June 7, 2020

The Honorable Mayor Bill de Blasio
City Hall
New York, NY 10007

Dear Mayor de Blasio,

The Park Slope Civic Council is proud to be an organization in the midst of a neighborhood of many cultures and races. We believe our city has tremendous potential to become a model for progress in an era where hostility and anti-black violence have posted significant hazards for peace, prosperity and civil rights.

To be clear, we decry racism and police brutality. We believe Black Lives Matter and endorse policies and legislation that eradicate discriminatory policing, support families who have lost loved ones to such policing, and call for a citywide approach to public safety that is based on an equitable investment in all of our communities.

We appreciate your difficult job dealing with the challenging times confronting New York City and believe that now is the time to apply historical knowledge about basic inequalities and implement solutions that will spare lives today and in the future.

The opportunity to make change is now. We look to you to provide leadership and immediate action to alter policies that purport to maintain accountability, but instead frustrate the process of justice. We demand that you support the City Council’s efforts to repeal NYS 50-a. We insist that you make policy changes at NYPD that address cultural insensitivity and that you advocate to reinstate residency requirements, bolster the mission of neighborhood policing, and reverse the deeply ingrained militaristic culture of the NYPD.

Respectfully,
The Trustees of the Park Slope Civic Council

cc:
The Honorable Brad Lander
The Honorable Jo Anne Simon
The Honorable Robert C. Carroll
The Honorable Kevin S. Parker
The Honorable Velmanette Montgomery

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

The Park Slope Civic Council promotes the health, vitality and character of the Park Slope neighborhood and advocates for the interests of residents, businesses and others with a stake in the community.