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Commissioner Cynthia Brann New York City Department of Correction 60 Hudson Street, #600 New York, NY 10013

October 1, 2018

Dear Commissioner Brann,

I write in regards to concerns raised by Community Board members and residents about the lack of opportunities for community input on the City's plan to close Rikers Island. I request that the NYC Department of Corrections participate in monthly District Service Cabinet Meetings at Community Boards 1 and 3 in order to create a direct channel for the Community Board to receive regular agency updates on the City's plans to relocate the Manhattan Detention Complex, as well as to address issues at the current MDC.

Since the Mayor's announcement of the plan to transfer the MDC to 80 Centre Street, an overwhelming number of my constituents have expressed growing concerns about the timeline of the proposal, especially in regards to whether the City will be able to meet important criminal justice benchmarks – including the goal of reducing the jail population to 5,000 – in a timely and safe manner. We hope that Corrections can address these concerns and commit to a more robust and transparent process through its participation in these important Community Board meetings.

If you have any questions about this request, please reach out to Paul Smith-Leonard, my Chief of Staff, at <u>pleonard@council.nyc.gov</u> or (212) 788-7259.

Sincerely,

Margaret S. Chin

Council Member, District 1

Margaret Chu