbell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Natasha Campbell, Executive Director
Summit Academy Charter School



Red Hook Neighborhood School
P. S. 676
27 Huntington Street
Brooklyn, NY 11231
Phone: (718) 330-2238/Fax: (718) 596-6446



Priscilla Figueroa
Principal

Karin Miller
Assistant Principal

March 6, 2019

Dear Carolina,

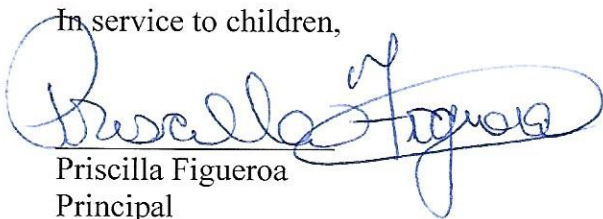
On behalf of the Red Hook Neighborhood School community, I would like to extend my thanks for all the hard work and dedication you and the Portside organization do to help engage our students in learning as well as strengthen school/community ties.

Since the beginning of our work together, there has been a dramatic improvement in the student engagement. Your infectious personality and passion for exposing young people to resources in their community has allowed our students to experience, talk about and share experiences in their own backyard. The students are finally taking pride in who they are, where they are from, and the school they attend.

Your loyalty to our school has been a key component in helping to change the view of our school as well as to help us achieve our school vision. By creating interactive presentations and facilitating innovative field trips, students are able to build background knowledge in many different academic disciplines.

On behalf of the students, teachers, administration, staff, and families I thank you for your continued support and look forward to our continued partnership.

In service to children,



Priscilla Figueroa
Principal



THE ART of EVERYDAY LIFE – SINCE 1986

January 6, 2019

Dear New York City Economic Development Corporation,

I enthusiastically send this letter in support of PortSide NewYork's plan to expand its facilities to include the space inside the Pier 11 warehouse in Atlantic Basin, Red Hook, Brooklyn, a site adjacent to the Mary A. Whalen, the organization's current base of operations.

Founded by the inimitable Carolina Salguero in 2005, PortSide NewYork aims to tell the story of New York City's working waterfront, to influence the story, and change the way New York City's waterfront is going to evolve. In PortSide, Salguero and her dedicated team have created more than an opportunity for visitors to engage with an historic vessel. The organization's primary focus is on the future, and their goal is to create a year-round maritime center with people coming by land and sea to a dynamic space that can host a myriad programs, functions, and services. It will be a home for expanded youth programs, a pipeline to marine careers, a landing for other boats, and a home for public dialogue around maritime policy and community development.

We at City Lore love the work that PortSide NewYork is doing, and we fully endorse their expansion plan. We are honored to include PortSide in our exhibition, **WATERFRONT HEROES**, which opened at Staten Island Arts in October 2018, and which will move to City Lore's Lower East Side gallery in March before heading on to additional venues across the city. In recognition of New York City's 520 miles of coastline and Long Island's 1600 miles of shoreline, three local arts and folklore organizations have partnered for a special exhibit and event series honoring local **WATERFRONT HEROES** and their contributions to the connected waterways of our region.

Sponsored by **Long Island Traditions, Staten Island Arts** and **City Lore**, *Waterfront Heroes* pays tribute to individuals and organizations who help preserve the region's working waterfronts, restore historic vessels and other forgotten maritime objects, preserve the occupational culture of our waterways, and keep the waterfront accessible so that future generations can learn of New York's majestic maritime heritage.

PortSide NewYork is certainly a New York City-Waterfront Hero, and we look forward to continuing collaboration with them as they expand and grow.

Sincerely,
Molly Garfinkel
Director, Place Matters Program

Beth Greenberg
Stage Director
625 West End Avenue, 3B
New York, NY 10024

To: Ms. Allison Dees, EDC

Re: PortSide Request for Warehouse Space at Atlantic Basin

Hello Ms. Dees,

My name is Beth Greenberg and I have worked with Carolina Salguero and PortSide for over a decade. I am writing now in support of their request to access available warehouse space inside Pier 11 at Atlantic Basin.

I directed the highly-successful opera performances on the Mary Whalen in 2007. These took place at American Stevedoring. In addition to performing the opera right on the deck of the ship, we were allowed to use the adjacent warehouse for various necessary activities - as an alternate rehearsal space; as a storage space for set pieces, props and costumes; as a work space to build and maintain these items; as dressing rooms; and, if necessary, as an alternate performance space in the event of inclement weather.

We could not have made these performances the groundbreaking success they were without this additional warehouse space.

In the interim, Ms. Salguero and I have discussed various other water-themed performances on the ship. But every time we would begin a project, we realized the need to have access to a warehouse back-up space for all of the reasons cited above. Additionally, about a dozen performing arts groups approached PortSide since they returned to Pier 11 in 2015, and in every instance, backed about once they learned that there was no building space for a rain back-up plan.

Ms. Salguero has fought consistently - for many years - to bring attention to the value of the maritime traditions and culture of the Red Hook Waterfront as to improve life in this often overlooked community. She has dedicated much energy and time to this.

It would of tremendous help to the Red Hook Community to have year-round activities under her curatorial hand -especially in the darkest winter days when there is little happening there.

I hope you will give her application every possible consideration.

Very truly yours,

Beth Greenberg

LEE F. GRUZEN

January 7, 2019

To Members of the New York City Economic Development Corporation:

I heartily endorse PortSide NewYork's expansion into an ample building adjacent to its ship, *Mary C. Whalen*. Carolina Salguero, PortSide's Founder and President, has created a vital organization through impressive dedication and skill. For over fifteen years, I have watched her craft diverse and exciting programs while contending with countless roadblocks. Her resourcefulness is astonishing, but her vision, now time-tested by successful experience, needs the indoor space that NYCEDC can wisely provide.

Carolina is a rare leader. Her marine knowledge, her inventiveness and grit, her design flair, and her genuine passion for drawing the South Brooklyn community into the weave of opportunities on its waterways are powerful assets. PortSide NewYork is ripe to grow, but it requires a permanent and accommodating building, one which I enthusiastically encourage NYCEDC to pledge.

Thank you for the consideration.

Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lee F. Gruzen', with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Lee F. Gruzen
Co-founder SeaportSpeaks

ERIE BASIN MARINE ASSOCIATES

Erie Basin Bargeport

"Home to New York's Working Fleet"

1095 Amboy Avenue
Edison, New Jersey 08837

Phone (732) 225-1212
Fax (732) 225-3999

January 4, 2019

Allison Dees
Senior Associate, Asset Management, Transportation Systems
New York City Economic Development Corporation

Dear Ms. Dees,

Erie Basin Marine Associates is the owner and operator of the Erie Basin Bargeport, the home to approximately 200 tugs and barges in Red Hook Brooklyn.

We have known Carolina Salguero for many years, and are proud to say that she is a staunch advocate for the maritime industry in Brooklyn. She educates the general community about the positive impact our industry has on the City and region.

She is also a tireless community activist and educator, providing programs for young and old alike in the Red Hook Community.

Portside needs additional indoor space to be able to provide a larger venue for her programs. We support her efforts to expand her operations into the pier alongside the Mary Whalen., and trust that you will look favorably on her request.

Sincerely,



Robert J. Hughes Jr.,
Vice President and General Manager



January 18, 2019

Allison Dees
Asset Management, PortNYC
New York City Economic Development Corporation
110 William St
New York, New York 10038-3901

Dear Ms. Dees:

The Historic Ships Coalition (HSC) celebrates and supports historic and distinguished vessels in New York City's Harbor. Our coalition is made up of owners and operators of over 20 historic and cultural vessels in the New York metropolitan area and other advocates for historic vessels.

We write in support of PortSide New York's plan to expand into pierside space. This organization has long intended that their primary program space would be in a building. Given PortSide's track record in creating quality programs on board the tanker MARY A. WHALEN, it would be great to see them be able to exhibit and interpret large maritime artifacts from their collections and to add programs like boat building in year-round all-weather space.

We were very excited to hear that the historic ship AMISTAD was able to tie-up alongside the MARY A. WHALEN last year. We know that PortSide is interested in continuing to host visits by other historic ships and want to share our endorsement of this kind of program that incorporates the historic tanker into visits by other historic vessels. There are not enough places for historic ships to tie up in New York.

All our ships offer cultural, educational and recreational experiences on the water. Enhancing these by adding more on-shore programs connected with one of New York Harbor's historic vessels can only strengthen our offerings and make our community more visible, especially as PortSide has expressed interest in hosting HSC programs on shore within the proposed building space

Sincerely,

Steering Committee
<http://www.historicshipscoalition.org/#>
historicshipscoalition@gmail.com



January 8, 2019

Ms. Allison Dees
Senior Associate, Asset Management, Transportation Systems
New York City Economic Development Corporation
110 Williams Street
New York, NY 10038

Re: PortSide NewYork

Dear Ms. Dees,

Since 2005 Portside NewYork has brought New Yorkers closer to their waterfront through a range of innovative maritime, education and cultural programs. Their focus on the working waterfront, public access and community development speaks to the synergy that makes our waterfront unique.

The opportunity for PortSide NewYork to grow their facilities to Pier 11 would allow them to deepen their community impact and expand programming. Indoor spaces that are also ADA-accessible would further foster a more inclusive environment that invites all New Yorkers to engage with the coastline that shapes the cultural and economic fabric of our city.

We support PortSide NewYork's efforts to expand their facilities to Pier 11.

Sincerely,

Roland Lewis
President and CEO
Waterfront Alliance

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- Steve Wilson



January 4th, 2019

Dear NYC EDC,

I've been lucky enough to experience a few different aspects of Port Side NY's programming, each with different ages and purposes.

We took a class trip of 2 and 3 years olds, thrilled to be playing on the deck of a boat, splashing in the kiddie pool, painting inspired by the harbor, swinging in the hammock, and getting to touch real boat controls! They had a blast, and a positive first experience with part of the city I didn't know, even after grown I growing up in this city. The potential for building on this experience with a shady, all weather, multipurpose space.

I also came with a friend and her 10 year old son to the Amistad visit, where he heard a story from a difficult part of history, in a super salient context. Their efforts to include sea fearing stories from people of color, further adds and dimension to the mission. I have no doubts that with more space they would continue to accommodate exhibits supporting vivid storytelling, and diversity of experience.

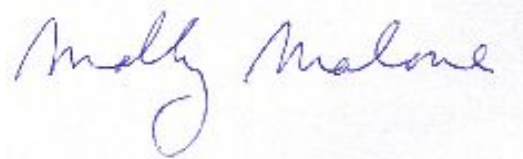
I've attended the open byob sunset happy hour, where the community is invited to enjoy the deck for summer sunsets, live music and potluck deliciousness. Community building is a complicated objective to define, but not to experience. The more you know your neighbors the more people spontaneously help each other, and all it needs is space and intention. More indoor space would allow these events to happen year round.

The other community building function is in the school partnership, and how actively Portside directs other community resources to where they can do the most good. My role was as simple as setting up rescue animals in the science room of the local school, but I know the plans go much further than that. The ability to host classrooms would be significantly improved by more indoor space, but those visits are not where the

partnership ends.

From everything I've seen, Portside is doing excellent work, and will expand that vision into their new space. Please help them get there!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Molly Malone". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping 'M' and 'O'.

Molly Malone
Education Leader
Butler Street Coop &
Proud Red Hook Resident.

To: Allison Dees

Senior Associate, Asset Management, Transportation Systems
New York City Economic Development Corporation

Dear Ms. Dees,

My wife and I own our building at 277 Van Brunt Street with a storefront for our seafood restaurant: *Kevin's*. We have a catering business, Moore Parties, and we run an eatery on Governors Island called Little Eva's named after our daughter.

We are deeply thankful that the NYC Ferry now enables our staff and customers to move swiftly between our waterfront and Island locations. People who visit here are fascinated by the functioning waterfront and ask to learn more about it. We want to express warm support for PortSide and for their expansion into the warehouse next to their ship that the EDC had suggested for them.

Our presence in Red Hook is due in large part to PortSide. We were considering setting up shop here, and went to PortSide's 2007 opera on the Mary Whalen in the container port – an amazing event that clinched it: we decided right then this was the kind of community we wanted to join.

Portside has developed programming for kids of all ages, schools, the general public and tourists. The building space will allow them to share the vitality of the waterfront they are so well versed in. It will also create a welcome mat to Red Hook, connecting the International visitors to the community in profound ways.

Portside's Sandy recovery work had a major impact on the neighborhood. Kevin's Restaurant was hit hard, and we were able to set up a networking event for damaged restaurants at PortSide's Sandy aid center down the street.

Generally the neighborhood is now thriving, but we need more information about Red Hook at the ferry dock and cruise terminal. The access point is beneficial to all but the map on the dock has little information about our unique community that has rebounded in so many miraculous ways. The EDC has done amazing work to make the Atlantic Basin a corridor of waterfront vitality. Please allow PortSide and the surrounding businesses help continue that growth and reinforce that connection.

Thank you for your attention.

Kevin Moore
277 Van Brunt St
Brooklyn NY 11231



Captain Richard Naruszewicz
Cell 732-874-3268
RNaruszewicz@aol.com

January 18, 2019

PortSide NewYork
Pier 11, Atlantic Basin
Brooklyn, NY 11231

Re: support letter to send to the EDC

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is in support of the operation of PortSide NewYork and the tanker Mary Whalen and their effort to get building space next to their ship. My name is Richard Naruszewicz. My 40 year career has taken me from deckhand to Master of tugs, barges, high speed ferries and tankers, which included a 3 year hitch on the Mary Whalen. As I write you this letter, I now sail on a fuel tanker as Master in New York Harbor. I and my work have been profiled by multiple media outlets.

I am a 9/11 First Responder who was Captain on the second ferry on the scene to start the mass evacuation, rescuing over 4,000 survivors and bringing them to a safe harbor of refuge.

New York Harbor is now more vibrant in the past 10 years, and PortSide has contributed to much of the activity in Atlantic Basin and Brooklyn.

- ⊕ PortSide NewYork welcomed and promoted many tall ships, foreign and domestic that called on Red Hook as part of Op Sail and the Hudson Quadricentennial. PortSide brought many historic ships as part of their own programs.
- ⊕ PortSide NewYork has a volunteer program that lets the community get involved in maintaining the Mary Whalen.
- ⊕ PortSide NewYork set up a Sandy recovery center on Van Brunt Street in Red Hook, Brooklyn, for residents and businesses after the entire area was devastated by Hurricane Sandy.
- ⊕ PortSide NewYork also set up "Tankertime." Quality time to come down to the Mary Whalen to sit, unwind and read a maritime book, or just get on a ship, free of charge.
- ⊕ Now, PortSide NewYork is involved with a local Public School 676 to educate the students about the PortSide/Mary Whalen operation. How excited these young students are when they actually see ships, tugs and barges and ferries that work in and

around Red Hook and Atlantic Basin, and they can learn all the things that we mariners understand. Engineering, weather, waterways and an appreciation of harbor nature. There is no substitute for this kind of education.

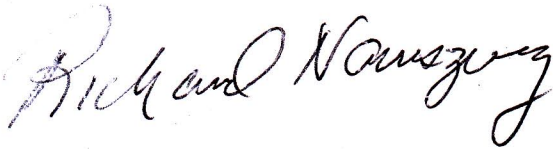
⊕ I hope that in the near future, in this building space in question, PortSide New York will operate a Maritime School for entry level mariners and for present mariners who must upgrade to advance to a higher position or recertify to maintain their current credentials. Establishing a place in this harbor was one of the reasons I got connected to PortSide New York way back in 2009 I think it was. By the way, recreational boaters in this harbor should take some classes too.

I can testify that there is a demand for experience and entry level mariners in New York Harbor.

As much as I love the Mary Whalen, I know that PortSide New York needs building space to do more of what they do and to do it better. Can we talk about how hot it is inside that ship in the summer? It's not a place for offices. Except for vessel operations training, the Coast Guard will not approve classes without a classroom – they need to be in a building. PortSide needs building space. They deserve it. You promised it.

I hope this letter serves to show how PortSide serves the Red Hook community and the harbor as a whole. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me via phone or email at 732-874-3268 or RNaruszewicz@aol.com.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Richard Naruszewicz". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name.

Captain Richard Naruszewicz

Maria Pagano 436 Sackett Street Brooklyn NY 11231

January 5, 2019

Allison Dees
Senior Associate, Asset Management, Transportation Systems
New York City Economic Development Corporation

Via PortSide NewYork

Dear Ms. Dees:

I am writing as a fellow community activist who met Carolina Salguero six years ago as we worked on a “senior rescue.” While working on this project, Carolina and I recognized we shared a mutual interest and commitment in making a difference within our communities. We began by sharing our energy and experience within our communities.

My involvement in the “rescue” developed out of my work in the Carroll Gardens community. The Carroll Gardens Neighborhood Association began in the early 1990's with neighborhood safety issues. I was a founding member and acted as President through 2013. In addition to monthly CGNA meetings, I was involved in the PTAs at my children’s schools. I sat on several neighborhood service boards for many years: Baltic Street Advisory Board of the South Beach Psychiatric Hospital in Cobble Hill, Families First, the first local parenting center in downtown Brooklyn. I have participated on other local boards for shorter terms and became very involved with Carroll Gardens, the schools, churches, commercial and residential communities as well as our nearby neighboring communities.

Once I visited PortSide and attended some of their diverse programs with family and friends, I recognized what a treasure we had under our noses. I enthusiastically supported various programs, particularly the children's educational outreach, understanding the value of children knowing their environment, having a sense of place in this teeming city of ours.

The outstanding events and programs offered by PortSide are genuine, honest and real. Nothing pre-packaged. No busy-work. The activities bring the young and old to the “Port of New York” at the edge of the Red Hook waterfront and then proceed to expand the world and open the mind to new experiences. Learning about “Simple Machines,” a hands-on event designed for the PS 29 Science Fair, taught the kids how pulleys and ropes moved “cargo” in the life size models PortSide brought into the classroom at PS29. And now, the children at Red Hook School PS 676 are excited to walk onto “their boat” and work on the Simple Machines project, too! The opportunities that PortSide creates for genuine engagement with the maritime environment in their own “front yard,” to see and learn about the Port of New York are extraordinary.

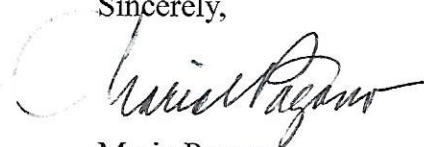
PortSide has connected people of all ages, incomes and backgrounds to their harbor, with a particular emphasis on bringing the marginalized populations that live nearby into the maritime environment.

PortSide is a gift to the City of Brooklyn, and in turn, to the communities that can access its resources. PortSide has overcome daunting challenges since their founding in 2005, which included working as a pop-up through May 29, 2015. PortSide has a brilliant design plan which includes a maritime center with building space, a berth for the MARY A WHALEN and visiting vessels, including other work boats.

This organization and the MARY need a permanent home-such has been promised over many years of outreach and development. It's time. PortSide has won praise and awards for the creative and innovative programming by the dedicated, brilliant and dynamic Carolina Salguero and her staff. PortSide was honored at the White House for their work during the Hurricane Sandy recovery with an award, as well. They can do almost anything- well and effectively- but now they need a home, which they can't do by themselves. We have been promised a permanent site for this wonderful, one-of-a-kind PortSide for more years than we can count! It's overdue that the government come through on the many years of "you do great work- we're working on a permanent place for you" conversation.

We are more than happy to continue to support PortSide's fundraisers with our participation and donations of fish (Pagano's Seafood)- but we want to see our treasured resource firmly settled and berthed with a brick and mortar home. Our communities know about PortSide and support the tremendous benefits they bring to us- not every neighborhood has such a boat and the waterfront just down the block, after all. It's past due for our government to come through for us. Just do it!

Sincerely,



Maria Pagano

NB: Take a few minutes and enjoy:

Simple Machines video at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tZn_VhEtle8

<http://portsideneويورك.org/portsidetanke/2018/5/19/the-mary-turns-80-portside-turns-13>

Alf Pettersen Jr.
4074 Mira Verde St.
Oceanside, CA 92056
(h) 442.224-7407 (c) 760.519-9193

January 5, 2019

Port Side New York

Att: Allison Dees, NYC EDC

When I first became aware that the Motor Tanker Mary A Whalen had been purchased, to be used as a museum and educational display I felt a bit of history had been returned to me. This vessel is the last of the coastal tankers that use to sail in around the coastal waters of the north east, delivering various types of bulk fuel such as heating diesel fuel, jet fuel, and diesel fuel for the transportation industry. Without vessels of this type the New York area would lack the ability to have large quantities of liquid fuel delivered from point A to point B. The transportation of liquid fuel came about by the Ira S Bushey and Sons Dry docks and Ship yards. This history of this company goes back prior to World War II, during that time they were instrumental in the construction of various types of tug boats and oil tankers for the Naval community. After the war they continued to lay keels for larger transportation vessels.

Growing up a Norwegian family the only company we knew of was the Bushey yards. When my dad immigrated to the USA he went to work on these tankers, as a matter fact the Mary A Whalen plus several others of the Bushey tankers. During the summer months my mother would sail with my dad as a relief steward, as an additional benefit I was allowed to take summer trips with my dad.

There is a treasure chest of history in this last of kind vessel, port holes and bridge windows were manufactured by Kearfott Marine, brass fittings and valves were cast and machined by the Brooklyn Brass Company. These are just few of the companies that were the bread and butter for the Red Hook District.

Today you have a one of kind floating museum offering numerous educational programs for the population of the inner city. Marine studies including ship building, maintenance, water way environmental studies to just mention a few.

The Columbia River Maritime Museum houses one of the finest collections of boats that sailed the bygone years of the Columbia River. In addition to floating displays their museum sponsors numerous educational programs.

In my home town San Diego we have the Embarcadero that encompasses the San Diego Maritime Museum with numerous floating displays including the famous Star of India. The historic steam boat ferry Berkeley remains a focal point of all activities including displays and educational programs for all ages.

Hopefully when an on shore facility is built that it will provide for the many programs that will support Port Side, meeting rooms with visual aids, boat hobby workshop, boat building demonstrations, marine career center, and an education cultural center.

Yours truly,

Alf Pettersen



Letter of Support

January 21st 2019

contact :
resilientredhook@gmail.com
www.resilientredhook.org

ADMOVACATING
FOR A
RESILIENT FUTURE
@resilient_RH

Allison Dees
Senior Associate, Asset Management, PortNYC
New York City Economic Development Corporation
110 William Street New York, NY 10038
adees@edc.nyc

Dear Ms. Dees:

Resilient Red Hook, originally known as the NY Rising Red Hook Committee sends this letter to support PortSide New York's efforts to finally get the building space in the warehouse next to their ship in Atlantic Basin.

We know that PortSide desperately needs program space for programs that don't fit on the ship and to run programs when weather makes the ship deck unusable (i.e. most of the year). We know that real estate impediments have challenged the organization since it was founded in Red Hook in 2005. The EDC has the means to end those challenges and help this organization flourish.

Getting PortSide into that building space will be an asset to Red Hook. In terms of the work of this committee, PortSide is a resiliency asset. Their president Carolina Salguero was a member of this committee during its NY Rising phase and contributed significant elements of the final plan submitted to the state in terms of proposals, text and photos. Their staff and interns supplemented Salguero's work. She was also on the committee for over a year during our Resilient Red Hook phase. PortSide has also done resiliency planning work outside of this committee.

In terms of Sandy recovery, PortSide was significant player. They set up and ran a Sandy recovery aid center, partnering with one of our committee members Victoria Alexander of Realty Collective, then ran a virtual aid station and several months of Sandy survivor meetings. That PortSide did that while being quasi-homeless (stuck in the containerport) says a lot about the resiliency and community spirit of this organization.

PortSide strongly adds to social resiliency beyond Sandy and emergencies. PortSide partners with other groups and shares information. PortSide creates educational and cultural programs that benefit Red Hook in many ways. PortSide is also an asset for attracting visitors to Red Hook. They will be able to do that even better with more space and year-round space next to the NYC Ferry stop in Atlantic Basin that was one of the priorities of this committee. Growing PortSide next to that ferry stop will improve the entrance to Red Hook.

PortSide's digital guide to Red Hook past and present (Red Hook WaterStories) serves this community in multiple ways from educating residents and local businesses to informing visitors about our neighborhood in ways that heightens their awareness of what is special about this place. Red Hook WaterStories is cultural tourism at its finest.

PortSide New York is home-grown in Red Hook, and we support the growth of the organization.

Sincerely,
Gita Nandan and Hildegaard Link
Co-chairs
and the Resilient Red Hook Committee

Gita Nandan
committee co-chair

Hildegaard Link
committee co-chair

Jesse Soloman
SBIDC

Adam Armstrong
resident

Jim Tampakis,
CEO, Marine Spares
International

Florence Neal
Kentler International

John McGettrick
Civic Association

Isabel Miesner
resident

Stephen Kondaks
resident

Andrea Sansom
resident

Thaddeus Powlowski
resident

Melissa Stewart Haynes
resident

Karen Bondel,
Fifth Ave Committee
resident

Alexandros Washburn
Stevens Institute, resident

Victoria Hagman
Realty Collective

Ahmed ElHusseiny
AE Superlab, resident

Deborah Gans
Gans Architects

Lauran Harmon
resident

Christine Van Lenten

Putting Words to Work

217 Greenwood Avenue, Brooklyn NY 11218
House phone: 718.972.5472; mobile: 646.265.8445
christinevanlenten@gmail.com

Jan. 5, 2019

Allison Dees
Maritime Projects Manager
NYC EDC
110 William Street
New York, NY 10038

Dear Allison Dees:

Re: PortSide New York's expansion

As a longtime public-policy wonk and advocate for a healthy civic life and as a longtime fan of PortSide New York, I'm writing to urge that PortSide be enabled to expand its physical presence in Red Hook, so it can offer its invaluable programming year-round.

Its excellent business plan makes the case for expansion so clearly and persuasively that I won't belabor it here. But I'll add a few comments:

- PortSide's long track record of working steadily, resourcefully, and creatively to expand and enrich public awareness of our city's working waterfront is rock-solid and abundantly documented.
- PortSide is a superb communicator, able to tell its own story and stories of the waterfront compellingly. Its beautifully designed web site, blog posts, and newsletters are consistently informative, fresh, and engaging. Its photos are knockouts, bringing the waterfront to life.
- PortSide's core mission is service to the public, and particularly to people who are chronically underserved. This is NYC civic activism at its finest: it does our city proud.
- And by fostering collaborations among a multitude of players, PortSide consistently generates benefits beyond what can be foreseen.
- On a personal note, as a grandmother I can state authoritatively that introducing children to the venerable Mary A. Whalen is thrilling for them – and for me!

With thanks for your consideration, and for the work *you* do to help our city thrive,

[signed]

Christine Van Lenten

cc: Carolina Salguero, PortSide New York

PortSide NewYork

Emails sent in support of our getting Atlantic Basin Pier 11 building space

During January 2019

In alpha order

See second compendium of letters sent in support

1. **Kate Alfano** – not known to us
2. **Reid Andres** – musician, marketing professional
3. **Adam Armstrong** – Red Hook resident, blogger, environmental activist
4. **Karen Blondel** - Red Hook NYCHA resident
5. **Edward Barnes** – war correspondent, wrote the LIFE magazine 1980's Red Hook crack story
6. **Ken Curtin** – recently retired FEMA Federal Disaster Recovery Coordinator, FEMA Region II: NY/NJ/PR/USVI
7. **Captain Vince Claps** – captain, instructor of classes for USCG licenses
8. **James D. Ellis** – ED North Flatbush BID, former Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce
9. **Owen Foote** – Gowanus dredgers
10. **Capt. Pat Geiger** – Reinauer tugboat captain, SeaScouts captain
11. **Richard Gins** – Red Hook resident, artist
12. **Cory Hill** – Red Hook business owner, Wet Whistle Wines
13. **Mauritius Nagelmüller** – former PortSide volunteer from Germany, now back in Germany
14. **Diane Neary** – not known to us
15. **Rita Ormsby** – former volunteer on replica ship Halve Maen
16. **Captain Benjamin Paolino** – Jamaica Bay Mooring service, dinner boat captain, former PortSide volunteer
17. **Barney Rowe** – 3B Captain's School
18. **John Russo** – science teacher at Summit Academy in Red Hook, Professor Baruch
19. **Johannes Wetzel** – Park Slope attorney
20. **Veronica Vanaria** – 3rd generation Red Hook Resident
21. **Susan Yamamoto** – Honolulu resident, maritimehawaii.com who visited PortSide in 2016

From: Kate Alfano [mailto:alfano.k@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, January 06, 2019 11:06 PM
To: Chiclet
Subject: Expanding PortSide + the Mary A. Whalen Community

To PortSide and Carolina,

I'd like to share my gratitude for the programming you bring to the Red Hook community and beyond. I live in Park Slope and often visit friends living in Red Hook. On our walks around the waterfront we frequently pop in to check out the Mary A. Whalen, and Chiclet. It's great to have this access to history and maritime education in such an urban environment. I have often thought how your programming could especially serve the kids in the area, and having a dedicated space (especially safe from inclement weather) would be a great opportunity to host more people.

I've been to other events like those of the Gowanus Dredgers, Red Hook Regatta, and Release the Fishes, and see the Mary A. Whalen fitting right in with those programs.

Please reach out if there's anything I can do to help make this expansion happen. We'd love to see it up and running by summertime!

All the best,

Kate Alfano

Fri 1/4/2019 4:29 PM
Reid Andres reid_andres@yahoo.com
Portside Expansion Plan
To: Chiclet Chiclet@portsideneويورك.org

Dear NYC EDC,

I fully support Portside New York's plan for building space alongside the Mary A Whalen boat to help them reach their goals as an exhibition and marine center. This community-minded plan is the exact type of development that will benefit its Red Hook and South Brooklyn neighbors, as well as contribute to educate audiences about the unique maritime and costal history that has shaped what NYC is today.

Sincerely,

Reid Andres
917.930.9046

From: Adam Armstrong [mailto:adsdan@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, January 23, 2019 11:05 PM
To: adees@edc.nyc
Cc: Carolina Salguero
Subject: Letter of Support for PortSide New York

Dear Allison Dees,

My name is Adam Armstrong. I've been an advocate for a green working waterfront in Red Hook, Brooklyn, since my family and I made our home here in 2002. I fully support PortSide making a permanent home and the creation of a headquarters in the Pier 11 shed on the Atlantic Basin, the unique and historic harbor nestled between Red Hook's residential blocks and the Brooklyn Cruise Terminal.

It's time for the NYCEDC to finally make good on the promise - made to PortSide New York and this community in 2008 - that Portside would be given a permanent home in the Atlantic Basin with dock space and a portion of the Pier 11 shed. That 2008 commitment included 600 feet of pier to program and use of the asphalt south of the Pier 11 shed (when no cruise ship was in). What NYCEDC has delivered so far has taken years, and has afforded Portside much less space than was previously committed. This is entirely unsatisfactory.

Let's revisit some history. When the NYCEDC made a deal in 2008 to move Phoenix Beverages to the Red Hook waterfront (inexplicably into the sheds at both Piers 7 and 11, when Phoenix only ever wanted one pier/shed), our community was in full revolt. In an attempt to placate community concerns about the Phoenix plan - including questions about congestion, pollution, appropriate use of precious, publicly-owned waterfront land, the severing of our community from waterfront access, etc. - PortSide New York was selected by the NYCEDC to take on the task of making the promised "community-friendly elements" a reality.

A firm commitment was made to our community that a portion of the Pier 11 shed and the surrounding site around the Atlantic Basin would be allocated for Portside New York, which would compliment further community/ cultural use, open space, accommodation of the Brooklyn Greenway, waterfront access, transportation, etc.

At the time I wrote in my blog, "A View From The Hook", that the inclusion of Portside New York as a 'give-back' to the community was a "small concession", but that Portside's presence was central to making the use of this space work for the community. Representatives from the NYCEDC, including SVP Venetia Lannon and VP Andrew Genn, assured our residents at meeting after meeting that PortSide was an integral part of the whole deal, and we were told we shouldn't worry about being shut out or cut off from the waterfront to which our community - both residential and commercial - was craving more connection.

In 2009, after NYCEDC made that public commitment, PortSide made an exciting announcement, writing, "PortSide New York is thrilled to announce that we are soon to get

our first publicly accessible home, your new home on the waterfront. The New York City Economic Development Corporation (EDC) is negotiating directly with PortSide New York to create a home for us in Atlantic Basin, next to the Brooklyn Cruise Terminal. This will include a berth for the Mary Whalen, a pier where we will host visiting vessels of every description, and an interior space that will house programs and interpretive spaces. Visible from PortSide will be huge cruise and container ships, gantry cranes at work, tugboats, charter, excursion and historic vessels.”

Many of my neighbors and I witnessed that promise first-hand and were part of the conversation at the time supporting the creation of a permanent home for PortSide New York in the Atlantic Basin and in the Pier 11 shed. We were shocked when we learned in 2012 that NYCEDC had broken that promise, and were further taken aback when, despite the fact that PortSide had created many successful events in the Atlantic Basin using temporary, short-term permits, PortSide was inauspiciously kicked out of the Atlantic Basin and was forced to seek a new home, possibly outside of Brooklyn - a significant loss for our community.

PortSide New York’s operations were left in limbo for years, with the Mary Whalen homeless, moored in the largely inaccessible Red Hook containerport, and the organization searching for a new permanent location. In 2015, our Council member Carlos Menchaca successfully secured a home for PortSide’s ship back in the Atlantic Basin. Since then, PortSide has been continuing to contribute to the community through its programs, but its work has been restricted because of the lack of space on shore.

This organization has a track record in Red Hook that needs to be acknowledged. Since 2005, PortSide New York’s founder, Carolina Salguero, has built an organization that has been creating important programs on the Red Hook waterfront in the Atlantic Basin - reactivating what PortSide calls the “Blue Space”. Activities and programs, mostly centered on PortSide's ship, Mary A. Whalen, have included "Tanker Opera", "Roots and Ruckus" festival, "Dutch Flat Bottomed Boats" event, neighborhood tours, waterfront education, tall ship sails on “Clipper City” and “Gazella”, ferry tours of the harbor, educational tours on the historic tug "Cornell", youth and school programs, "City of Water Day" celebrations, music, food, movies, talks, story telling, historic walking tours, “Tanker Time”, “Red Hook Water Stories”, and more. As a result of PortSide’s work, thousands have been drawn to Red Hook to experience and learn first-hand about our wonderful waterfront and the “Blue Space” that has historically been inaccessible to our residents.

During our neighborhood’s recovery from Superstorm Sandy, PortSide New York and Carolina Salguero played an important role - providing information and resources to those in need, while recovering from Sandy damages themselves. Additionally, PortSide has been a vocal proponent for improved waterfront transportation and was an important advocate in securing a NYC Ferry stop in the Atlantic Basin.

PortSide’s recent programming with local school PS 676 has been another welcome addition to the neighborhood, and this is exactly the type of program that would flourish if Portside was given the space to expand on shore - i.e. in the Pier 11 shed.

In short, this organization deserves space. PortSide's programming is being limited by only having ship space on deck that's unusable most of the year and weather prone in summer. Conditions inside the boat are also a huge challenge, with office area temperatures intolerably hot in the summer and brutally cold in the winter. This is not how PortSide envisaged it would be operating. The plan was always to use the Mary Whalen for a portion of their programming, but with significant on-shore space for most of PortSide's operations and programs.

As a further note, NYCEDC has had a terrible record of not making good on promises to our community and bad faith decisions regarding Red Hook. From the Phoenix Beverages debacle (see my blog post - "NYCEDC to Red Hook - Drop Dead"), to the planning of the cruise terminal and inexorable decade-long roll out of the (yet to be fully operational) shore power system, to the back and forth regarding "community use" of the area around the cruise terminal and the terminal building itself, the kerfuffle about the NYC Ferry landing location, lack of wayfinding at the NYC Ferry stop and cruise terminal, and - even to this day - the utter lack of communication with our residents regarding all things concerning the cruise terminal, including the upgrading of the cruise terminal to accept larger 6000 passenger ships.

There is a lot of bad blood between Red Hook and the NYCEDC, and that needs to change.

In that light, NYCEDC should finally make good on its promise, made a decade ago, to make it possible for PortSide New York to make a permanent home in the Pier 11 shed on the Atlantic Basin.

As an advocate for a better Red Hook, a member of New York Rising /Resilient Red Hook Committee, an activist for a greener and smarter working waterfront (including my decade-long advocacy for shore power at the Brooklyn Cruise Terminal), it's been exciting to witness PortSide New York's work over many years to create a more vibrant waterfront in Red Hook, and to see how that work has been reinvigorating our waterfront by bringing people to it. PortSide's presence in the Pier 11 shed will allow them an opportunity to create more of these events and important programs, share the waterfront with more of our neighborhood and city's residents, while continuing to contribute to Red Hook in countless ways

Sincerely,

Adam Armstrong

Resident/Homeowner
Resilient Red Hook Committee Member
Blog: www.aviewfromthehook.com
Twitter: @viewfromthehook

cc: Carolina Salguero, PortSide NewYork

From: Edward Barnes [mailto:ebarnes@aol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 29, 2019 10:09 AM
To: Carolina Salguero
Subject: My recommendation letter

As the person who made Red Hook famous in the 1980s and as someone deeply attached to maritime heritage, I write to support PortSide New York's efforts to get building space next to their ship.

My great-grandfather was one of the great sea captains, and storytellers, of the age of the square riggers. My grandfather was "Litter Skipper" on Admiral Perry's twelve man expedition to the North Pole. My father was involved in the Battle of the North Atlantic.

In April 1988, I was assigned by LIFE Magazine to go into the bowels of the crack epidemic. That is how I came to Red Hook.

For ten weeks I lived in the misnamed Red Hook Houses, hung out by the flagpole, watched the deals, the scams, the shootings, the ODs, and the lost kids that couldn't go home until the drugs were gone. Every day was a surprise. At the peak of the epidemic Red Hook had become a \$5 neighborhood—almost anything you wanted could be had for the price of the next crack hit.

When the story was published by LIFE Magazine Red Hook became a symbol of the worst that could happen to a neighborhood, a city, a people, and a country. The impression was reinforced some time later when Patrick Daly, a principal of the elementary school, went outside to find a student and was shot dead.

In the time since, I have never really left.

I was introduced to the neighborhood when it was at its worst, and I have joyfully watched its resurgence, most of it centered on the waterfront. When I worked there, the waterfront was dangerous and desolate. My father worked the docks, and through him I saw the collapse of the ship repair companies, the loading piers, and almost every other harbor-oriented business along the septic harborside. Today the waterfront is the engine of the resurgence, but its maritime essence is overlooked.

Which brings me to PortSide New York, and why it is both necessary and important.

It is important because, with the beginning of ferry service, PortSide has become the welcoming, human face of the neighborhood. Getting off the ferry, the visitor is faced with that drab parking lot bordered by the secret service headquarters and seemingly abandoned warehouses to follow white lines to a gate that is hopefully open. That is the grim welcome to a neighborhood that needs to make a good first impression.

The only thing that saves the entry is the presence of the MARY A. WHALEN with her open gangway, special view of the harbor and the skyline and the vitality of the work that hums aboard. The ship is the only link I have seen that connects the whole community with the waterfront.

The noble little ship is a safe harbor for schools and children who have limited access to the world. It is also a training ground for future sailors and union backed apprentice programs. She is also what the harbor was and should be—an open and welcoming place to touch and feel an era gone by.

Last week, I brought my friend Peter, who runs the San Francisco Symphony, to visit. He is originally from Brooklyn; and when he returns, we go to the places he recalls and to the places I think he should see. He had just come back from Japan where he was judging the next generation of symphony conductors. There, he toured the manicured gardens and seaside esplanades. But when we walked up the gangway to the Mary Whalen, he said later, it had an impact that was breathtaking. “It is a place that makes NY make sense,” he said, “It is a view that I have never seen. It is a place that begs to be known. And there are no pretensions. It is a hidden treasure.”

Which is why giving the Whalen a footprint on land is critical.

The vision here is the right one. Create a maritime center that links heritage to future, that serves the youth and adults from those Red Hook Houses whose challenges I know so well, and also create a welcoming gateway to the gunk-holing New Yorker, the exploring hipster, the international tourist. A place that hews to the authentic grit of Red Hook and its working waterfront while showing a 21st century way to have the public on that waterfront. Not another hyper-designed park waterfront, but a real working waterfront where diverse people connect to things maritime.

Giving PortSide building space is critical. It will allow them to operate in all weather and year-round. It will expand the programs that the limited space on the ship make difficult, provide space for teaching materials and a shaded sanctuary in summer and warmth in the winter. And, as ferry service expands, directions for the lost, advice for the wandering and a new sense of what Red Hook is becoming.

Why wait? What’s the risk? It’s been a fallow building space for years. The organization has bettered the lives of thousands while tackling one real estate crisis after another, some caused by your own agency. Be a hero. Deliver what you promised Red Hook years ago, a home for PortSide New York.

Fri 1/4/2019 5:35 PM

Karen Blondel kblondel63@gmail.com

Re: Letter of Support

To: Carolina Salguero carolina@portsidenewyork.org

Anytime Carolina!

I told you a long time ago I see and feel your passion and I support you and your work. Thank you for all you are doing in Red Hook!

Karen

Fri 1/4/2019 5:39 PM

Karen Blondel kblondel63@gmail.com

Fwd: Letter of Support

To: <chiclet@portsidenewyork.org>

My name is Karen Blondel and I am an organizer and resident of the Red Hook Houses. I am writing this letter in support of Portside aka The Mary A Whalen and its programming in Red Hook. Portside is a great opportunity for many students and residents throughout the city because it offers a variety of programming related to our waterfront. By visiting Portside many students and participants have gained knowledge related to marine life and work and about Hurricane Sandy and sea level rise in NYC. This is a great segue to educate the public about climate change and adaptation measures.

I wish Portside much success!

Karen Blondel

Fifth Avenue Committee Organizer

Ken Curtin
377 Douglass Street
Brooklyn, NY 11217

January 7, 2019

Ms. Allison Dees
Senior Associate, Asset Management, Transportation Systems
New York City Economic Development Corporation

Dear Ms. Dees:

I am writing in support of the PORTSIDE NEW YORK proposal to EDC to help establish an adjacent land-based space that would enable PortSide to fulfill its long-standing plans to create a versatile maritime center that combines working waterfront and public access and will grow its already impressive work in Red Hook community development.

When PortSide New York was recognized as a White House “Champion of Change” after Superstorm Sandy, I was FEMA’s Federal Disaster Recovery Coordinator for New York State. Our team, including officials from the US Department of the Interior and Nation Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration, had a long visit to the ship Mary A. Whalen. We learned of PortSide’s innovative response to the emergency, and heard about plans (many now implemented) to promote disaster recovery, preparedness and resiliency in Red Hook. This led to PortSide’s productive relationship with New York City Emergency Management.

Since I retired from FEMA in 2015, I have continued to actively support PortSide in any way I can. Its array of substantial programs, though broad and diverse, is always grounded in the vision of improving the lives of the young and disadvantaged of Red Hook and beyond.

I strongly recommend approval of the PortSide NYC proposal.

Sincerely,

Ken Curtin
Federal Emergency Management Coordinator (Retired)

Sun 1/6/2019 3:07 PM

Capt Vince capt.captvince.vince@gmail.com

To: Carolina Salguero <carolina@portsidenewyork.org>

ALLISON DEES

Senior Associate, Asset Management, Transportation Systems
New York City Economic Development Corporation
adees@edc.nyc
www.edc.nyc 212.312.1220 (w) 646.770.2031 (m)

This letter is to support PortSide NewYork's efforts to get building space at Atlantic Basin.

I met Carolina Salguero in 2006 when I was her instructor at the Sea School program where she was an exceptional student and earned her Captain's license.

I have worked in the marine industry for 30 years as a manager of harbor pilots responsible for guiding ships through NY Harbor, as a tug captain in NY harbor and as a teacher of maritime licensing class's for the USCG, Bayonne, NYC Harbor Police, NY State sheriff department, and civilians in the greater NY area .

For years, I have been interested in partnering with PortSide to offer Coast Guard approved classes for merchant marine licenses. Back in 2009 and 2010, I and Carolina worked on a proposal for this same building space that PortSide is trying to get, but PortSide did not get the space. At the time, I was involved in starting up a maritime training school on Staten Island whose founder Curt Ward also very much wanted to work with PortSide and offer classes at PortSide. The school closed in 2013 when Curt Ward died unexpectedly. I and others would still like to execute some training classes at PortSide. There is a market in this region for merchant mariners' classes for deck jobs.

PortSide has many worthy programs, and the organization is very constrained by being limited to the MARY A. WHALEN. The MARY is a great ship that tells a great story, but she is not enough space or the right space to execute all the solid ideas that the PortSide team has.

The Growth of PortSide will only enhance the value this organization brings to the NY Area. Values which are both cultural and economic.

Respectfully,
Captain Vince Claps

James D. Ellis
713 Classon Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11238
January 5, 2018

Allison Dees
Senior Associate, Asset Management, Transportation Systems
New York City Economic Development Corporation

Greetings. My name is James D. Ellis. I am Senior Director for Community and Economic Development at Perch Advisors, a consulting firm that supports communities and organizations in program development, organizational growth and strategy. While never a client of Perch Advisors, I first met PortSide NewYork when I worked at the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce as the Manager of Neighborhood Economic Development Initiatives. In 2012, in the aftermath of Superstorm Sandy, as the Brooklyn Chamber stepped in to support neighborhoods and local businesses in Brooklyn, I was charged with coordinating resources on the ground in Red Hook. I, along with countless others, forged many relationships and connected existing ones to examine, discuss and parlay the neighborhood's immediate needs.

PortSide NewYork had rapidly set up a Sandy recovery center in a store-front real estate office where I was based for a while. I sat at the table next to Carolina Salguero, and I watched her staff provide direct assistance, funnel assistance program information to Sandy victims and be very inventive about responding to needs and opportunities as they walked in their door—all done with compassion, sincerity, and the right amount of humor when needed. Some of their efforts included designing ad-hoc internet service network with a router in a tree, connected an angel electrician that helped dozens of residences certify their building to regain power, coordinating legal clinics for businesses and more. The inventive resourcefulness and deep empathy of the team was inspiring to watch and proof that PortSide understood the people of Red Hook and the needs of the community.

Since then, PortSide continues to engage Red Hook neighbors, visitors, maritime enthusiasts and so many more. With the business promotion efforts embedded in their Red Hook WaterStories project and hosting community events on board the Mary Whelan, PortSide amazes me with their community-building efforts. This resonates with my professional work, but I also know that PortSide offers so much more in terms of cultural and educational programming for youth, union trades and artists, and continues to connect our city's green and blue space-land and working waterfront. They manage to be a community voice, advocate and a physical destination and retain a homegrown and hometown community feel.

As PortSide continues their diligent work, it is obvious that the need for appropriate space that can service the diverse stakeholders they serve. Space acquisition has been challenging the organization for some time. It is my understanding that NYC EDC manages physical assets nearby to the Mary Whelan's dock location, and as New York City continues to grow and attention given to the interface of our waterfront, it would great to see this issue finally resolved so that PortSide can blossom and better serve their neighbors and visitors.

Sincerely,



James D. Ellis

Wed 12/19/2018 4:46 PM
Gowanus Dredgers gdredgers@gmail.com
Letter of Support
To: Chiclet Chiclet@portsideneويورك.org

To whom it may concern,

The Gowanus Dredgers Canoe club have been operating an environmental boating program in Brooklyn for nearly twenty years. We fully support the expansion of Portside NY to the warehouse near their docked vessel in Red Hook, Brooklyn. This opportunity presents a chance for a diverse audience to enjoy and utilize their programs and such a space should greatly expand their capacity as an organization.

Once renovated, the space has the potential to be an economic catalysts for the port area and further revitalize the neighborhood which is now easily accessible via water taxi. Red Hook is experiencing a revival and we ask that the Mary A. Whalen be an active participant to further enhance and support the overall economic development of the area.

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Let's Dredge!

Owen Foote

Gowanus Dredgers Canoe Club
www.gowanuscanal.org
[@GowanusDredgers](https://twitter.com/GowanusDredgers) on Twitter
www.instagram.com/gowanusdredgers on Instagram

Sat 1/5/2019 9:31 PM

Patrick Geiger pgeiger2@comcast.net

Sea Scout visits to Portside New York

To: Chiclet

Hello Carolina and Chiclet,

Thank you for hosting us on our many trips to the MARY A. WHALEN and Portside New York. Our trips are both fun and educational for the Scouts and the adults. The scouts can't seem to get enough of touring the tanker and learning of her function, engineering, and construction. They also love playing with the ship's cat!. We usually only stay for a few hours but that never seems enough to answer all the questions about tanker life and operation. These trips seem to give the scouts a glimpse of life in the maritime industry and many of our scouts have gone far in the industry and in the Navy. Access to the MARY A. WHALEN has been very influential in steering these young scouts toward the maritime world.

The vision for the future of Portside New York would provide for even more opportunity for the scouts to learn and explore the maritime experience that is New York harbor. The sailing programs proposed would be wonderful for our scouts who want learn how to sail but come from families who can't afford expensive sailboats. The proposed static and dynamic displays would be great for learning the many aspects of our maritime heritage. More space in Atlantic basin would go a long way to fulfilling those goals.

I wish you well fulfilling these goals and look forward to bringing the scouts there and making Portside New York a destination for day long or weekend visits. Either way, we will continue to include stops to the MARY A. WHALEN on our trips around New York harbor.

Thanks again,

Capt. Pat Geiger

Mate

Sea Scout Ships 228 and 243

Sun 1/6/2019 1:07 PM

Richard Gins rginsstudio@gmail.com

More Space for the PortSide New York program

To: Chiclet Chiclet@portsidenewyork.org

Dear NYC EDC,

I am a resident at of Red Hook for almost 30 years and have watched as the Mary A Whalen ship developed the PortSide program. It is and has been for years an asset to our community becoming a place where kids and adult can learn about our water environment and ports; can gather to share information work on community projects and can promote the local business community as well.

I am asking you to allow the PortSide program to expand, bringing new facility and possibilities to the Red Hook community. This passionate program has proven over time, with its thoughtful and professional development, that it is appreciated, participated in, and with its vision, deserves consideration, support and funding for building along side of the Mary A Whalen ship, allowing this wonderful program to bring addition programming to our kids and community.

Thank you for your attention and consideration.

Sincerely,
Richard Gins

Fri 1/4/2019 2:32 PM

Cory Hill chill@wetwhistlewines.com

Support for expansion of Portside space

To: Chiclet Chiclet@portsideneويورك.org

To whom it may concern, Greetings,

I am writing in support of helping PortSide expansion.

PortSide has been a tireless advocate for meaningful and responsible development of the waterfront of the whole of New York City and for Red Hook and its residents in particular. Their dedication to clean, safe and inclusive waterfront space development is necessary for all of us New Yorkers.

Please consider them for all grants and all efforts at expanding their space to adjacent warehouse space.

Sincerely,

Cory Hill

Red Hook Business owner.

--

Wet Whistle Wines

357 van Brunt Street

Brooklyn, NY 11231

(718) 576-3143

From: Mauritius Nagelmüller [mailto:Mauritius.Nagelmuller@email.de]
Sent: Monday, January 07, 2019 5:46 PM
To: Chiclet
Subject: PortSide New York is a NYC institution; attn: Allison Dees, NYC EDC

Hi all,

One might wonder how a German lawyer gets to a historic oil tanker in Brooklyn, but as soon as one understands the wonderful mix of local community projects and visitors with international backgrounds from all over the world on the Mary A Whalen, it doesn't seem so crazy anymore.

After doing my master's at Tulane, I came to NYC to work for one year. From the very start, I was looking for projects to get some balance to my work in law/finance. I can't only do office work, and ideally need to be on the water as much as I can. This is due to my dad, who brought me to the regular crew of the tall sailing ship [Brigg Roald Amundsen](#) when I was 12, and we've been sailing on the Baltic Sea and Atlantic since then as often as we can. Sometimes it's just cruising around, sometimes it's more competitive, for example during the Tall Ships Races. On the Roald, I don't only teach traditional seamanship, but also supervise international youth exchanges ...and stressful days in the galley, preparing four meals a day for a crew of 48. In fact, the Roald is also a converted historic ship, she used to be a deep sea fish lugger, now rigged as a traditional brig intended for sail training.

I'm still grateful to my girlfriend, also a big friend of the Mary A Whalen, because it was her who found the ship in a flyer for Open House New York. A historic ship? We had to see it! It didn't take me long to fall in love with the Mary A Whalen. The gorgeous exterior reminds you of a different time, the engine room is an illustration of American engineering, in the wheelhouse you still breathe the air of nautical expertise and responsibility for lives, cargo, hundreds of tons of living steel. The views to the city put everything in perspective: the Mary A Whalen is part of New York City, as it has been for generations.

It just got better, when we met the people taking care of the tanker. Having talked to many nice volunteers to guide visitors from all over New York and way beyond on different stations on the ship, I soon met Carolina, founder and president of Portside New York. She invited us to come back to the ship, which we were happy to do. Since then, we've helped with restoration and maintenance works, and witnessed how much the project does and means to people in the community. In projects for schools, including underprivileged students, PortSide New York has given kids from all backgrounds that spark of joy that they need while preparing their future in an early competitive environment. The PortSide New York hosted the Amistad, the official Connecticut flagship multiple times, which raised awareness for the Black Maritime History of the U.S. The Mary A Whalen is not only the perfect place for education, events and gatherings, but PortSide New York offers cultural programs of various kinds to call New York's maritime history and present to people's minds.

New York City became what it is today because of the waterways surrounding it, and the people who made the most of that. PortSide New York makes sure people remember.

Given all my time on ships, I understand PortSide's need for more space. Having an office aboard has many limitations on office effectiveness, gets in the way of restoring the ship and make the interior fully accessible to the public. Also, all ships that size need building space for maintenance functions. In PortSide's case, their plan to have a shop for boat building will do double duty in preserving the ship and expanding programs. Building space will also make possible more maritime programs, more ways to tell the story via exhibits and events of many types. Ships are built to be ships, and as much as I love them, they are very limited for other kinds of uses. More is more in this case. With more space, this special organization can do more.

To me, the Mary A Whalen is one of New York's true gems, and I met the nicest and most interesting people on this ship (and, of course, the ship cat Chiclet). I am back in Germany now, but PortSide New York is part of "my" New York, and I'll come back for a visit as often as possible. Being with Carolina and the rest of her crew and helping on the ship has always been a pleasure, but also helped me through some of the hardships the best city in the world sometimes holds. I know it's the same for many others.

Thank you,

Mauritius Nagelmüller

Sat 12/22/2018 4:53 PM

Diane Neary diane.neary@gmail.com

Why I admire PortSide and think it should expand

To: Chiclet Chiclet@portsidewyork.org

I admire PortSide's imagination, creativity, tenacity, and generosity. I definitely think it should have the space and encouragement to expand. Their proposed programs will involve many members of the community and especially benefit kids by teaching them exciting new skills. All the best to one of my favorite NYC resources!

Fri 1/4/2019 8:54 PM

Rita Ormsby rjormsby@verizon.net

Support for project

To: Chiclet Chiclet@portsidenewyork.org

Hello,

I have lived in Park Slope for 26 years and I would like to add my support for your efforts to have an indoor space to enlarge activities related to the Mary A Whalen. For a number of years, I formerly volunteered on a replica of Henry Hudson's ship the Halve Maen (Half Moon) that was headquartered in Albany. There is so much for everyone to learn about ships and boats and they can be enjoyed by all ages. I think it is particularly important for young people to have such experiences as they can have practical applications of their math in figuring out the steering and also learn to work as a team to accomplish a goal. (You also learn to appreciate a clean head and the importance of safety.) I do so hope you are able to have your proposal approved.

While there's nothing like a nice day out on the water, there's no guarantee of good weather. Your proposed plans would offer opportunities for programs and other activities when the weather isn't ideal. I also know that access for all is important and having an ADA compliant area for programs would provide the opportunities to be available to all to fully enjoy the Mary A Whalen and activities and programs associated with it..

Please let me know if there's anything more that I can do.

Best, Rita Ormsby

Mon 12/31/2018 5:45 PM

Benjamin Paolino jbmser@msn.com

New York Needs Portside

To: Chiclet Chiclet@portsidenewyork.org

Please keep all the programs going, build on them, and grow with the great maritime community that New York City is! All the best to you in 2019.

Cap'n Ben, Rockaway Point Yacht Club

From: Henry Rowe [mailto:rowe342701@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, January 07, 2019 1:24 PM
To: Carolina Salguero; capt.captvince.vince@gmail.com
Cc: capt@aol.com
Subject: classroom for captains school

Hello... my name is Barney Rowe of 3B' Captains School and I'll be the one to get approval for your site for the CG.

Vince has sent me layout but to get approval I need pix inside and out.

WE offer a 3 weekend and 7 day class and are CG approved and actually conduct the test.

When approved and scheduled we will put your class on our webpage: CaptainsSchool.com

Your multi-purpose rooms would be sufficient as CG requires 72 sq ft for teacher and 36 for each student, 4 running feet on a 30" wide table and limit of 24 students so 800 sq feet is sufficient as we try to limit class under 16.

I look forward to working with you and Capt Vince on this project.

Note: Captain Vince is an experienced nautical teacher having taught at Seaman's Institute on Staten Island for many years.

Barney Rowe

Mon 11/19/2018 4:55 PM

John Russo jrusso@sacsny.org

Re: feedback on today's field trip

To: Carolina Salguero carolina@portsideneويورك.org

Hey guys,

THANK YOU SOOOOO MUCH!

The kids came back and were telling everyone about the critters, and the kayaking, and the overall good time they had. I will call when I get a chance, cause tonight I'm busy, but... Thank you again.

Also, we are all very curious about that "sucker" fish that changed colors. This:



Sugemaller was the closest organism we could find that can be found in brackish water and may change color to blend in with its surroundings, but... that's about it.

Lastly, the kids would like to come back in the Spring, and do everything again. I can't tell you how appreciative I am that you guys took your time out to enrich these students' education. They even made mention about the man-made habitat you were looking to create.

Best,
Johnny

Thu 1/3/2019 3:46 PM

Hans Wetzel hanswetzel@gmail.com

Letter of Support for PortSide NY Expansion

To: Chiclet Chiclet@portsidenewyork.org

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to support the expansion of PortSide New York into warehouse space near their current space.

I am an attorney living in Park Slope. I regularly visit Red Hook and other places in the city to access the waterfront. I think the city's waterfront is a fascinating resource. I strongly support programs like PortSide, and I hope they can grow and provide even more to locals and tourists.

There are great opportunities in Red Hook to increase access to nature and the historic waterfront. PortSide seems very well positioned to take on the role of providing this access.

Thank you for your attention and consideration.

Yours,

Johannes Wetzel

243 13th St, Brooklyn, NY 11215

Fri 12/28/2018 10:43 AM

Veronica Vanaria lfeagain211@gmail.com

To: Carolina Salguero carolina@portsideneويورك.org

Dear Carolina,

Portside is a maritime treasure! I'm so happy that it found a home in my neighborhood of Red Hook. As a third generation resident I so appreciate the charm and education it has to offer. It teaches us about the past, the present, and the future regarding our relationship with the water as well as the history of our special neighborhood. It also teaches those that visit or volunteer what it means to be resilient and have a sense of community.

I love you, Portside!

Sincerely,

Veronica V.

Sun 1/6/2019 7:12 AM

Susan Yamamoto susan@maritimehawaii.com

Message to NYC EDC

To: Chiclet Chiclet@portsidenewyork.org

Ms. Allison Dees

Intern, Ports & Transportation

New York City Economic Development Corporation adees@edc.nyc

Dear Ms. Dees,

I am writing in support of PortSide NewYork's efforts to acquire warehouse space adjacent to the historic tanker MARY A. WHALEN's berth in Atlantic Basin, Red Hook.

I had the opportunity to visit the MARY A. WHALEN in April 2016. I was impressed by the preservation and restoration work being done on the vessel and appreciated the time Ms. Carolina Salguero took to discuss PortSide NewYork's educational and cultural programs and the organization's plans for the future.

PortSide NewYork's mission of engaging and educating the general public about the waterfront and New York City's maritime past and present is an important one. With a shoreside facility, the organization will be able to increase its profile in the Red Hook area and provide local residents and visitors of all ages with expanded and new programs.

Aloha,

Susan Yamamoto

Maritime Hawai'i
maritimehawaii.com