

October 3, 2025

Andrew Kimball, President & CEO
NYC Economic Development Corporation
One Liberty Plaza
New York, NY 10006

Noreen Doyle, President
Hudson River Park Trust
353 West st, Pier 40, 2nd Floor
New York, NY 10014

Dear Mr. Kimball and Ms. Doyle:

This past weekend, Brooklyn residents were inundated with chartered helicopter flights from Blade and other companies ferrying people from Manhattan to the Ryder Cup golf event on Long Island. The flights passed over Brooklyn and NYC neighborhoods, and flight radar showed they were primarily departing from the Downtown Manhattan and West 30th Street Heliports. Community members were unable to work, rest, sleep, or enjoy the outdoors due to the constant noise and vibrations from these flights.

The incessant helicopter noise impacts the health and safety of the public and the environment. Local communities have been dealing with the impacts of nonessential helicopter flights for well over a decade now, with no improvement, despite repeated requests for relief.

Last weekend's flights reached a new level, with non-stop flights beginning early Friday morning and continuing through Sunday evening. With the expansion of chartered helicopter flights costing [\\$1,250 per seat](#) (the cost of a seat on BLADE from Manhattan to the Ryder Cup), our constituents are bearing the impacts in order to shorten the commutes of a select few, extremely wealthy people. The helicopters were flying so low that community members could see the passengers taking selfies, with some hovering for 20+ minutes above residential buildings, making a quick commuter trip into a tourist flight which are only supposed to fly over water.

Our communities should not have to deal with relentless noise pollution so that the people chartering helicopter flights can breeze on by and avoid vehicular traffic or public transit. The companies are breaking the rules, and catering to a small number of ultra-rich people at the expense of everyone else's health and quality of life.

This is not merely a nuisance issue; helicopter traffic exposes people to noise levels that have been scientifically linked to chronic health conditions. According to the World Health Organization, chronic exposure to transportation noise contributes to an increased risk of

hypertension, cardiovascular disease, difficulties concentrating, cognitive delays in children, and sleep disturbances.

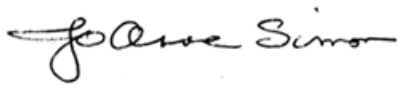
We strongly urge the EDC and HRPT to take immediate action to ban nonessential flights from heliports in the city. There is no benefit to New Yorkers from these flights. At minimum, EDC and HRPT should commit to banning flights for special events, and explore and enforce flight paths that exclusively fly over waterways, thereby leaving residential areas largely free from the harmful noise of non-essential helicopters.

Additionally, if approvals for future special events flights have already been granted, we respectfully request that you share details with us now so that we are able to prepare our constituents.

Please send us data on all of the flights from last Thursday to Sunday, their departure and arrival destinations, and the companies that were operating the flights.

Thank you for your attention and we are available to discuss this matter further.

Sincerely,



Jo Anne Simon
Assemblymember, AD 52



Lincoln Restler
Council Member, District 33



Shahana Hanif
Council Member, District 39



Andrew Gounardes
State Senator, 26th District



U.S. Representative Dan Goldman
10th District of New York

cc: Mayor Eric Adams
Governor Kathy Hochul
NYS Senator Brad Hoylman-Sigal
Assemblymember Tony Simone
Council Member Erik Bottcher