

SIM's-SIIOAS's Incorporating Purpose vs. Current Purpose

SIM-SIIOAS was envisioned as an institution for public education with a founding purpose “to collect and preserve objects of scientific and historic interest, especially such as relate to Staten Island; to establish and maintain a public museum and reference library” for the residents and taxpayers of New York. In effect, SIM-SIIOAS was incorporated to “preserve” and “protect” and not “explore...dynamic connections.”

In addition, SIM-SIIOAS now includes operation of the Snug Harbor Cultural Center, as discovered in a March 9, 2018, Sublicense Agreement produced by DCA [see Admission chart above]. SIM's-SIIOAS's purpose was broadened in response to the SLA with the provision that it “furnish, foster or promote **for the benefit of the people of the city**” [see section 532.25-0 of New York City's Administrative Code as provided for in Chapter 476 of the Laws of the State of New York of 1984].

The juxtaposition of SIM-SIIOAS's initial purpose versus its current purpose makes clear that New York City's Office of the Mayor must have controlling laws and contracts codified so that the City's oversight agencies can ensure that the policies and practices that SIM-SIIOAS and the other PEC institutions put in place are compliant [see [PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP](#), [PARK INSTITUTIONS](#) and [LAWS](#).]

Incorporating Purpose of SIM-SIIOAS	Current Purpose of SIM-SIIOAS
<p><u>See: Chapter 850 of the Laws of the State of New York of 1911 pertained to SIIOAS and amended Chapter 526 of the Laws of the State of New York of 1905 but not Section 2 which was unamended.</u></p> <p>“Sec. 2 ... to promote intellectual activity and intercourse and to encourage an interest in the sciences, arts and history; to collect and preserve objects of scientific and historic interest, especially such as relate to Staten Island; to establish and maintain a public museum and reference library; to provide facilities for recording and publishing scientific and historical information; to preserve from needless destruction such plants and animals as are harmless and to protect objects and places of natural beauty, of scientific and of historic interest.”</p> <p>NOTE: The 2018 SLA described in the Admissions chart above, modified SIM's-SIIOAS's purpose while emphasizing that SIM-SIIOAS must benefit the people of the City. Charging an admission fee and/or putting institutional purpose above “public</p>	<p>See: <u>About the museum</u></p> <p>“Founded in 1881, the Staten Island Museum, New York City's only general interest museum, engages visitors with interdisciplinary exhibitions and education programs that explore the dynamic connections between natural science, art and history based on its diverse collections.” [emphasis added]</p>

purpose” **is contrary to the SLA’s provisions**. Regarding SIM’s-SIOAAS’s purpose, the SLA provided:

“b. Any contract, lease, license, or other instrument referred to in subdivision a of this section may authorize...for any purpose or purposes which furnish, foster or promote **for the benefit of the people of the city**, cultural development, education, recreation, historic preservation of buildings and improvement of business and commerce, including: theatrical, musical, artistic presentations and exhibitions; meetings, assemblages, conventions and conferences; telecommunication systems; events of civic, community and general public interest; and general business or commercial purposes which aid the other purposes set out in this subdivision, **provided, however, that nothing herein shall grant** ... [and its] is hereby declared that all of the purposes referred to in this subdivision **are for the benefit of the health, welfare and prosperity of the people of the city and are public purposes** [emphasis added].