June 30, 2008

Joseph P. Parks, S.J. Chairman NYC Campaign Finance Board 40 Rector Street, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor New York, NY 10006 MYC OFB RECEIVED

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Dear Chairman Parks:

I am writing to request permission for Katz for New York to begin raising funds for an anticipated runoff election for the 2009 New York City Comptroller's race.

Katz for New York has been filing disclosure statements with the Campaign Finance Board for the 2009 election since July 2006. Since then, we have raised 1.9 million for what I anticipate will be a highly competitive race.

A runoff election can be reasonably anticipated based on the following criteria:

- 1. There are five candidates running for Comptroller so far.
- 2. Although Katz for New York has raised more funds for the primary than any other candidate, three of our opponents have raised well over a million dollars as of the last filing, leading to the conclusion that a competitive race can be reasonably anticipated, and that Melinda Katz will likely be a candidate in a runoff election, should one occur.
- 3. With recent history as a guide, there is likely to be little, if any, public polling in the Comptroller's race until very late in the primary process, making it difficult to assess the closeness of the race.
- 4. There is no incumbent running for re-election, leaving the result of the primary further in doubt.

Councilwoman Katz believes that one of the most important aspects of the campaign finance program is that it encourages candidates to focus on raising matchable contributions from New Yorkers early in the process, so that they can get that responsibility out of the way and concentrate on meeting with voters and debating the issues as the election draws near. She believes that the same principle should apply to an anticipated runoff election. If there is a runoff election for Comptroller, which would surprise few political observers, the compressed time period after the primary would best be spent on debating and discussing the issues, not scrambling for last minute dollars. Councilwoman Katz would like to begin to prepare for that eventuality.

Thank you for your consideration.

Veryatruly yours,

Ro**n**ald A. Kaye

Treasurer