FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE   OCT. 17, 2018

CM CHIN TO CITY PLANNING COMMISSIONERS: HEAR COMMUNITY'S APPEAL FOR FAIRNESS & EQUITY

NEW YORK – Council Member Chin released the following statement after the City Planning Commission heard three applications for high-rise luxury developments in Two Bridges, a neighborhood that has historically served as a low-to-midrise haven for immigrants and working-class families for generations:

"Through the dozens of personal testimonies we heard today from advocates and residents, there is no question that the impact of these enormous towers will be unprecedentedly destructive – and will go far beyond the City-block sized area they plan to build upon. To greenlight these proposals without a thorough community engagement process through ULURP would create a troubling precedent for other vulnerable communities that are under siege by out-of-scale overdevelopment.
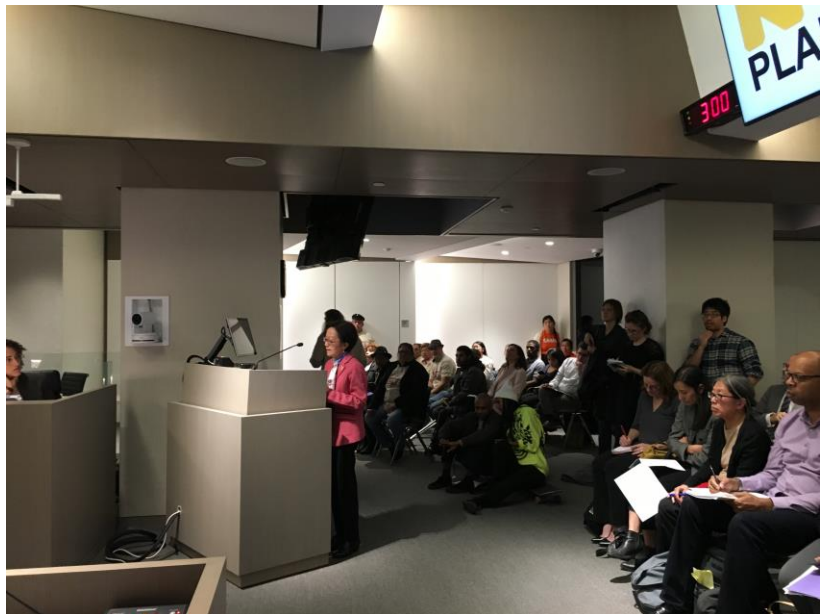
While it is disappointing that the Department of City Planning has so far barred our application for a Text Amendment from moving forward, I urge Chair Lago to reconsider this decision and allow the City Planning Commission to consider our proposal to protect Two Bridges and give

the community a real voice in the planning process that will ultimately decide their future of their neighborhood."

This year, Council Member Chin and Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer filed their Text Amendment, which would establish a Special Permit in Two Bridges that would require a ULURP. Currently, the developers are pursuing plans that, according to the Department of City Planning, constitute a "minor modification" to the existing Large Scale Residential Development, and thus do not include a ULURP that ensures substantive public input from the Community Board, Borough President's office, and the City Council.

Attached is Council Member Chin's full testimony to the Commission.

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