

Fighting for vibrant, equitable and sustainable housing and neighborhoods through community ownership of land

NYCCLI STATEMENT ON PASSAGE OF COMMUNITY LAND TRUST LEGISLATION

December 19, 2017

The City Council's passage today of Intro 1269-A is an exciting step forward for New York City's growing community land trust (CLT) movement. The legislation adds CLTs, for the first time, to the NYC administrative code. It defines an "eligible community land trust" for the purpose of entering into regulatory agreements with the City's housing agency, and outlines requirements related to those agreements. The bill's passage gives a boost to CLT efforts taking root across NYC to ensure permanently affordable housing and community-led development.

NYC Community Land Initiative (NYCCLI) thanks Council Member Donovan Richards for his leadership, and all of the bill sponsors for their support of the CLT model and movement. Intro 1269-A lays groundwork on which NYC must build, to incorporate and prioritize CLTs in NYC's housing and community development programs. We look forward to continuing to work with the City Council to create the scaffolding needed to launch and sustain a vibrant landscape of CLTs in New York.

NYCCLI has long called on NYC to support and prioritize CLTs, including in the disposition of city-owned property, as a strategy to preserve public subsidy and reach deeper housing affordability. In October, we <u>testified</u> about needed changes to Intro 1269-A, including a stronger CLT definition providing for community control and a commitment to support deeply affordable housing on CLT land. We are pleased that the revised legislation passed today requires community and tenant representation on an eligible CLT's board of directors. This is an important step toward ensuring that CLTs are truly community-led and accountable.

Intro 1269-A adds to the growing momentum for CLTs in New York. We look forward to continued partnership with the City Council and administration to bolster CLTs as part of an inclusive and equitable housing and economic development agenda.

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NYCCLI is an alliance of community, affordable housing and economic justice organizations dedicated to advancing community land trusts (CLTs) in New York City. NYCCLI strategies include education and outreach, community and coalition organizing, research and policy advocacy. NYCCLI also coordinates capacity-building training for existing and emerging CLTs. For more information, visit nyccli.org.