



OFFICE OF
THE FIRE COMMISSIONER
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FIRE DEPARTMENT

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To: Mayor Philip Amicone
From: Fire Commissioner Anthony Pagano
Date: September 23, 2008
Re: SFC Project and Fire Department Staffing

Along with Deputy Chiefs William Fitzpatrick and John Flynn, I have reviewed the **ANALYSIS AND REPORT ON THE PROPOSED STRUEVER, FIDELCO, CAPPELLI PROJECT AND ITS IMPACT ON THE YONKERS FIRE DEPARTMENT**, submitted by I.A.F.F. Local 628, which is dated September 17, 2008.

This report is a comprehensive, accurate detailing of the staffing of the Yonkers Fire Department. It is a reasoned analysis of the ramifications of overall development (past, present and future) in the City on the ability of the Fire Department to provide adequate service.

The obvious inaccuracy in the report is its title. This report does not deal with only the impact of the SFC project on the Yonkers Fire Department. It concerns itself with impacts of increased development throughout the entire city on the department, which is not the responsibility of the developers of this project.

While we find agreement on the problems and issues associated with high-rise firefighting, and the consequent need for increased staffing, these are issues that we deal with any new projects (i.e. post 9/11 emergency training).

We concur that the Yonkers Fire Department has never fully recovered from the cuts made to the department during the financial crisis of 1982 and recommend an analysis of the current and future needs as this city grows beyond this project.

In making our recommendation regarding the impact on Fire Department staffing as a result of the proposed SFC development, we were limited in scope to analyze the issue with respect to the impacts of this project alone. As limited to the narrow scope of the SFC project, we are confident in our original recommendations which were made after

due consideration and care and were based on many years of individual experience as well as reference to the writings of all appropriate subject matter experts.

As Local 628 correctly points out, we continue to maintain the position that this department is currently operating with minimally adequate staffing levels.



Anthony Pagano
Fire Commissioner