



MANUFACTURING IN BROOKLYN

Brought to you by Southwest Brooklyn Industrial Development Corp.

- ✓ The nature of manufacturing in New York City has changed substantially since the days of smokestacks and assembly lines. Today's New York City manufacturer typically is a small, family-owned business of less than 50 employees. They make a product that serves the local market and they benefit from the large mix of employee skills available in New York City. And they share the same concerns about displacement as your typical mom and pop store.
- ✓ More than 2,200 manufacturing and industrial businesses call Southwest Brooklyn (Red Hook, Gowanus, and Sunset Park) home. These businesses cannot be outsourced because they feed the local economy...literally! For instance, Aegean Foods in Gowanus manufactures the brand food for all of NYC's Garden of Eden grocery stores, Gorilla Coffee roasts its beans in Sunset Park, not far from where Sahadi's roasts its nuts, and Steve's Key Lime Pies are made right in Red Hook.
- ✓ It is not a coincidence that some of NYC's largest concrete manufacturers are located in Gowanus. According to industry standards, once mixed, concrete must be poured within 90 minutes, so batching facilities must be close to their final destinations. Gowanus' concrete firms are pouring the foundation for the Freedom Tower, building Water Tunnel #3, and many other integral projects that keep NYC running and growing.
- ✓ Businesses located on the banks of the Gowanus Canal and Bay use this waterway to move crushed quarry stone, sand, fuel oil, scrap metal, and cement. Together, these businesses remove the equivalent of **200,000 TRUCK TRIPS** each year from our roads. This number continues to grow as more businesses turn to the water to meet their transportation needs.
- ✓ Far from fading away, Southwest Brooklyn's industrial sector is alive and kicking with a low 3% vacancy rate for M-zoned property in Red Hook and Gowanus, and 1 % in Sunset Park.
- ✓ Industrial businesses, city-wide, not only provide crucial goods and services to NYC, but together, they provide well-paying jobs for over 230,000 New Yorkers. In fact, according to the New York Industrial Retention Network, 78% of the production workforce is people of color, 64% was born outside of the U.S., 24% has a high school degree or less, and the average production wage is over \$43,000/yr., which is \$12,000 more than retail and \$18,000 more than the restaurant industry.

SBIDC, founded in 1978, is a nonprofit organization that provides advocacy and services to help manufacturing and industrial businesses in the Southwest Brooklyn area grow and create employment opportunities for local residents. We also develop and administer community development initiatives, including commercial revitalization efforts in Red Hook. For more information, call Rachael Dubin at 718-965-3100, ext 108, or visit:

www.SBIDC.org