

The Chinese American Citizens Alliance of Greater N.Y. (CACAGNY)
紐約同源會

July 26, 2021

CACAGNY Thanks Assemblyman Abbate, Asks Other Friends to Support Community

CACAGNY congratulates Assemblyman Peter Abbate and his fellow plaintiffs for their successful litigation settlement against the New York City Department of Transportation (DOT).

Their Article 78 proceeding, *Abbate et al v the City of New York et al*, calls out the cloaked process used by Hank Gutman and his Department of Transportation to rush through drastic changes that will choke off vehicular transportation through the central artery of Brooklyn's Chinatown. With the litigation settlement, any demolition or construction is held off for 90 days, not to begin until October 9, 2021. In the meantime, a mechanism has been created to hold public hearings to hear from real community members, not activists imported from elsewhere deceptively called the "Community Advisory Board."

Brooklyn's Chinatown is a lively, safe, hopeful immigrant community of small businesses. It was hit hard by the Covid lockdowns, but it has not yet given up to despair and blight, and is struggling to recover. For the DOT to cut by half the vitally needed freight and customer traffic capacity through its main business thoroughfare (as well as along a parallel avenue one block away) -- for a bike lane! -- is akin to stomping on a man while he is down. In a community already beset by images precisely of such hateful attacks on the streets and in subways, the anger is palpable.

The litigation settlement only delays the project; it does not kill the project. Community members have protested against the project throughout the summer; now we have a brief window of time in which to let the Community Boards and other entities know our anger at DOT's high-handed disregard of our community's actual needs.

Communities like ours in the City have had enough of the City being ruled by a remote, tyrannical administration imposing diktats like this all over us. While thanking Assemblyman Abbate, we also call on other elected friends of the Chinese community to join us in stopping the DOT's callous plan to destroy the main business artery of this recovering Chinatown.

Contact: Phil Wong 黃友興 <cacagny.phil.wong@gmail.com>

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Chinese American Citizens Alliance Greater New York
PO Box 130024
New York, New York 10013
www.cacagny.org



Founded in 1895 in San Francisco, the Chinese American Citizens Alliance is the oldest Chinese American civil rights organization in the United States. CACAGNY is its New York Chapter. www.CACAGNY.org

1895年在舊金山成立之同源會，是美國最古老的民權組織。紐約同源會是這個地區的分會。