



THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
NEW YORK, NY 10007

April 12, 2020

The Honorable Peter Navarro  
Assistant to the President and  
Director of the Office of Trade and Manufacturing Policy  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20502

Dear Dr. Navarro:

I write to you as New York City continues to face an unprecedented threat as the epicenter of the COVID-19 crisis. As of this morning, there are 102,504 positive coronavirus cases in New York City. We know this will get worse before it gets better.

As we discussed during our phone conversation on Saturday, April 11, New York City is staring down a critical shortage of supplies for our hospitals and frontline health care staff. We need immediate action from the federal government to fulfil these needs.

New York City hospitals will need the following in the next five days:

- **1.2 million** isolation gowns
- **1 million yards** of appropriate waterproof fabric to produce isolation gowns (specifications attached)
- **134,000 face shields**
- **110,000** test kits (swabs and viral transfer medium)

Without these critical supplies, we will be unable to protect our frontline health care workers as they continue to fight this deadly virus. New York City needs your immediate help.

On behalf of every New Yorker, I want to thank you for the assistance you have provided during this crisis. I look forward to continuing to work together to ensure the health and safety of our frontline workers.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bill de Blasio".

Bill de Blasio  
Mayor

Cc: Rear Admiral John Polowczyk

**Specifications for fabric to produce isolation gowns:**

- Water resistant at no more than 4.5gr penetration
- Woven or non-woven, but not knit
- Some breathability
- Any color acceptable
- No heavier than 4 ounces per square yard
- Must be cuttable at a minimum of 50 inches