

BATTERY PARK CITY DOGS

A Dog Owners Association

Jeff H. Galloway
Member, Executive Committee

<http://www.bpcdogs.org>

January 27, 2003

Mr. Timothy Carey
President
Battery Park City Authority
One World Financial Center
New York, New York 10281

Re: Battery Park City Dog Runs

Dear Mr. Carey:

Our 600+ members are becoming increasingly concerned about the lack of progress by the Battery Park City Authority in addressing the need for permanent dog runs in Battery Park City. This concern is based on the failure to commence the construction of the planned Pumphouse Plaza dog run to serve southern BPC (replacing the southern BPC temporary dog run), and the separate issue of the soon-to-be-eliminated temporary dog run in northern BPC, which has no replacement in sight.

We recall your strong personal pledge to our group in March 2000, when we first organized ourselves into BPC Dogs, that BPC would have two permanent dog runs serving the residents of northern and southern BPC. We ask that you use your authority within the BPCA to fulfill that pledge.

On May 21, 2002, Community Board 1 passed a resolution endorsing a Pumphouse Plaza dog run plan which had been jointly developed by members of your staff and a special residents task force set up by the Battery Park City Committee of CB1. This plan was the result of months of discussions and negotiations among BPC dog owners, Gateway Plaza residents and BPC Parks Conservancy personnel culminating in a plan to relocate the planned new dog run farther away from Gateway Plaza buildings and at the same time construct a first class replacement for the existing lot on Pumphouse Plaza. This plan was unanimously approved by the CB1/BPC Committee, and, as noted, approved in resolution form by the full Community Board.

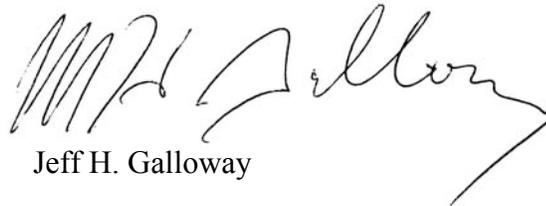
As of May 2002, BPCA staff stated that construction was expected to commence in October 2002, with completion scheduled for the spring of 2003. It is now late

January 2003 and construction has yet to begin. Indeed, we understand that the plans are now bottled up in the BPCA bureaucracy, with the expectation that the plans will finally come before the BPCA Executive Committee in its February 2003 meeting. We urge you to press for the final approval and authorization to commence construction of the Pumphouse Plaza dog run at this meeting.

Our members are equally concerned about the situation in northern BPC, where the existing temporary run, located on part of a street, will soon be eliminated. Many opportunities exist in northern BPC for a suitable permanent dog run location. As time passes, however, other “permanent” uses will be found for these locations, new residential buildings will be completed and other complicating factors will arise which will make it more difficult to place a permanent dog run than it would have been had the dog run been part of the plans at an early stage. We understand that your staff is exploring some specific possible locations. We ask that representatives from our organization be involved in this process so that we can assist in finalizing a northern BPC dog run in the shortest possible timeframe.

The BPC Dogs membership thanks you for your support in working to continue to improve the livability of BPC, and making it a showcase for mixed residential and commercial development worldwide. Dog runs may be only one small aspect of such a community, but they are a true indicator of a vibrant, residential neighborhood. As our organization never tires of pointing out: look at a neighborhood without dogs, and you will see a neighborhood devoid of families and other residents with roots – if there are any residents at all in such a neighborhood; but look at a neighborhood with dogs, and you know you are in a residential *community*. Please help continue to improve BPC as such a community; please fulfill your pledge to bring us permanent dog runs.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff H. Galloway". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping tail that extends to the right.

Jeff H. Galloway

cc: Alan Gerson, NYC Councilmember
Madelyn Wils, Chair, Community Board 1
Anthony Notaro, Chair, BPC Committee, CB1
Leticia M. Remauro, BPCA