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COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 2, MANHATTAN

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February 24, 2020

Edward Pincar Jr.
Manhattan Borough Commissioner
Department of Transportation
55 Water Street
New York, NY 10041

Dear Commissioner Pincar:

At its Full Board meeting February 20, 2020, Community Board #2, adopted the following resolution:

Resolution requesting a study, including test applications and evaluations, of curbside access for package deliveries by commercial vehicles, taxi and car service pick-up and drop-off, and loading and unloading of personal vehicles in Community Board 2 Manhattan, with selection of test areas based on community input.

Whereas the recent increase in e-commerce deliveries on residential streets as well as the growth in the number of for hire vehicles (FHV's) have led to additional demands on our streets and curb space:

- In NYC, from 2009 to 2017, deliveries to households tripled to 1.1 million per day.
- Currently, 15% of NYC households get at least one package per day, and 41% receive packages at least 2 times per week.
- Households now receive more packages than businesses.
- Private car owners, taxis and FHV's often can't drop off and pick up passengers and goods at the curb, forcing them to double park and hindering people from reaching the sidewalk safely from the street.; and

Whereas there is not enough available curb space to accommodate this growing demand, and loading and unloading often happens in travel lanes. This double parking leads to dangerous conditions for pedestrians and cyclists as well as to traffic congestion, which results in air and noise pollution, wasted fuel, more wear and tear on vehicles, *stress*, time costs to all drivers and delays for emergency vehicles; and

Whereas one loading zone not only prevents double parking but also can serve up to 100 households per day; and

Whereas with its sizable senior population and many disabled constituents who need safe curbside access to and from taxis, FHV's, access-a-ride and other vehicles, its growing number of families that need accessible space to load and unload all manner of equipment, including baby carriages and strollers, and a lack of such accommodations that would benefit all of the district's residents, along with its high volume of package deliveries by commercial vehicles, Community Board 2, Manhattan (CB2) both needs and would benefit from a community-wide opportunity for more curbside access for deliveries, drop-off/pickup, and loading/unloading, and more and better access to it; and

Whereas the NYC Department of Transportation (DOT) is currently conducting a pilot project to reduce double parking and other disruptive standing behaviors by providing curb space for such activities as package deliveries by commercial vehicles, taxi and car service pickup/drop-off, and active loading and unloading of personal vehicles at a few designated locations, e.g., in Manhattan on W. 15th and W. 16th Sts btw. 6th and 8th Aves. and on West End Ave. btw. W. 79th and W. 95th Sts., but these sites are solely selected by DOT rather than by the community; and

Whereas CB2 has observed that communities are highly knowledgeable of conditions in their own locales as well as of what their needs are in relation to these conditions, and that when given the opportunity and encouragement to self-select improvements, they contribute positively and productively;

Therefore be it resolved that CB2 requests that DOT conduct a study of curbside access in our district including test applications and analysis of added loading zones for goods and people, with selection of test areas based on community input with Community Board 2's coordination; and

Be it further resolved that CB2 asks that DOT focus on locations identified by the community as being problematic; and

Be it further resolved that CB2 urges DOT to also engage the community in evaluation of the test applications as the study progresses; and

Be it finally resolved that CB2 requests that DOT return to CB2 within six (6) months after the study's start with an evaluation of the test applications and further ideas on how curbside regulations can be improved to address current demands for curb access, relieve congestion and make our streets safer for all road users, with recommendations for added curbside access in CB2.

Vote: Passed, with 37 Board Members in favor and 4 Board members in opposition (R. Sanz, K. Bordonaro, B. Ely, D. Raftery).

Please advise us of any decision or action taken in response to this resolution.

Sincerely,



Carter Booth, Chair
Community Board #2, Manhattan



Shirley Secunda, Chair
Traffic & Transportation Committee
Community Board #2, Manhattan

CB/JT

c:

Hon. Jerrold L. Nadler, Congressman
Hon. Carolyn Maloney, Congresswoman
Hon. Nydia Velasquez, Congresswoman
Hon. Brad Hoylman, NY State Senator
Hon. Brian Kavanagh, NY Senator
Hon. Deborah J. Glick, NY Assembly Member
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Hon. Gale Brewer, Manhattan Borough President
Hon. Corey Johnson, Council Speaker
Hon. Margaret Chin, Council Member
Hon. Carlina Rivera, Council Member