



THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

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****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****

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CM CHIN URGES CITY HALL TO DELAY HEARING ON MANHATTAN DETENTION COMPLEX

After Sept. 12 Town Hall on relocated MDC, important questions still unanswered

NEW YORK – In a letter sent yesterday to Mayor Bill de Blasio, Council Member Margaret S. Chin urged City Hall to delay the scoping hearing scheduled for Thursday, September 27 – highlighting the serious concerns raised by residents regarding the proposed transfer of the Manhattan Detention Complex (MDC) to 80 Centre Street.

“While I recognize that the path to true criminal justice reform is no easy feat, we must not forget that stakeholders from all communities must be included as an active part of this dialogue,” **said Council Member Chin.** “It is alarming that the residents who will be the most directly impacted by the proposed transfer of the site in their neighborhood have received the fewest opportunities for engagement. It is even more alarming that so many of the concerns raised by residents at the Town Hall and in smaller meetings have not yet been addressed. For any plan to move forward, we need answers.”

Since the announcement of the Mayor’s plan, Council Member Chin has joined residents in their demand for more community engagement opportunities and pushed successfully for City officials to explain their proposal for a relocated and expanded MDC to participants at a Town Hall on Sept. 12 in Chinatown. Today, with many of those questions still left unanswered, Council Member Chin is renewing her demand for full transparency and community engagement.

A copy of Council Member’s letter to Mayor de Blasio is enclosed.

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