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COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 2, MANHATTAN

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October 26, 2015

Jackie Snyder
Executive Director
Public Design Commission of the City of New York
City Hall, 3rd Floor
New York, NY 10007

Dear Ms. Snyder,

At its Full Board meeting October 22, 2015, Community Board #2, adopted the following resolution:

Resolution in support of The Jackie Robinson Museum and their quest for funding from LMDC

WHEREAS The Jackie Robinson Museum will convey the historical significance of Jackie Robinson's life within the larger context of African American pioneers and the seminal cultural changes of the 20th century; and

WHEREAS the museum will foster dialogue among visitors and lead them to utilize lessons from Robinson's life; and

WHEREAS the museum anticipates its space will be approximately 20,000 square feet, modest in size in comparison to many New York City museums; and

WHEREAS the museum did a feasibility study and expects at least 125k visitors per year; and

WHEREAS the museum is shovel ready and expects to open its doors by the end of 2017; and

WHEREAS the museum has raised 85% of its fundraising goal and needs an additional \$2.5 million to be able to begin full build of the museum; and

WHEREAS the museum made a presentation before LMDC for a \$2.5 million grant; and

WHEREAS the museum will foster school programming at the museum and will encourage elementary school through high school classes to visit the museum; and

WHEREAS the museum will be in close proximity to the 444-seat K-5 elementary school planned at Duarte Square and in the rezoned Hudson Square neighborhood, which will mean more families living in the area; and

WHEREAS the museum will monitor traffic conditions and remain in communication with the community board and the community at large about school buses bringing children to and from the museum, as the area experiences heavy vehicular traffic; and

WHEREAS the museum anticipates charging accessible entry fees that will be on a sliding scale; and

WHEREAS the museum expects to have only a small café that will sell simple snacks and no alcohol and has no intention of applying for a liquor license; and

WHEREAS the museum will provide additional culture to burgeoning Hudson Square and the CB2 district overall, which already includes many prominent museums as well as theater and music venues; and

WHEREAS the museum is open to collaborating with other museums and arts groups in the area,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that CB2 Manhattan supports the addition of The Jackie Robinson Museum to our district, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that CB2 Manhattan asks LMDC to provide the museum with the funding they have requested.

VOTE: Unanimous, with 36 Board members in favor.

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

Sincerely,

David Gruber, Chair

Community Board #2, Manhattan

Robin Rothstein, Chair Arts and Institutions Committee

Community Board #2, Manhattan

TB/EM

c: Hon. Jerrold L. Nadler, Congressman

Hon. Daniel Squadron, NY State Senator

Hon. Deborah J. Glick, Assembly Member

Hon. Gale Brewer, Manhattan Borough President

Hon. Margaret Chin, Council Member