

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**STATEMENT FROM MAYOR BLOOMBERG ON CITY COUNCIL PASSAGE OF REZONING IN JAMAICA, QUEENS,
THE ADMINISTRATION'S LARGEST-EVER REZONING**

*Rezoning Will Spur the Creation of 9,500 Jobs, 5,200 Housing Units and Three Million Square Feet of Commercial Space
around AirTrain Station While Protecting Adjacent Lower Scale Neighborhoods*

"The potential of Jamaica to become one of New York's premier business and residential districts has been talked about for a long time, and today we've taken a giant step toward making it happen," said Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg.

"Globally competitive cities have thriving business districts around their major airports, and so too will New York. In addition to setting the stage for the creation of three million square feet of new office, retail and hotel space, and 9,500 jobs, the 368-block Jamaica Plan will spur the development of 5,200 units of housing, helping us to prepare for nearly one million additional New Yorkers in the coming decades. The Plan will be a key component of the transit centered development that we laid out in *PlaNYC*, by leveraging Jamaica's AirTrain Station and superior transit access. We will also protect nearly 160 blocks by preventing the construction of homes and buildings that are out of scale in areas with single family homes. The Jamaica Plan will also significantly upgrade sewer and water infrastructure and provide open space and additional street trees, making Jamaica a more attractive place to live, work and do business."

"I applaud today's vote by the City Council and all of the work since 2002 that got us to this important milestone. The leadership and vision of Deputy Mayor Dan Doctoroff, City Planning Commissioner Amanda Burden, Economic Development Corporation President Robert Lieber, Speaker Christine Quinn, Congressman Gregory Meeks, Council Land Use Chair Melinda Katz, Council members Leroy Comrie and Thomas White, Assemblyman William Scarborough, Borough President Helen Marshall and Community Board 12 Chair Dr. Gloria Black, was instrumental in balancing vital citywide needs for growth with important local concerns, and we will continue to work with all of our partners to ensure that the best days for the community are still to come."

See more information on the [Jamaica Plan rezoning](#).

Department of City Planning

The Department of City Planning is responsible for the City's physical and socioeconomic planning, including land use and environmental review; preparation of plans and policies; and provision of technical assistance and planning information to government agencies, public officials, and community boards.