

OFFICE OF CITY CONSTRUCTION CO-ORDINATOR RANDALL'S ISLAND

NEW YORK 35, N. Y. TELEPHONE TRAFALGAR 6-9700

ROBERT MOSES
CITY CONSTRUCTION CO-ORDINATOR

August 15, 1955

Mr. Walter F. O'Malley President Brooklyn National League Baseball Club 215 Montague Street Brooklyn 1, New York

Dear Walter:

In answer to your letter of August 10th, I can only repeat what we have told you verbally and in writing, namely, that a new ball field for the Dodgers cannot be dressed up as a Title I project.

Let me add that although we have had a look at it, we do not have a copy of your brochure entitled "Brooklyn Stadium Atlantic Avenue Site".

The natural question everyone will ask about the Atlantic Avenue site as you describe it is: "If you need only three and a half acres of land, if it is indeed distressed property, if you have a million dollars in the bank, if you have railroad easements, if you really want to stay in Brooklyn, why don't you buy the property at a private sale?"

We are for private enterprise, and if you can sell the present Dodgers field and the other holdings around it and make a substantial profit, that is certainly your right. If you can sell the Dodgers' franchise to someone else and it is in your interest to do so, then in spite of any feeling I might have of the need for keeping as many attractions in Brooklyn as possible, I would have to agree that you would be strictly within your rights.

On the other hand, I don't see how you can have the nerve to indicate that you have not received proper support from public officials involved. Every reasonable, practical and legal alternative we have suggested has been unsatisfactory to you. The record shows we have made many suggestions, even though it is not part of our official duties. Let's be honest

Mr. Walter F. O'Malley

-2-

August 15, 1955

about this. Every conference we have attended over several years including the last one at the News began with a new Dodger Ball Field as the main, primary objective with other improvements a peripheral and incidental purpose.

However, if the Board of Estimate on the advice of the Borough President of Brooklyn wants to put through a reasonably sensible plan for highway, railroad terminal, traffic, street, market and related conventional public improvements, and incidentally wants to provide a new Dodgers Field at Flatbush and Atlantic Avenues, you can be sure that my boys will fully respect the wishes of the Board and do everything possible to help.

Cordially,

Co-Ordinator