



# Let's invest in the **CITY BLOCK** not the **CELL BLOCK!**



**It's time to close the Brooklyn House of Detention for good and here's why:  
The jail is wasting money that is needed elsewhere.**

The City has already blown \$30 million and is about to embark on a questionable plan to spend at least another \$16 million on renovating a facility that is empty and will remain so for the foreseeable future. This is money that could reopen firehouses and build classrooms. The Corrections Commissioner recently noted the City's jail population is the lowest in 15 years, yet the City continues to pay to staff and maintain several vacant jails, while it lays off much needed school aides from our overcrowded classrooms and closes our neighborhood firehouses!

**This site should be the gateway to Downtown Brooklyn.**

Now the jail is an eyesore blocking access to Downtown Brooklyn. The public and private sectors are about to make enormous investments in Downtown Brooklyn's continued redevelopment, including Atlantic Avenue. The jail should not hinder these exciting plans. The House of Detention site creates a huge dead space at an important location. Redeveloping it could transform this eyesore into a community asset and reinforce ongoing investment on adjacent sites.

**This could be tremendous for our economy.**

Developing the jail site into something productive will provide economic benefits to the neighboring businesses and allow that stretch of Atlantic Avenue to flourish. Converting or rebuilding on the site will produce a considerable economic boost to the City by adding around 600 units of housing, along with significant tax paying retail space. Real estate experts suggest the City could bank at least \$35 million dollars by selling the property.

**Join Your Neighbors and demand: "Mr. Mayor, tear down this jail!"**

Brooklynites are enraged that the City would prefer to keep an unused eyesore standing rather than transforming it into something that would benefit the community and the economy. Currently, civic associations in all the neighborhoods adjoining the jail (Brooklyn Heights, Boerum Hill and Cobble Hill) are all organizing on this issue.

Join them in this jailbreak!

**PLEASE CALL 311 TO TELL THE MAYOR THAT  
THIS JAIL MUST BE CLOSED FOREVER!**

This flyer is supported by a coalition of the Boerum Hill Association, Brooklyn Heights Association, Cobble Hill Association, the Atlantic Avenue Betterment Association and the Atlantic Avenue LDC.