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MEDIA RELEASE

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New Rochelle Committee to Advocate for Immigrant Communities

New Rochelle, NY - New Rochelle Mayor Bramson announced today the formation of an Advisory Committee on Immigrant Affairs (ACIA.) The non-partisan committee, composed of volunteers from a cross-section of backgrounds, will provide guidance to the Mayor and other interested leaders in New Rochelle on matters impacting the immigrant communities of New Rochelle. According to its mission statement, the ACIA will strive to:

“Foster a climate of understanding and respect among all diverse constituencies of New Rochelle; recommend actions, practices, and policies to address the concerns and needs of the immigrant communities of New Rochelle; and help to facilitate two-way communication between immigrant residents and decision-makers in local government. The Committee may also organize and sponsor programs, events, or activities that may be of interest or benefit to local immigrants.”

“Immigrants have contributed immeasurably to the strength, vitality, and character of our city, but have often been under-represented in civic decision-making,” said Bramson. “Especially at a time of heightened sensitivity to the issues surrounding immigration, I look forward to drawing upon the experience and perspective of the ACIA.”

“ACIA members are unified in their desire to ensure that New Rochelle is a place where immigrant communities feel safe and can thrive,” said ACIA Chair Ariel Alarcon. “We look forward to working with the Mayor and all local leaders to serve the interests of our beautiful, diverse city.”

The ACIA welcomes feedback and suggestions from the public on matters related to its mission. Comments can be directed to acia.newro@gmail.com.

As a first active step, the ACIA is distributing the attached “Consumer Advisory”, prepared by the American Immigration’s Lawyer Association (AILA) concerning the recent suspension of the DACA program.

DACA recipients and their families who have questions or concerns about their rights are urged to consult this information and to be especially mindful of the October 5th application deadline for DACA extensions.

The membership of the ACIA is as follows:

Ariel Alarcon, Chair

Molly Schultz Hafid, Vice Chair

Gustavo Barbosa

Dan Bonnet

Ximena Francella

Maria Jaime

Muhammadu Imtiaz Joufardeen

Thomas Koshy

Virginie Lemay

Imam Shaffieq Motamey

Domenico Romero

Maria "Lupita" Torres

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