

Rosenson, Valerie

From: Tarzia, Nicola
Sent: Monday, November 25, 2019 7:04 PM
To: BOE - Elected Officials; Board of Representatives; Rinaldi, Mary Lou; Kooris, David; Ryan, Kieran; Alswanger, Geoff; Handler, Michael; Grafstein, Cindy; Lucero, Tamu; McCarthy, Kevin; Glassman, Andrew; Perna, John; Martin, David; Casolo, Louis
Cc: Marlene Wilden; Frank J. Mercede; Jim Lawler; Robin Druckman; Anthony Gaglio; fritz.blau@gmail.com; Lisa Butler; Wunder, Kathy
Subject: Tarzia and SAMG
Attachments: 20190130150343831[3].pdf; 20191120155833955.pdf; 20191120155804090[1].pdf; BOR correspondence to Mayor 190506[3].pdf; BOE Operations meeting request
Categories: Add to Weekly Communications

Good evening all,

I am writing to express my serious concerns that SAMG is inadequately supporting our district. Our city needs more help in planning for our current and future facilities oversight, and even with our new facilities managers, we are struggling to keep up. It's not working that well at all right now, and I am flooded with parents complaining that we aren't getting the job done and SAMG is failing our children.

A few simple examples of this are the following:

- SAMG is behind deadline and beyond budget for playground remediation. The BoE was approached in March '18 about these issues. Comparatively speaking, this particular district-wide project pales in comparison to other capital projects. Yet, there are families in our district who are still without access to a playground nearly 9 months later with a real risk project completion will expand past a full-calendar year.
- Need I also remind the group about the Stamford Courtyard. This was a humiliating experience in trying to get done. I was asked to meet with parents and contractors and I helped to initiate and brainstorm some solutions.
- Also, when I visited Westover before it was closed with Kathleen Wunder, she and BoE members will tell you I figured out in 5-10 minutes what the problems and cause of the mold were without having to spend millions of tax dollars on studies and long time frames.

Given my overwhelming credentials (see attachments) and hands on construction experience as owner of The Tarzia Group which consists of Tarzia Contracting and Tarzia Plumbing, it has always been my pleasure to be able to quickly get to the bottom of findings and procedures and add constructive advice to all parties. I have the unique perspective to confidently say there is no one in Stamford's City Government, City employees, Architects, Engineers, General Contractors and or Sub Contractors that can bring as much as I can to the table. Also I have demonstrated this fact in the past when I was the singular board member that conceived the new and very successful AITE on the Rippowam campus.

I have tried to work professionally with SAMG for approximately a year now (with very disrespectful and arrogant leadership) and they have given me no choice, and it is for these reasons I am proposing we reexamine the make-up of the SAMG. We are at a very critical time as the City has gone through several exercises of how to incorporate getting new schools built using corporate space. Now, we have a proposal to

do a sale and lease back program. These are all ambitious and creative plans that are doomed to fail without the proper political support. As a BoE member, I personally would like to support this new endeavor but cannot reasonably do so without the right personnel in place – and I plan to be vocal about this stance.

Also in the attachments is a letter from the BOR to the Mayor which calls for a long term facilities maintenance plan, and long term planning which says to hire a strategic planning consultant for maintenance and long term planning. This seems to have fallen on deaf ears and or is being done inadequately.

Right now I have a very good amount of support and a strong following to form a New Coalition/SAMG which includes the support of the SEA, SBOEEA (custodial and tradesman union) along with plenty of parents and other major general contractors that live in the city so that we can rectify this bad scenario and the bad experiences that we have all had (see attachments).

Please do not forget we are spending millions of dollars to complete existing work with outside contractors and corporate partners to address the needs of our children and district that we have fallen extremely behind on for many years. Let the New SAMG try and do it a lot better and more unified, more effective and in a more efficient respectful manner.

I'd like to call for meeting to plan for our second phase of our current facilities oversight, including long range plan to be inclusive of all the resources our City has with cooperation from SAMG, Engineering and the Mayor and our other City Boards.

Thank you for your time. Nicola

Nicola Tarzia LEED AP
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www.tarziagroup.com

30TH BOARD OF REPRESENTATIVES CITY OF STAMFORD

President
MATTHEW QUINONES

Clerk of the Board
SUSAN NABEL

Majority Leader
RODNEY PRATT

Minority Leader
MARY L. FEDELI

May 6, 2019

Dear Mayor Martin,

I, along with the undersigned members of the Board of Representatives, fully support the \$50,000,000 of bond funded additional appropriations recently approved by the Board's Fiscal Committee for mold rehabilitation at Davenport Ridge Elementary School, Hart Magnet Elementary School, Toquam Magnet School, Julia A. Stark Elementary School, Westover Magnet Elementary School and Westhill High School.

These appropriations, however, underscore the need for a long term maintenance and facilities management plan for the City of Stamford Board of Education facilities. We are therefore requesting that you submit to the Board of Finance and the Board of Representatives a request for an additional appropriation, to come out of the Mold Task Force budget, for the hiring of a strategic planning consultant to support the development of a long term maintenance and facilities management plan for Board of Education facilities. This appropriation is necessary to ensure our city officials are able to adequately plan for the future growth of student population as well as ensure our school facilities represent our commitment to the safety of students, quality of our neighborhoods, and betterment of our great city.

Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to receiving this appropriation request in the near future.

Sincerely,

Matthew Quinones, President
30th Board of Representatives

Rep. Megan Cottrell
Rep. Virgil de la Cruz
Rep. Monica Di Costanzo
Rep. Mary Fedeli
Rep. Philip Giordano
Rep. Benjamin Lee
Rep. Bob Lion
Rep. Lindsey Miller
Rep. Mavina Moore
Rep. Eric Morson
Rep. Susan Nabel
Rep. Denis W. Patterson
Rep. Charles Pia
Rep. Nina Sherwood
Rep. Anthony Spadaccini
Rep. David Watkins

cc: Board of Education
Board of Finance
Mold Task Force

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER PROTECTION

MAJOR CONTRACTOR

TARZIA CONTRACTING LLC

1455 NEWFIELD AVE

STAMFORD, CT 06905-1502

LIC / REG NO	EFFECTIVE	EXPIRES
MCO.0902368	07/08/2015	06/30/2016

SIGNED

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER PROTECTION

HEATING, PIPING & COOLING UNLIMITED CONTRACTOR

NICOLA TARZIA

1455 NEWFIELD AVE

STAMFORD, CT 06905-1502

LIC / REG NO.	EFFECTIVE	EXPIRES
HTG.0303765-S1	09/01/2018	08/31/2019

SIGNED

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER PROTECTION

FIRE PROTECTION UNLIMITED JOURNEYPERSON

NICOLA TARZIA

1455 NEWFIELD AVE

STAMFORD, CT 06905-1502

LIC / REG NO.	EFFECTIVE	EXPIRES
FRP.0021209-F2	11/01/2018	10/31/2019

SIGNED

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER PROTECTION

NEW HOME CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTOR

NICOLA TARZIA

1455 NEWFIELD AVE

STAMFORD, CT 06905-1502

TARZIA CONTRACTING

LIC / REG NO	EFFECTIVE	EXPIRES
NHC.0001819	10/01/2017	09/30/2019

SIGNED

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER PROTECTION

HOME IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTOR

NICOLA TARZIA

1455 NEWFIELD AVE

STAMFORD, CT 06905-1502

TARZIA CONTRACTING

Registration #	Effective	Expiration
HIC.0546685	12/01/2018	11/30/2019

SIGNED

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER PROTECTION

PLUMBING & PIPING UNLIMITED CONTRACTOR

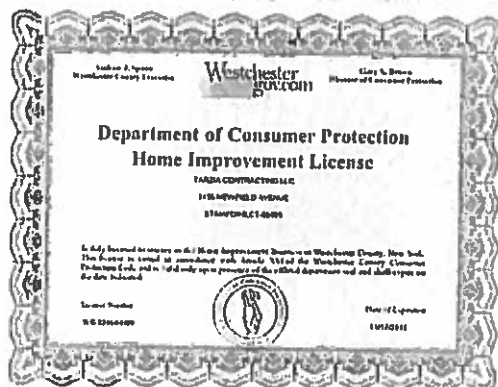
NICOLA TARZIA

1455 NEWFIELD AVE

STAMFORD, CT 06905-1502

LIC / REG NO.	EFFECTIVE	EXPIRES
PLM.0204340-P1	14/01/2018	10/31/2019

SIGNED


Westchester County Board of Plumbing Examiners
Westchester County Consumer Protection
Master Plumbing License 2019


Nicola Tarzia
 D.O.B: 3/10/1963
 Height: 6'2" Weight: 200
 Hair: Brown Eyes: Brown
 Company:
 Tarzia Plumbing and Heating
 1455 Newfield Ave
 Stamford, CT 06905

License No. 1323
 Expires on: 12/31/2019

John Royce

Having successfully completed the requirements
 established by the NAHB
 Green Building Designations Board of Governors

Nicola Tarzia

Is designated a
 Certified Green Professional
 September 2010

John A. Royce
 President, NAHB
 Green Building Designations Board

Nicola Tarzia
 Designated Green Professional



Rosenson, Valerie

From: Tarzia, Nicola
Sent: Thursday, January 17, 2019 1:49 PM
To: Grafstein, Cindy; Altamura, Michael; George, Andy; Casolo, Louis; BOE - Elected Officials
Cc: McGrath, Mark; Lucero, Tamu; Zachery, Clarence; Handler, Michael
Subject: BOE Operations meeting request

Hi all,

Well I guess I needed to chime in also.

So to set the record straight on Lou Casolo's appearance, I have met with Rich Lyons and Clarence Zachery on January 8th and January 15th (and have all my notes and documents) to review and discuss our agenda for the January 15th Operations meeting for the update and reporting of our Strawberry Hill project and our entire Operations agenda.

Now I know they are all busy, but I am certain that Clarence had said he will get a hold of Lou for our Operations meeting for an update on Strawberry Hill. I even double checked with both of them (that afternoon) prior to our meeting on January 15th.

Anyway I don't want to cast any blame on anyone because I know and appreciate their tremendous efforts, by all of them in our on going Mold issues, timelines and other pending issues.

BUT this is just ONE of the reasons and examples why the BOE is UPSET with the facilities management as a whole and why we need a NEW facilities plan ASAP!

Communication is so valuable and key to our success, So I will be meeting with Rich and Clarence on a weekly basis (maybe more) to review any pending and future issues and that should hopefully suffice the BOE position and concerns (I hope).

So lastly I feel these emails will be an example (to the City and BOE) of why we need - ASAP,

1. A Long range facilities plan (City and BOE)
2. An in house BOE engineer.
3. A new BOE facilities in house plan.
4. Strong oversight of ongoing construction, maintenance and mold issues.
5. Custodial and tradesmen oversight, contracts, etc.
6. Etc, etc!

I'm sure we all do not want any more large scale situations like Westover, Newfield and Westhill, etc to come back and bite us again.

If anyone else needs another meeting or has any other concerns, as I said I will be meeting with Rich and Clarence every Tuesday an hour before our BOE meeting and we can discuss any other questions or concerns at that time.

Thanks for all your help and I know how valuable all our time and efforts are so that's why communication and being efficient are extraordinarily important.

Please note I'm on the road a lot so emails are a little difficult for me so you can always use my cell phone to contact me directly if need be.

So just let me know if anyone wants to join us next Tuesday and I'll see you all then.

Thanks Nic

Nicola Tarzia LEED AP
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From: "Grafstein, Cindy" <CGrafstein@StamfordCT.gov>
Date: Thursday, January 17, 2019 at 11:07 AM
To: Mike Altamura <MAltamura@StamfordCT.gov>, Andy George <AGeorge@StamfordCT.gov>, "Casolo, Louis" <LCasolo@StamfordCT.gov>, BOE - Elected Officials <BOEElected@StamfordCT.gov>
Cc: "McGrath, Mark" <MMcGrath1@StamfordCT.gov>, "Lucero, Tamu" <TLucero@StamfordCT.gov>, "Zachery, Clarence" <CZachery@StamfordCT.gov>, "Handler, Michael" <MHandler@StamfordCT.gov>
Subject: Re: meeting request

Thanks, Mr. Altamura. Very much appreciate your response. Look forward to working with you.

Cindy Grafstein

Special Assistant to the Mayor
City of Stamford
(203) 977-4143
CGrafstein@stamfordct.gov

From: Altamura, Michael
Sent: Thursday, January 17, 2019 10:52:27 AM
To: George, Andy; Grafstein, Cindy; Casolo, Louis; BOE - Elected Officials
Cc: McGrath, Mark; Lucero, Tamu; Zachery, Clarence; Handler, Michael
Subject: Re: meeting request

Dear Ms. Grafstein,

At first, I did not think that your email deserved a response, but since you as a busy city employee, paid by my tax dollars, took the time out of your busy schedule, and I as Stamford Citizen with no other obligation other than running 3 businesses and a non-paid volunteer member of the Board Of Education, I was my obligation to respond.

1. First of all, I want to make sure You know, I did not ask to meet with Mr. Casolo, He volunteered, what a wonderful thing. But if you rather have him spend a few hrs. at the BOE, I'll make sure to ask the chair of the Operation Committee, to schedule a long enough meeting to accommodate Mr. Casolo. And, if you rather have him answer my concerns and those of other members on record, it will be my pleasure. The members at the BOE do not charge the City or the BOE for our time, so we will have plenty of time and questions to ask.
2. I also disagree with your input about how we run our meetings at the BOE and the way we ask for information. We have repeatedly asked many times to have Engineering come in front of the Board.
3. My opinion is that Engineering does not devote enough time to the BOE projects. We are at their mercy when it comes to getting things done and not getting the information we ask for in a timely manner. This has been my experience for the past 3 yrs. that I have been a Volunteer on the BOE, that is why, I have been asking for the BOE to hire our staff engineer. I have also formally asked Mr. Zachery to find out if the city charter prohibits us from doing so. Our schools, students, teachers and taxpayers deserve better.

With warmest regards,

Mike

From: George, Andy
Sent: Wednesday, January 16, 2019 11:27:33 PM
To: Grafstein, Cindy; Casolo, Louis; Altamura, Michael
Cc: McGrath, Mark; Lucero, Tamu; Zachery, Clarence
Subject: Re: meeting request

To all,

I do agree that Lou should meet with the entire Board rather than just one member.

I do not believe we were upset with Lou, rather we expected or were promised information on capital projects that was not forthcoming. Apparently, no one could provide that information other than Lou. Accordingly, the BOE became concerned that no one present at the meeting could respond. That is not Lou's fault.

Let's reset. Clarence will work with Nick to formulate the meeting agenda and get the Board the necessary information.

Andy George, President
Board of Education
Stamford, CT

From: Grafstein, Cindy
Sent: Wednesday, January 16, 2019 5:40:38 PM
To: Casolo, Louis; Altamura, Michael
Cc: McGrath, Mark; Lucero, Tamu; Zachery, Clarence; George, Andy
Subject: Re: meeting request

I attended a BOE meeting a few months ago where Lou was criticized for not attending although, as I learned after the meeting, he had not been sent an meeting invitation, which if sent, would have shown a conflict for another board meeting.

I also suggest that rather than Lou meet individually with Mr. Altamura, in the interest of his valuable time, the BOE should send an invite for him to attend their next meeting so that he can address all BOE members. Additionally, BOE facilities should have

enough knowledge about BOE capital projects to report to the BOE in the absences of Lou or anyone else from engineering. In my role, I have enough to report so have to assume others do as well. And, if not, then let's figure out why that is.

Cindy Grafstein

Special Assistant to the Mayor
City of Stamford
(203) 977-4143
CGrafstein@stamfordct.gov

From: Casolo, Louis
Sent: Wednesday, January 16, 2019 5:11:08 PM
To: Altamura, Michael
Cc: McGrath, Mark; Grafstein, Cindy; Lucero, Tamu; Zachery, Clarence; George, Andy
Subject: meeting request

Mike:

I called you this afternoon and left a voice mail on your landline to request a meeting with you to review some of the concerns you raised at last night's BOE operations committee meeting.

I'm sorry I was not present last night to respond to the concerns raised, but did not receive an invite to attend the meeting.

In the future if you or other board member needs an update on a project that my staff is working on I'd be happy to attend but would kindly request a meeting invite be sent to me so that I can include it within my schedule. I'm also willing to provide your board with a project status report if that would help address any questions the Board may have prior to the meeting.

Please let me know when you are available or free to stop by my office and I can bring up to date on the BOE projects we are working on or to address any project question or concern you may have.

It's best to email me or call my cell at 203-223-5770

Regards,

Lou Casolo

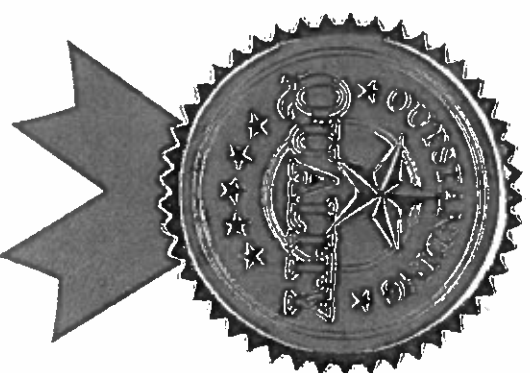
2018
HOBI AWARD

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Home Builders and Remodelers Association of Connecticut,

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has fulfilled the requirements of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) Section 402, and has received certification to conduct lead-based paint renovation, repair, and painting activities pursuant to 40 CFR Part 745.89

In the Jurisdiction of:

All EPA Administered States, Tribes, and Territories

This certification is valid from the date of issuance and expires

October 26, 2023

NAT-F193353-1

Certification #

October 12, 2018

Issued On



Michelle Price

Michelle Price, Chief

Lead, Heavy Metals, and Inorganics Branch