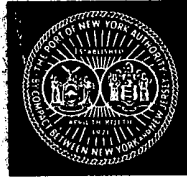


S. SLOAN COLT, *Chairman*
JAMES C. KELLOGG, III, *Vice Chairman*
HOWARD S. CULLMAN, *Honorary Chairman*
JOHN J. CLANCY
CHARLES W. ENGELHARD
ALEXANDER HALPERN



DONALD V. LOWE
ROBERT F. McALEVY, JR.
JOSEPH A. MARTINO
BAYARD F. POPE
BEN REGAN
W. PAUL STILLMAN

THE PORT OF NEW YORK AUTHORITY

111 Eighth Avenue - at 15th Street New York NY 10011

Tel. 620-7271

EXECUTIVE OFFICES

Austin J. Tobin
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

August 10, 1964

Hon. Thomas J. Cuite
Chairman, Council Committee on Finance
City Hall
New York, New York - 10007

Re: Resolution No. 1137 -
Mr. Boyers - World Trade Center

Dear Chairman Cuite:

The Port Authority respectfully submits that your Committee should reject the above resolution which calls upon the City Council to express its opposition to the World Trade Center project.

It would appear from the recitals in the resolution that its distinguished sponsor has been misled into acceptance of baseless charges fostered by a small but highly vocal minority which, after its defeat in the courts of law up to and including the United States Supreme Court, is attempting, for its own private interests, to bring unwarranted pressures on public officials to balk this great public project.

The concept of a World Trade Center to promote and protect the economic well being of the Port of New York was the subject of a study and report by the Port Authority to the Governors of New York and New Jersey and the Mayor of the City of New York. Centralization of the functions, services and activities of the public and private agencies in world trade was found to be essential in order to expand the flow and to expedite the processing of cargoes in and through the Port of New York. In 1962 statutory direction to the Port Authority to endeavor to carry out

Hon. Thomas J. Cuite

-2-

August 10, 1964

this concept was sponsored by the majority and minority leaders of both State Legislatures. The enabling legislation was passed in New York with the express endorsement of Mayor Wagner, after the City and the Port Authority reached agreement on the general principles to govern the cooperation of the City and the Port Authority in the effectuation of this public project.

Upon completion of the architectural plan early this year, Mayor Wagner appointed a committee of high City officials, including the Comptroller, Borough President of Manhattan, Corporation Counsel, Chairman of City Planning, President of the Tax Commission and the Commissioners of all the City departments concerned, to coordinate, under the chairmanship of Honorable Milton Mollen the City's continuing and cooperative interest in the realization of the definitive plans. All have expressed their accord that the architectural concept is not only appropriate to the functional needs of the project but will also provide New York with a fitting public symbol of the stature of its port.

Virtually every sector of the metropolitan region is enthusiastic in its support of the project. The Building and Construction Trades Council of Greater New York, the New York City Central Labor Council, AFL-CIO, the New York Chamber of Commerce, the Commerce and Industry Association of New York, the Regional Plan Association, the West Side Association of Commerce, the Downtown Manhattan Association and the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce are among the many responsible and representative groups which have recorded their endorsement.

The plans have also won strong statements of support from leading private real estate builders individually, as well as the Investors Building Association. The Downtown Manhattan Association after reviewing the plans gave its informed judgment that:

"The trade center will not have a detrimental impact on the overall real estate market in New York but rather will contribute to the continued growth of the prosperous economy of this area."

Hon. Thomas J. Cuite

-3-

August 10, 1964

At the federal level, official support of the World Trade Center project is similarly strong. The late President Kennedy expressed his personal enthusiasm in a public address here in New York City on December 14, 1962. Under President Johnson, Secretary of State Dean Rusk, Secretary of the Treasury Dillon, Secretary of Agriculture Freeman and Secretary of Commerce Hodges have continued to work closely with us on consolidation in the Center of federal services related to world trade. Negotiations with the New York State Office of General Services to meet their requirements for consolidation of New York State offices within the World Trade Center are also progressing.

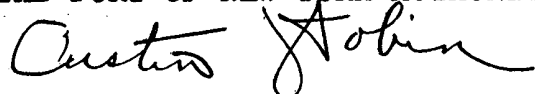
I would hope that, as Judge Adrian Burke stated in his opinion for the Court of Appeals upholding the World Trade Center project against the very same attacks by private interests which are recited in Resolution No. 1137, "No further demonstration is required that improvement of the Port of New York by facilitating the flow of commerce and centralizing all activity incident thereto is a public purpose."

Property devoted to such a vital public purpose and producing such direct benefits for the City of New York might well be granted the complete immunity from taxes which the resolution assumes it will enjoy. In fact, however, under the enabling legislation and the understanding between the City and the Port Authority, the City will derive direct revenues from the project through in lieu of tax payments by the Port Authority to the City. This deteriorated, sub-standard area of low Manhattan presently produced \$1.25 million in taxes. The City has estimated that the total payments in lieu of taxes from the Port Authority will, under the general principles agreed upon, amount to \$3.9 million.

Resolution No. 1137 should be rejected. The World Trade Center project merits the enthusiastic support of the City Council.

Respectfully submitted

THE PORT OF NEW YORK AUTHORITY



Austin J. Tobin
Executive Director