



Chelsea, Madison Sq., Flatiron, Rosehill

ST. VINCENT'S HOSPITAL AND PROVISION OF MEDICAL SERVICES TO THE WEST SIDE OF MANHATTAN SOUTH OF 59TH STREET RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, St. Vincent's Hospital is in danger of shutting its doors, and

WHEREAS the hospital deals with 62,000 emergency visits, nearly 1,800 births, almost 22,000 hospital admissions and 263,000 outpatient visits a year; and

WHEREAS, the hospital serves a disproportionately large number of poor people as part of its mission, which requires significant public and government support to continue, and

WHEREAS, St. Vincent's Hospital Manhattan is the only Level 1 trauma center with a 24-hour acute care center and a 365 day a year emergency room on the West Side of Manhattan between the Battery and 59th Street, and

WHEREAS both the residential and transient worker/visitor population of the neighborhoods served by St. Vincent's has continued to grow and is projected to keep growing significantly in the coming years, largely due to measures enacted by the City and State of New York to encourage and facilitate large-scale residential and commercial development in these areas, and

WHEREAS that development, encouraged by the City and State, have not been followed by commensurate planning for necessary health care facilities to serve the existing or incoming population of these areas, nor to fund such facilities, and

WHEREAS in recent years other hospitals whose catchment areas overlap with St. Vincent's have shut their doors, such as St. Vincent's Midtown and Cabrini, leaving an even larger gap in services, and

WHEREAS the area served by St. Vincent's serves a significant elderly population, such as the Naturally Occurring Retirement Community (NORC) of the Penn South Houses and a large population of low income people, such as many of the residents of the Fulton and Chelsea Elliot Houses, all of whom are particularly dependent upon the services that a hospital such as St. Vincent's provides, and

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Vice Presidents: Dave Carroway; Andrew Berman; Maarten de Kad; Lydia Hummel
Corresponding Secy.: Linda Longstreet; Recording Secy.: John R. Johnson

WHEREAS it is hard to imagine how the health care needs of the area currently served by St. Vincent's hospital can be met without an emergency room, inpatient services, and a Level 1 Trauma Center, and

WHEREAS it has become clear that the only way to continue to provide these necessary public health services will be with significant support and assistance from all levels of government,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the members of the Chelsea Reform Democratic Club standing with other stakeholders call on our Federal, State and City elected officials to find a way to maintain the wide variety of absolutely essential medical services, without interruption, currently provided by St. Vincent's Hospital in our community.

Submitted by,
Chelsea Reform Democratic Club
Steven Skyles-Mulligan, President
Judy Richheimer, Acting President
February 18, 2010

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