



COMPTROLLER OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
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WILLIAM C. THOMPSON, JR.  
COMPTROLLER

May 2, 2006

Mr. Daniel L. Doctoroff  
Deputy Mayor for Economic Development and Rebuilding  
City Hall  
New York, New York 10007

Dear Deputy Mayor Doctoroff:

I write in support of the preservation of Red Hook's Graving Dock shipyard facility as part of the City's revitalization of the Red Hook/Sunset Park waterfront. As you may be aware, the continued existence of this facility is at risk as a result of the City's current waterfront plans and the related effort to create a 1,400 car parking lot.

Because of our region's increasing reliance upon a maritime fleet, the historical significance of the Graving Dock complex and the limited number of ship repair facilities within our area, the City should make every effort to preserve this important infrastructure. Indeed, I am advised that the Graving Dock could readily co-exist with the currently planned surrounding retail uses. I am therefore troubled to learn that the facility is being imperiled by the location of a parking lot in an already congested area. I am also troubled by reports that the historical and cultural importance of this facility were not fully explored within the context of the City's review process.

The City's increasing reliance upon its own maritime fleet offers further justification for closely examining the need to preserve the Red Hook Graving Dock. It would be unfortunate if we did not fully consider the broader economic impacts of abandoning this facility, a facility that will support alternatives to carrying local and regional freight.

I strongly urge you to support the continued presence of the Red Hook Graving Dock and to join me in insisting that an accommodation be made to ensure its continued existence.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Will C. Thompson, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

William C. Thompson, Jr.