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THE CITY PLANNING COMMISSION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVES MINOR LEAGUE BASEBALL STADIUM IN STATEN ISLAND

The City Planning Commission today unanimously approved the construction of a minor league baseball stadium on the Staten Island waterfront next to the Staten Island Ferry Terminal - a first-class stadium with seating for up to 7,500 people. This stadium will be used by the Staten Island Yankees who have been playing temporarily at the College of Staten Island since the spring. The Ballpark at St. George Station is slated to open for the 2001 minor league baseball season.

The applications voted by the Commission were for special permits, property acquisition and disposition and an amendment to the zoning map.

Chairman Joseph B. Rose said, "This stadium is truly a field of dreams which will allow whole families to afford and enjoy professional baseball in an intimate yet dazzling setting. The project will help restore economic vitality to the St. George area. In conjunction with the restoration of the Staten Island Ferry Terminal and the National Lighthouse Museum, this project will establish a new standard of excellence for redeveloping New York City's neglected waterfront. Mayor Giuliani and Borough President Molinari should be saluted for their vision and perseverance in making this dream come true."

When complete the project will provide enhanced stadium and commuter parking and a significantly improved waterfront with public access. Included in the stadium development, for the first time, is a pedestrian esplanade along the waterfront and direct pedestrian access from Richmond Terrace.

The Commission voted 12-0 in favor of the project.