



News from State Senator

18th Senatorial District

Velmanette Montgomery

District Office: 30 Third Avenue, Room 1100, Brooklyn, New York 11217 • (718) 643-6140

Albany Office: 306 Legislative Office Building, Albany, New York 12247 • (518) 455-3451

Website: www.nyssenate18.com

LEGISLATURE APPROVES BILLS CREATING HIGHER STANDARDS FOR RESPONSIBLE DEVELOPMENT

June 2008

Dear Advocate for Responsible Development:

In the wake of the U.S. Supreme Court's recent refusal to hear an appeal on the Atlantic Yards case, it's more important than ever for New York to step up to the plate and enact laws that will help safeguard our homes and communities from irresponsible development – and developers.

Owing to your interest in this issue, I thought you would want to know about two bills that passed during the final days of the regular 2008 Legislative Session that create standards for new development projects in the state. These bills are of particular significance to neighborhoods in Brooklyn and throughout the City. It is now up to Governor Paterson to review and sign the legislation into law.

S. 8612/A. 7335: Directs state agencies and public authorities to adopt and utilize smart growth principles when funding and implementing future policies and programs. Under the bill, smart growth principles include plans that account for and minimize direct and indirect public costs of new development; traffic congestion and automobile pollution mitigation; energy efficiency; intergovernmental partnerships; community participation; affordability for all income levels; and environmental/open space protection issues, among others.

S. 8717/A. 11768: Brings brownfield redevelopment tax credits in line with the cost of cleaning up a brownfield site by increasing and capping the amount of the credit. (The cleanup tax is increased from a maximum of 22% to a maximum of 50% of the total cost AND the redevelopment credit is now the lesser of \$35 million or three times the cleanup cost. For manufacturing or High-Tech projects, the credit is the lesser of \$45 million or six times the cleanup credit.)

The bill also creates the New York Brownfields Advisory Board, provides additional tax incentive for sites that are developed in a Brownfield Opportunity Area (BOA) program, and transfers the administration of the Brownfield Opportunity Area (BOA) program from the Department of Environmental Conservation to the Department of State. (Under a 2007 that I authored, local community boards became eligible to apply for project funding under the BOA program.)

If you desire further information, you may retrieve bill details via my website: www.nyssenate18.com or phone my office and I will gladly send you a copy of the bills and support memoranda. My Brooklyn office number is 718-643-6140.

Sincerely,

Velmanette Montgomery
18th Senate District

Proudly Serving Bedford Stuyvesant, Boerum Hill, Clinton Hill, Fort Greene, Gowanus/Wyckoff, Ocean Hill-Brownsville, Park Slope, Red Hook and Sunset Park

