



CITY OF NEW YORK

MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD 10

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CICELY HARRIS
Chairperson

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“Community Benefits Program” Resolution

Whereas, Manhattan Community Board 10 (CB10) recommends the creation of the “Community Benefits Program” by The Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment (MOME) to be offered to production companies before filming begins in Central Harlem.

Whereas, the “Community Benefits Program” will allow production companies to receive acknowledgment for charitable and in-kind donations. Community benefits can be, but are not limited to; internships, training programs, employment opportunities, parking vouchers, donations to school programs, tenant associations, block associations and/or community programs and initiatives. The Community Benefits program would be completely voluntary.

Whereas, MOME encompasses the key economic and creative sectors of film, TV, theater, music, advertising, publishing, digital content and real estate as it relates to these industries. In total, these sectors account for over 305,000 jobs, and an economic output of \$104 billion. The office promotes New York City as a thriving center of creativity, issuing permits for productions filming on public property, and facilitating production throughout the five boroughs. It also oversees NYC Media, the largest municipal broadcasting entity in the country including five TV Stations and a radio station with a reach of 18 million households and a 50-mile radius.

Whereas, MOME has spearheaded a series of initiatives to ensure that New Yorkers from diverse backgrounds and perspectives benefit from the growth in the production industry in the city, and to increase equity and access to all the industries in the agency’s portfolio.

Whereas, NYC Film Green is the first green production designation program in the country to be administered by a government entity, NYC FILM Green Established New York as the nationwide leader in setting environmental standards for the film and TV industry. This program encourages productions to engage in sustainable practices, including waste reduction, energy conservation, and staff education.

Whereas, Central Harlem has been a heavily sought after filming location for television and film production companies, which have been an inconvenience for many residents who see no actual benefits to the community. Some of these inconveniences include blocks of parking space being taken away from community residents, forcing them to find parking outside of their neighborhood or in garages. Parking spaces being taken away by production crew members, before the time that the filming permit allows. Garbage being left behind after filming ends. Lighting from production cameras shining through apartment windows after midnight into the early hours of the morning. Loud or disturbing noises due to production crew activity and/or filming. Sidewalks being blocked off and used for equipment and crew member set-up. In 2018, 150 permits were issued to production companies by MOME to film in Manhattan Community Board 10.

Whereas, CB10 would like to ensure that transparency, and residential quality of life is maintained between production companies and communities. The community is willing to work with film production companies as long as there is transparency, and the community is aware of the ways in which they are being accommodated. This includes adding signage describing the nature of the “community benefits” being provided by the production companies.

Whereas, MOME already has a program called NYC Film Green that currently offers eco-friendly productions the opportunity to be recognized for their efforts in reducing their impact on the environment. CB 10 recommends that the same practices be instituted as it pertains to the “Community Benefits Program”.

Whereas, Productions that satisfy program requirements will receive the MOME mark of distinction to place in end credits and in any marketing and promotional materials, identifying the project as a leader in charitable production. Productions that go above and beyond will have the opportunity to receive additional recognition for their exceptional efforts from MOME.

Therefore be it resolved, on April 3rd, 2019, Manhattan Community Board 10 recommends the creation of a “Community Benefits Program” by the Mayor’s Office of Media and Entertainment, in hopes to further more suitable working relationships between film production companies and the communities in which they produce their films.

Therefore be it further resolved, on April 3rd, 2019, Manhattan Community Board 10 voted unanimously in support of this “Community Benefits Program” resolution with a vote of **28** Yes **0** No.



Cicely Harris
Chairwoman
Manhattan Community Board 10



Shatic Mitchell
District Manager
Manhattan Community Board 10