

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3605

April 17, 2018

The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo
Governor of New York State
NYS State Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224

Governor Cuomo,

I am writing to request that the communities of Washington Heights, Hamilton Heights, and Inwood in Northern Manhattan, the communities of Norwood, Kingsbridge, University Heights, Morris Heights, and Fordham in the Northwest Bronx, as well as Harlem and East Harlem be considered eligible for New York State's Opportunity Zone Program. Enabling these communities to participate in the Opportunity Zone Program would provide them access to funds that will help them rebuild and enhance their communities.

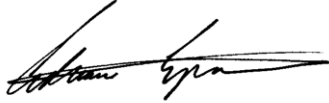
As we strive to continuously ensure the economic vitality of our emerging immigrant and low-income communities, it is important that organizations who share our common goal are provided with all the available resources. The Opportunity Zone Program provides unparalleled access to partnerships that can enable organizations to bring about widespread change in communities that are hungry for growth.

Northern Manhattan and the Northwest Bronx are diverse and vibrant communities that are more than deserving of our investment. By designating each of these areas as an Opportunity Zone, these communities will be able to align already economic development resources and initiatives to maximize their benefits from this new source of investment. As New York City continues to thrive economically, we must not neglect those low-income communities that need additional support to remain diverse and economically viable.

As you work to identify qualified zones for final designation by the United States Treasury, I strongly urge you to consider these recommendations. If I can provide any additional information or answer any questions you may, please do not hesitate to reach out to Mark Howell (Mark.Howell@mail.house.gov) in my office.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Adriano Espaillat', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Adriano Espaillat
Member of Congress
New York's 13th Congressional District

CC:

Robert Mujica, Director of the New York State Division of the Budget