



**BOROUGH OF STATEN ISLAND
COMMUNITY BOARD #3**

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**Health & Human Services Committee
Public Hearing Report**

DATE: October 3, 2023

TIME: 7:00 PM

IN PERSON: No

VIRTUAL: Yes

SPEAKER: No

Committee Members Present

Frank Morano

Diane Peruggia, Chair, Health & Human Services

Vincent Bonomi

Patricia Conway

Carmine Gualtieri

Harold Kozak

Verna Lauria

Dennis McKeon

Staff

Stacey Wertheim, *Community Coordinator*

Susan LaForgia, *Community Coordinator*

Guests

Carol Donovan, Pres. Richmondtown-Clarke Avenue Civic

Public Contact

Carol Donovan shared concerns about the City of Yes for Housing Opportunity and its effect on city services. There aren't enough hospitals and services for needy people, yet the city wants to build and bring more people to the borough.

Agenda

None

Old Business

None

New Business

- The Mayor has proposed to remove the healthcare that city workers have earned and replace it with privatized insurance, which provides less benefits. City Council Bill Intro 1099-2023 supports retirees. Assemblyman Reilly and Senator Lanza support these efforts. Community Board members must call the NYC Conflict of Interests Board to receive permission to vote on this topic. They can be reached at 212-437-0707.

Motion: to support and advocate on behalf of the NYC retirees to preserve their earned healthcare benefits as outlined and promised in the statute in New York Administrative Code §12-126 when they were hired by the City of New York.

WHEREAS, the issue of healthcare is critical and must be protected for the 250,000 NYC retirees who worked for their healthcare rights and

WHEREAS, the proposed administration plan proposes to remove these 250,000 NYC retirees from their current healthcare plan and

WHEREAS, the proposed administration's plan would require city retirees to decide whether to opt out of the new Medicare Advantage Plan (MAP) run by Aetna, which would save the City roughly \$600 million per year and

WHEREAS, Int. 1099 of 2023 would require the City to offer Medicare-eligible city retirees and their Medicare-eligible dependents at least one Medigap plan with benefits equivalent to or better than those already available to city retirees and their dependents as of December 31, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the administration's proposed plan would decrease city retirees' access to the same level of health care held previously by requiring pre-approvals and co-payments and will limit the current list of doctors available;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Community Board 3 supports intro 1099-2023 in City Council to ensure that the City maintains the choice of at least 1 Medigap plan, equivalent to or better than those already available to city retirees and their dependents as of December 31, 2021, and not force retirees into a privatized Medicare Advantage plan.

Vote: In Favor 8; Opposed 0; Abstentions 0
Morano Y; Peruggia Y; Bonomi Y; Conway Y; Gualtieri Y; Kozak Y; Lauria Y; McKeon Y
Motion Passes

- Dennis McKeon- Where-to-Turn
 - **The Prop Shop** has 150 Halloween Costumes that can be borrowed.
 - **Holiday Toy Drive** – In need of drop-off locations. Please let Dennis know if you know of a business willing to put a box out in front to collect toys.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Peruggia

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Chair, Health & Human Services Committee