

2013-J5035

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION celebrating the life and accomplishments of the late Jack Katz, former Executive Director of the Flatbush Avenue BID, distinguished citizen and devoted member of his community

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is moved to recognize and pay tribute to the life and accomplishments of Jack Katz, an individual of distinguished purpose and enduring commitment; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to celebrate the life and accomplishments of the late Jack Katz, former Executive Director of the Flatbush Avenue BID, a dynamic force in maintaining the vitality of the Flatbush Avenue commercial area for over 30 years; and

WHEREAS, The Flatbush Avenue BID will fittingly recognize Jack Katz at its Annual Meeting on Tuesday, May 13, 2014, at the New York Congregational Home, Brooklyn, New York; and

WHEREAS, Born and raised in Brooklyn, Jack Katz faithfully served his country as a member of the United States Army during World War II; and

WHEREAS, Jack Katz and his wife, Rita, ran the successful neighborhood business Shoeland Buster Brown from 1968 to 1991, and were the recipients of Howard Golden's "Mom and Pop" Award in the mid 1980s; and

WHEREAS, For many years, Jack Katz served as President of the Flatbush Avenue Merchants Association; the success of this organization led to the creation of the Flatbush Avenue Business Improvement District (BID) in 1989, of which Jack became the first President; and

WHEREAS, When Jack retired from his business in 1991, he was named Executive Director of the BID, with boundaries that extend along Flatbush Avenue from Parkside Avenue to Cortelyou Road; and

WHEREAS, Under Jack Katz's tireless leadership the BID developed initiatives along Flatbush Avenue that improved the security and sanitation services, and provided seasonal banners as well as special holiday

lighting and banners; and

WHEREAS, In addition Jack Katz published and distributed the Super Saver and initiated a successful bus advertising campaign; his efforts helped to make Flatbush Avenue graffiti free and also attracted businesses that kept the area brimming with activity, resulting in a stronger commercial avenue; and

WHEREAS, Jack Katz was a strong supporter of the broader mandate of the organization as well, being to upgrade the quality of life for the community as a whole; and

WHEREAS, Armed with a humanistic spirit and imbued with a sense of compassion, Jack Katz leaves behind a legacy which will long endure the passage of time and will remain as a comforting memory to all he served and befriended; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to celebrate the life and accomplishments of the late Jack Katz, former Executive Director of the Flatbush Avenue BID, distinguished citizen and devoted member of his community; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of Jack Katz.