



**Statement from Local Progress members in “HQ2 shortlist” cities on recent developments with Amazon HQ2**

*February 13, 2019*

“In light of the recent reports that Amazon is reconsidering its New York City development due to community and political opposition to the terms of the deal, we the undersigned elected officials from formerly “HQ2 shortlist” cities will not allow Amazon to use our cities as leverage in a continued bidding war. If Amazon’s intention is to gin up new offers from our cities in order to exert pressure on New York City, we refuse to be pitted against each other.

As elected leaders concerned with reducing inequality and building equitable cities, we seek to collaborate across jurisdictions to address these great challenges, not compete in a race to the bottom. We strongly encourage Amazon to rethink its treatment of the democratic process as an obstacle to be overcome and to end the ongoing bidding war it continues to instigate for its headquarters. We will do all we can to prevent our cities from participating in Amazon’s rigged game.”

John Arena, Alderman, Chicago, Illinois

Elizabeth Brown, Councilmember, Columbus, Ohio

Gregorio Casar, Council Member, Austin, Texas

Jared Evans, City-County Council Member, Indianapolis, Indiana

Ben Ewen-Campen, City Councilor, Somerville, Massachusetts

David Grosso, Councilmember At-Large, Washington, DC

Helen Gym, Councilmember At-Large, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Philip Kingston, Council Member, Dallas, Texas