

9:30 A.M. April 15, 1957.

*Jack Flynn*  
File Memorandum - Brooklyn Stadium

Emil, Praeger, Frank Schroth, Walter F. O'Malley, Bob Moses and George Spargo met on the site. I have this morning's Ed Sullivan column of the News which quote Mayor Wagner on the John Cameron Swayze program as saying that the Mayor held out little hope for a new Dodger stadium. I will ask Red Patterson to see if he can get the exact language used but in the meantime I will attach copy of the clipping to this. The people present were all familiar with the Mayor's pessimism but Bob Moses was still of the opinion that the Mayor could be driven into camp. I know, of course, the lack of cooperation that Charles Mylod and Bob Blum had received in their efforts as Sports Center Authority members.

The site outlined on the map which we examined has possibilities. Bob Moses believes that the Park Department would have to build the Stadium and lease it and surrounding facilities to us. I will have a meeting with Oestreicher & Mulvey to tell them of this development. To me it has a chance. In the first place there are obviously some detegrents. Rapid transit facilities are minimum, the express station is almost a 200 foot climb from the ground, Grand Central Parkway is already bumper to bumper but the future might mean widening. The site would be more acceptable to Westchester and Queens people than to Brooklynites. There is no well defined network of buses serving the area. We might get by on the parking but it would be minimum with little likelihood of being expanded to maximum requirements. 14,500 ft<sup>2</sup>

Of great interest, however, is the fact that Moses said he was now 100% for a domed stadium. This is again significant. It represents quite a concession on his part but he apparently is so enthused about it that we might be able to convince him that he thought of it first. I doubt if we would have any trouble with the Yankees in moving that close to their stadium and I am sure the Giants would not give us any difficulty as Horace Stoneham has already indicated to me that he intends to move to Minneapolis whether the Dodgers stay in New York City or not. Bob Moses would want us to pay a rental that would amortize the cost of the improvement in 20 years. This might be more than we could chew particularly if the stadium were to go as high as his figure of \$10,000,000 indicates.

I told Moses, Jack Flynn and the others very definitely my preference was still to keep the Dodgers in Brooklyn but I would be willing to lean in favor of a location adjacent to Brooklyn if it offered real possibilities for quick action. Moses does not want Cashmore, the Mayor or anyone else to know about this until he and we can come to some general conclusion as to the feasibility. There is danger in the fact he is leaving New York for an extended European trip beginning May 3rd. I am worried about the lethargy that will undoubtedly follow him leaving the scene.

-2-

Afterthought: A stadium on this site would have to be built from the ground up and could not be recessed as we had planned because of ground water. There is also a serious problem about the footings as this is filled in land and even access roads are settling and waving.

WFO'M:EM

WALTER F. O'MALLEY.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Walter F. O'Malley', written over the typed name.