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SOCIAL SERVICES  
COMMITTEES  
CHILDREN AND FAMILIES  
CITIES I  
CODES  
DISABILITIES  
TRANSPORTATION  
WOMEN'S ISSUES

NEW YORK  
STATE  
SENATE



SENATOR ROXANNE J. PERSAUD  
19<sup>TH</sup> SENATE DISTRICT

PLEASE RESPOND TO:  
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October 18, 2023

Ms. Marie Diglio, Executive Director  
Regional EMS Council of NYC  
475 Riverside Drive – Suite 1929  
New York, New York 10115

Re: Statement of Support for Public Hearing on October 24, 2023  
Bedford-Stuyvesant Volunteer Ambulance Corps Expansion Application

Dear Ms. Diglio:

As I am unable to personally attend the above-listed public hearing, I offer this statement in support of the application for expansion from Bedford-Stuyvesant Volunteer Ambulance Corps (BSVAC).

I represent Senate District 19, which is comprised of many neighborhoods in Southeast Brooklyn and a portion of Queens. The constituents I serve include families living in Brownsville and East New York, neighborhoods which are included in the area which BSVAC proposes to expand. As Chair of the Committee on Social Services, and as a Member of the Committees on Children and Families and Disabilities, respectively, I am deeply involved with trying to help improve the lives of residents in the proposed expansion area. I also have experience with emergency medical services through my involvement with the NYPD Citizens Police Academy, the New York City Office of Emergency Management-Community Emergency Response Team and volunteering abroad.

There is a public need for the community-based volunteer ambulance service that BSVAC will provide in the proposed expansion area. BSVAC's responses to emergency medical calls will help reduce the current long ambulance response times. BSVAC will also provide community training in life-saving emergency medical skills. As a community-based volunteer service, BSVAC has been able to foster positive relationships with the residents in the areas it serves. It also provides its services to all individuals, regardless of ability to pay, which is critical for families who may be reluctant to access emergency medical care because of financial concerns.

The services that BSVAC proposes to provide in the expansion area cannot be replicated by other municipal, commercial and hospital systems without an expenditure of considerable resources. It is my pleasure to support the application of BSVAC to expand its territory into Brownsville and East New York.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Roxanne J. Persaud".

Roxanne J. Persaud