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Advocates Launch Industrial Jobs Coalition

Group calls for City to Focus on Creating Quality Jobs

Today, advocates launched the Industrial Jobs Coalition (IJC), a citywide alliance of industrial business service providers, community based organizations, and policy experts. Along with their launch, the IJC released its 2017 platform, outlining recommendations to spur the growth of jobs in industrial and manufacturing, a sector that has consistently provided robust wages and a means to economic stability. In the coming months, the coalition will engage community boards across the city on where industrial policy can go from here.

"A vibrant industrial sector, a source of good-paying jobs with low barriers to entry, is essential to the City's efforts to build a more inclusive, equitable economy," said **Armando Moritz-Chapelliquen, Campaign Coordinator with the Association for Neighborhood and Housing Development**. "In launching this coalition, we will collaborate with community stakeholders at a local level while advancing this vision at a citywide level."

"On a number of occasions the Mayor has laid out a comprehensive set of strategies for strengthening the city's manufacturing sector and creating well-paying jobs," said **Adam Friedman, Director of the Pratt Center**. "While components of his industrial plan have moved forward, efforts to strengthen manufacturing zoning which is essential to protecting space for manufacturing jobs has not. This gap threatens the plan overall. We would welcome the opportunity to work with the Administration to close the loopholes in zoning which undermine the growth of the industry."

The policy recommendations focus on three major areas: land use policy, urban infrastructure, and mission-driven development. Many expand upon goals first laid out in the Mayor's 2015 Industrial Action Plan, while others aim to begin a discourse on how the City approaches planning for industrial neighborhoods.

"Manufacturing is one of the most important sectors of New York's economy. These jobs are the backbone of working class families. That's why we need common sense public policy that supports the growth of industrial jobs," said **Councilmember David Greenfield, Chair of City Council Committee on Land Use**. "I am committed to working with the Industrial Jobs Coalition to advance growth opportunities through zoning change, infrastructural support and long-term strategies to preserve affordability."

“As the leading advocate for the working waterfront of Southwest Brooklyn since 1978, we recognize the severe challenges facing New York City’s industrial and manufacturing sector on a daily basis,” said **Andrea Devening, Deputy Director at Southwest Brooklyn Industrial Development Corporation**. “We look forward to working with the Industrial Jobs Coalition to ensure that industrial jobs remain here in New York City and that this important pathway to economic advancement not only remains available to New Yorkers but that these opportunities are increased and strengthened.”

“Mayor de Blasio underscored his commitment to job creation in his most recent State of the City address, but in order to create and maintain good jobs with low barriers to entry, we need to strengthen the manufacturing base, not only in Sunset Park, but in all of the city’s industrial business zones” said **Councilmember Antonio Reynoso**. “This will require both substantive changes to zoning, and real support for local non-profit organizations that work with small manufacturing businesses.”

About Industrial Jobs Coalition (IJC)

A vibrant industrial sector is essential to the City’s efforts to build a more inclusive, equitable economy. The industrial sector is a critical source of well-paying jobs with low barriers to entry and offers opportunities for entrepreneurs to launch new businesses. For the City to have a successful economic equity policy, it must have a vibrant industrial sector. The Industrial Jobs Coalition (IJC) was formed to increase awareness, advance implementation of these strategies, and elevate the dialogue between city agencies and the industrial community.

Industrial Jobs Coalition Membership

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Industrial Jobs Coalition (IJC)

Advocating to Create Quality Jobs for All New Yorkers

A vibrant industrial sector is essential to the City's efforts to build a more inclusive, equitable economy. The industrial sector is a critical source of well-paying jobs with low barriers to entry and offers opportunities for entrepreneurs to launch new businesses. For the City to have a successful economic equity policy, it must have a vibrant industrial sector. The Industrial Jobs Coalition (IJC) was formed to increase awareness, advance implementation of these strategies, and elevate the dialogue between city agencies and the industrial community.

Reform City Zoning to Ensure Space for Job-Dense Industrial and Manufacturing Businesses

The good paying jobs from industrial and manufacturing can only flourish if they have places to take root - areas in which they have the security to invest in equipment and training. In order for good-paying jobs to continue to provide economic opportunity to communities in all five boroughs, the City must use zoning to protect and strengthen industrial areas by:

- Prohibiting incompatible uses that accelerate speculation in the Industrial Business Zones (IBZs), such as hotels, large-scale entertainment, mini-storage, and non-ancillary offices
- Re-evaluating density of existing manufacturing zones
- Ending the Community Facility bonus within the City's 21 Industrial Business Zones
- Reviewing and appropriately restricting incompatible uses from other manufacturing zones more broadly through special permits

Provide Appropriate Infrastructure and Urban Design For Industrial Business Zones

The City's IBZs are central manufacturing areas, crucial to industrial business operations and growth. The City should recognize that industrial businesses need a different approach to infrastructure and urban design, distinct from residential and commercial areas. The City should re-conceptualize the IBZs as industrial campuses by:

- Routing bike lanes off truck routes and adopting parking, loading and sidewalk regulations to facilitate industrial uses
- Adopting signage to publicize the industrial nature of the area
- Expanding access to high-speed broadband service
- Reviewing street maintenance, ensuring freight mobility, and planning for resiliency

Support Non-Profit Development to Reduce Speculation

New York City pioneered the use of mission-driven organizations to develop and manage affordable housing and now has the opportunity to use a similar strategy to create affordable space for manufacturing businesses and jobs. Together, organizations like the Brooklyn Navy Yard, Greenpoint Manufacturing and Design Center, and Evergreen Exchange manage more

than 4 million square feet of space, home to almost 10,000 jobs. But their benefits are limited to the communities in which they operate and limited resources. To bring this strategy to scale and extend the benefits to communities throughout all five boroughs, the City should:

- Give non-profit organizations priority in the disposition of city-owned industrial land
- Expand funding of EDC's Industrial Development Fund
- Enhance the role of the Industrial Business Service Providers as neighborhood partners in community and economic development