



Robert V. Hess  
Commissioner

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October 23, 2008

Hon. Marty Markowitz  
Brooklyn Borough President  
209 Joralemon Street  
Brooklyn, NY 11201

Dear Borough President Markowitz:

I am writing in response to your letter regarding the Sumner Avenue Armory. Over the past few weeks, my office has received several inquiries from elected officials, community leaders and residents of the Bedford Stuyvesant community about a proposed plan to expand capacity at this site or to relocate men's intake to the Sumner Avenue Armory.

Please be assured that there are no plans to change the current shelter operations at this location. The Sumner Avenue Armory operates as a single adult men's shelter, Pamoja House which is run by the Black Veterans for Social Justice, with a total capacity of 200 beds. The agency has no plans to expand the capacity at this location or to relocate men's intake to the Sumner Avenue Armory.

I look forward to working with you and your colleagues to ensure that residents receive this information and to address any concerns that they have about the Sumner Avenue Armory. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank You,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Robert V. Hess".

Robert V. Hess

cc: Charlene Phillips, Community Board 3  
Council Member Al Vann