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COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 2, MANHATTAN

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Greenwich Village ✦ Little Italy ✦ SoHo ✦ NoHo ✦ Hudson Square ✦ Chinatown ✦ Gansevoort Market

February 26, 2018

Samir Saini
Commissioner
Department of Information Technology and Telecommunications
255 Greenwich St., 9th Fl.
New York, NY 10007

Dear Commissioner Saini:

At its Full Board meeting on February 22, 2018 Community Board #2, Manhattan (CB#2, Man.) adopted the following resolutions:

1. Presentation regarding proposed locations for LinkNYC kiosks:

Whereas, NYC Department of Information Technology & Telecommunications (DoITT) and their franchisee, CityBridge, are continuing the installation of LinkNYC kiosks throughout New York City; and

Whereas, most of the existing 1300 kiosks replaced outdated phone booths and were installed “as of right” but the proposed kiosks are to be installed along commercial corridors and will not be replacing phone booths; and

Whereas, each LinkNYC kiosk provides free high-speed WiFi, free nationwide calling, a dedicated 911 button, free charging ports for mobile devices, and free access to maps, 311, and the Community Board Website of which it is located; and

Whereas, LinkNYC, since the first installation of these kiosks, has reduced the volume on kiosks by 50% at night, added dimmers to the advertising screens that react to ambient light, removed the internet browser from the tablet in order to minimize loitering, and added community board, weather, and transit information to the tablet, and offers free advertising for local businesses, events, and arts offerings; and

Whereas, there are two different sized LinkNYC kiosks, the smaller size does not include the two 55 inch advertising screens and the Board received two emails from the community with concerns that the larger size kiosks would have a negative effect on the landmarked historic districts in Community Board 2; and

Whereas, DoITT and CityBridge propose 13 kiosk locations throughout Community Board 2 at the following locations and we ask that the applicant consider the comments following each location when installing the proposed kiosks:

- 121 6th Ave.
 - Please consult with the Hudson Square Connection BID about this location.
- 15 7th Ave. South

- This location is adjacent to a sidewalk café that is not currently in operation but most likely will be used in the future and therefore the kiosk should not be installed directly opposite the footprint of the sidewalk café and the smaller size kiosk should be considered for this location.
- 155 6th Ave.
 - Please consult with the Hudson Square Connection BID about this location.
- 169 Bleecker St.
 - The sidewalk at this location is crowded with both pedestrians and other obstructions and the smaller kiosk only should be used at this location.
- 33 Greenwich Ave.
 - This location is adjacent to an enclosed sidewalk café and therefore the kiosk should not be installed directly opposite the enclosed sidewalk café.
- 417 Canal St.
- 503 Broadway
- 601 Hudson St.
 - The smaller version of the kiosk should be used at this location due to the historic nature of this block.
- 61 7th Ave. South
 - This location is adjacent to a sidewalk café and therefore the kiosk should not be installed directly opposite the sidewalk café and the smaller kiosk should be considered at this location.
- 75 Carmine St.
- 75 Greenwich Ave.
 - This location is adjacent to a sidewalk café and therefore the kiosk should not be installed directly opposite the sidewalk café and the smaller kiosk should be considered at this location.
- 76 Greenwich Ave.
 - This location is adjacent to the NYC AIDS Memorial and therefore the smaller version of the kiosk should be installed at this location in order to protect the solemnity of the area.
- 81 University Place

Therefore Be It Resolved that CB2 Manhattan recommends **approval** for LinkNYC Kiosks at the above locations, provided that NYC DoITT and CityBridge consider the above comments when installing such kiosks.

Therefore Be It Resolved that only the small profile units will be placed within historic districts and on Carmine St. and on University Place.

Vote: Passed, with 24 Board Members in favor.
with 11 in opposition. (T. Bergman, C. Booth, A. Brandt, E. Coler, T. Connor, K. Faccini, S. Gammie, R. Goldberg, S. Russo, S. Smith, E. Young)

Please advise us of any decision or action taken in response to these resolutions.

Sincerely,



Terri Cude, Chair
 Community Board #2, Manhattan



Joseph Gallagher, Chair
 Quality of Life Committee
 Community Board 2, Manhattan

TC/EM

- c: Hon. Jerrold L. Nadler, Congressman
- Hon. Carolyn Maloney, Congresswoman
- Hon. Nydia Velázquez, Congresswoman
- Hon. Brad Hoylman, NY State Senator
- Hon. Brian Kavanagh, NY State Senator
- Hon. Yuh-line Niou, Assembly Member
- Hon. Deborah J. Glick, Assembly Member
- Hon. Gale Brewer, Man. Borough President
- Hon. Margaret Chin, Council Member
- Hon. Carlina Rivera, Council Member
- Hon. Corey Johnson, Council Member