“The Ask”

(1) A total of $1.3 billion to be raised through bonding, for grants over a three-year period to the fifteen Brooklyn hospitals, to be repaid by the State from section 1115 Medicaid waiver funds.

(2) Approximately $1 billion of that total amount is set aside for comprehensive ambulatory care development. Apportionment will be based on measurement of Medicaid underpayment and bad debt (on the theory that hospital financial instability is caused by Medicaid “savings” due to underpayment, and that the primary goal of this plan is expansion of services to the uninsured and underinsured).

(3) Some $300 million of the $1.3 billion will be reserved for Long Island College Hospital and Interfaith Medical Center, contingent on the resolution (and settlement) of outstanding litigation. Funds will be made available to those two hospitals early in the process, with repayment from the section 1115 Medicaid waiver savings.

(4) SUNY Downstate Medical Center will remain a full service public hospital staffed with public employees. It is the only academic medical center in Brooklyn that serves as the borough’s primary resource for providing safety net services, the teaching and training of health care professionals and cutting-edge medical research. Given its unique health care and academic missions, the State shall provide annual state support to SUNY Downstate in an amount that is commensurate with the costs incurred to carry out its public missions.

(5) SUNY Downstate Medical Center shall establish an employee training center. This center shall be responsible for the retraining of health care workers in Brooklyn to transition to employment in the newly created comprehensive ambulatory care centers. Approximately $40 million of the total of $1.3 billion will be devoted to this training center.

(6) An advisory body of physicians nominated by each of the fifteen hospitals will be created, chaired by the Chairman of the Department of Emergency Medicine and Chief Medical Officer, SUNY Downstate Medical Center. This advisory body will report to the Borough President of Brooklyn and to the Commissioner of the NYS Department of Health. The advisory body will continue to work through the three-year transition period.

(7) The total of $1.3 billion is to be devoted as equity to the hospitals, debt to the State, irrespective of whether or not the State of New York receives approval for its proposed waiver of rules under Section 1115 of the Social Security Act.

(8) Example of project: SUNY Downstate Medical Center will commit itself to the development of four comprehensive ambulatory care centers within the boundaries of its current service area. These satellite and emergency care centers will each have academic service and community components tied to the full-time emergency department of SUNY Downstate Medical Center. The staff of these four comprehensive ambulatory care centers shall be public employees who were employees of the University Hospital of Brooklyn that were targeted for non-renewal, retrenchment or layoff. These public employees shall retain their current collective bargaining representation.