

DISTRICT OFFICE
105 EAST 116TH STREET
NEW YORK, NY 10029
(212) 828-9800
FAX: (212) 722-6378

CITY HALL OFFICE
250 BROADWAY, ROOM 1882
NEW YORK, NY 10007
(212) 788-6960
FAX: (212) 442-1564
mviverito@council.nyc.gov



THE COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

MELISSA MARK-VIVERITO

COUNCIL MEMBER, 8TH DISTRICT

CHAIR
PARKS & RECREATION

COMMITTEES
AGING
CIVIL SERVICE & LABOR
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
CONTRACTS
HOUSING & BUILDINGS
PUBLIC HOUSING
YOUTH SERVICES

December 14, 2011

Franchise Concession Review Committee
Mayor's Office of Contract Services
253 Broadway, 9th Floor
New York, New York 10007

Dear Members of the Committee:

I am writing with regards to the Sportime tennis concession on Randall's Island. My community has raised serious concerns regarding the existing \$19 million concession and its proposed expansion. As the Council Member that represents this area, and the Chair of the Council's Parks & Recreation Committee, I share many of these concerns and believe that further review and community discussion is needed before the Franchise Concession Review Committee (FCRC) considers this item.

As part of the proposed expansion of the Sportime concession, the New York City Department Parks and Recreation is seeking authorization and approval from the FCRC to negotiate an amendment to the existing License Agreement between Island Tennis, L.P. and Randall's Island Sports Foundation for the construction, operation, maintenance and management of a year-round tennis facility. The amended license agreement would expand the licensed premises from the current twenty (20) to allow for an additional nine (9) tennis courts to be built in a parking lot across the street from the current licensed premises.

As a point of information the current 160,000 square foot concession completed in 2009, takes up a considerable amount of public parkland but yet bypassed ULURP and community input. According to Sportime it is the "largest tennis facility to open in NYC in the past 30 years."

Manhattan Community Board 11 has asked Sportime NY and the Randall's Island Sports Foundation to provide important information pertaining to the operating of the existing facility. The information requested includes usage and access data concerning the facilities benefit to the residents of the surrounding communities including East Harlem and the South Bronx, two areas that I represent, as well as Central Harlem. The Board has also asked for pertinent financial information. To date, they have not received this information.

I feel the action before the FCRC is premature. It is also important to note that I was only made aware of this action at a Community Board 11 committee meeting this past Monday, December 14th.

Due to the sensitive and controversial nature of this concession I respectfully ask that this action be withdrawn from FCRC consideration until such time when these concerns can be addressed.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Melissa Mark-Viverito', written in a cursive style.

Melissa Mark-Viverito
Council Member, District 8