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Stanford versus Cornell: two winners

Both universities should be allowed to build a tech campus in the city.

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Re "Stanford's city campus plan is in—and it's big" (CrainsNewYork.com): New York City simply must say yes to Stanford and Cornell. I urge Mayor Bloomberg to find ways that both schools are able to be involved.

Can both Stanford and Cornell be at the same Roosevelt Island site the two schools have targeted in their proposals? No. But both of these great institutions are willing to bring such tremendous investment, value and prestige to the city that neither should be turned away.

There is plenty of room on Governors Island to place one, if not both, of these ventures. Can you imagine what a technical hotbed New York City would become if Stanford and Cornell put these resources on Governors Island?

Practically overnight, New York City could rival Silicon Valley. We'd be attracting the best and the brightest here, and it would be an incubator for tech businesses.

—Jeff Edelman

RIGHT TARGETS, WRONG LAWSUIT

I read "BofA, Wells Fargo, JPMorgan sued over ATM fees" on *Crain's* website.

As little as I am a fan of banks, I think this lawsuit is wrong.

As long as you are able to access your own money through your own bank with no fees, the banks are doing nothing wrong. When you access your money through another bank's ATM, that bank is providing you a service that you should have to pay for. No one is forcing someone to use another bank's ATM: That is the consumer's choice. So let them go to their own bank.

That being said, I fault the banks for things like planning on spending billions of dollars to repurchase their own shares to jack up the price, while at the same time *not* lending money freely, raising or instituting new fees (like those applied when you use your card to make debit purchases), and not modifying the mortgages of those who qualify

—Jeffrey B. Kraut
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