



COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8

1291 ST. MARKS AVENUE • BROOKLYN, NEW YORK 11213

(718) 467-5574 • BROOKLYNCB8.ORG • BROOKLYNCB8@GMAIL.COM

Antonio Reynoso
Borough President

Irsa Weatherspoon
Chairperson

Michelle T. George
District Manager

April 15, 2026

Honorable Latrice Walker
55th Assembly District
400 Rockaway Avenue, 2nd Floor
Brooklyn, NY 11212

Re: Stop the Chop NY/NJ

Dear Assemblywoman Walker,

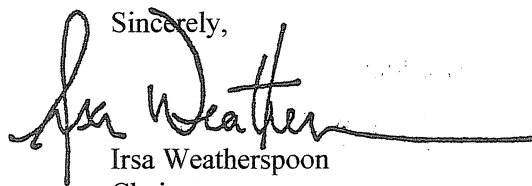
At the April 9, 2026 general meeting, Community Board 8 voted unanimously, with 28 members present, to support Stop The Chop NY/NJ, a grassroots organization dedicated to reducing helicopter noise and the impacts of nonessential helicopter traffic over the New York City metropolitan area.

Stop The Chop's legislative package consists of nine bills designed to reduce helicopter noise and air pollution through a combination of taxes, operational restrictions, route changes, and in some cases, outright bans. The proposed measures preserve access for emergency, medical, law enforcement, government, and other essential flights such as organ donation, while targeting discretionary helicopter operations that impose disproportionate noise, environmental, and quality-of-life impacts on New York City residents.

Community Board 8 residents have observed a significant increase in helicopter noise over our neighborhoods, contributing to both noise and air pollution. At the same time, helicopter accidents and unsafe operations continue to raise legitimate public safety concerns. Several high-profile helicopter crashes and emergency incidents have occurred in and around New York City in recent years. These incidents, together with reports of helicopters operating inappropriately within residential communities—including an incident in which a helicopter pilot used a vacant lot in Crown Heights to pick up and drop off passengers—underscore the need for stronger oversight of nonessential helicopter traffic.

We urge you to support the Stop The Chop legislative package as a commonsense approach to reducing unnecessary noise, improving air quality, and enhancing public safety. Thank you for your time and consideration. Should you have any questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,


Irsa Weatherspoon
Chairperson



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April 15, 2026

Assemblyman Brian Cunningham
43rd Assembly District
249 Empire Boulevard
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11225

Re: Stop the Chop NY/NJ

Dear Assemblyman Cunningham,

At the April 9, 2026 general meeting, Community Board 8 voted unanimously, with 28 members present, to support Stop The Chop NY/NJ, a grassroots organization dedicated to reducing helicopter noise and the impacts of nonessential helicopter traffic over the New York City metropolitan area.

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April 15, 2026

Assemblyman Robert Carroll
44th Assembly District
416 Seventh Avenue
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11215

Re: Stop the Chop NY/NJ

Dear Assemblyman Carroll,

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April 15, 2026

Assemblywoman Jo Anne Simon
52nd Assembly District
341 Smith Street
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11231

Re: Stop the Chop NY/NJ

Dear Assemblywoman Simon,

At the April 9, 2026 general meeting, Community Board 8 voted unanimously, with 28 members present, to support Stop The Chop NY/NJ, a grassroots organization dedicated to reducing helicopter noise and the impacts of nonessential helicopter traffic over the New York City metropolitan area.

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April 15, 2026

Assemblywoman Stephani Zinerman
56th Assembly District
1368 Fulton Street, 3rd Floor
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11216

Re: Stop the Chop NY/NJ

Dear Assemblywoman Zinerman,

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April 15, 2026

Assemblywoman Phara Souffrant-Forrest
57th Assembly District
55 Hanson Place, Room 328
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11217

Re: Stop the Chop NY/NJ

Dear Assemblywoman Souffrant-Forrest,


At the April 9, 2026 general meeting, Community Board 8 voted unanimously, with 28 members present, to support Stop The Chop NY/NJ, a grassroots organization dedicated to reducing helicopter noise and the impacts of nonessential helicopter traffic over the New York City metropolitan area.

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April 15, 2026

Senator Zellnor Myrie
20th Senatorial District
1077 Nostrand Avenue, Ground Floor
Brooklyn, NY 11225

Re: Stop the Chop NY/NJ

Dear Senator Myrie,

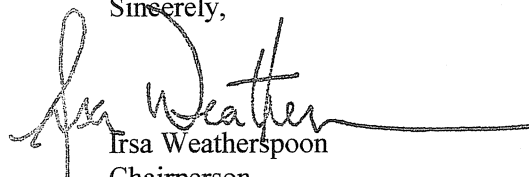
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April 15, 2026

Senator Jabari Brisport
25th Senatorial District
906 Broadway, 2nd Floor
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11206

Re: Stop the Chop NY/NJ

Dear Senator Brisport,


At the April 9, 2026 general meeting, Community Board 8 voted unanimously, with 28 members present, to support Stop The Chop NY/NJ, a grassroots organization dedicated to reducing helicopter noise and the impacts of nonessential helicopter traffic over the New York City metropolitan area.

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April 15, 2026

Support for Stop the Chop NY/NJ

On behalf of the members and residents of Brooklyn Community Board 8, please accept this resolution unanimously approved at the April 9, 2026 Community Board 8 general meeting.

“WHEREAS:

- The proliferation of nonessential helicopter flights—including sightseeing tours, private commuter flights, and luxury charters—has led to significant concerns among residents about persistent noise pollution, public safety risks, and environmental impacts.
- Helicopter noise has been consistently cited by New York City residents as a major quality-of-life issue, particularly in Manhattan, Brooklyn, Staten Island, and along the Hudson and East rivers.
- Since 2000, a nonessential helicopter has crashed on average every two years in the New York City area, with several recent high-profile crashes underscoring the tragic consequences of such flights.
- Nonessential helicopters put unnecessary strain on the already overburdened traffic control system in highly congested New York City airspace.
- These flights disproportionately benefit a small number of individuals while imposing costs in the form of noise, safety risks, property value reductions, and environmental degradation on the broader population.
- Helicopter fuel emissions contribute to air pollution and climate change, in contradiction to the City’s stated goals of reducing greenhouse gas emissions and creating a more sustainable urban environment.
- NYC 311 received more than 26,000 helicopter noise complaints in 2024, an average of 40 complaints per day.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Environmental, Sanitation and Transportation Committee of CB 8 Brooklyn, urges the Mayor of New of York City to close the NYC-owned heliports (E. 34th Street and Downtown Skyport) to nonessential helicopter flights; and

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Brooklyn Community Board 8 supports and urges passage of several bills that have been introduced at the city, state, and federal levels that would ban or reduce nonessential helicopter flights over the New York City metropolitan area.

These bills are as follows:

- H.R. 3196, the Improving Helicopter Safety Act of 2025, which prohibits nonessential helicopter flights within a 20-mile radius of the Statue of Liberty National Monument.
- NY City Council Int. 0070-2024, which prohibits all nonessential helicopter operations at heliports owned or operated by NYC.
- NYS Senate Bill S7381 / NYS Assembly Bill A6311, which bans helicopter sightseeing tours from any municipal facility.
- NYS Senate Bill S1140 / NYS Assembly Bill A5891, which establishes a tax on noise from nonessential helicopter and seaplane flights in cities with a population of one million or more. This bill would levy a tax of \$50/seat or \$200/flight, whichever is greater.
- NYS Assembly Bill A2583, which establishes a tax on noise from nonessential helicopter and seaplane flights in cities with a population of one million or more. This bill would levy a tax of \$100/seat or \$400/flight, whichever is greater; and

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Brooklyn Community Board 8 urges the Mayor of New of York City to work with the New York State Governor to close the West 30th Street Heliport, which is a dangerous and disruptive presence in Hudson River Park, and represents an alienation of public parkland in NY State.”

Sincerely,



Irsa Weatherspoon
Chairperson