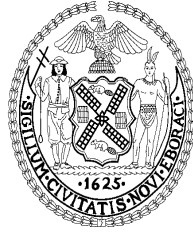


David Gruber, *Chair*
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Terri Cude, *Second Vice Chair*
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COMMUNITY BOARD No. 2, MANHATTAN

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November 21, 2014

William T. Castro, Manhattan Borough Commissioner
Arsenal West, 24 West 61st Street, 5th Floor
New York, NY 10023

Dear Borough Commissioner Castro:

At its Full Board Committee meeting on November 20, 2014, Community Board #2, Manhattan adopted the following resolution:

Resolution Regarding the Planned Renovation of Jackson Square Park

Whereas

1. Jackson Square has seen great improvement in appearance and safety over the last few years, thanks to support from the Jackson Square Alliance and other entities, which has been well-received by the local community, resulting in increased use of and attendance in the Park;
2. The Parks Department, the Jackson Square Alliance, the local community, and local elected officials all believe that this beloved open space requires renovation and restoration at this time;
3. The Parks Department has created a design depicting how the Park will be improved the goals of which involve making the park as green as possible while reusing and retaining as many of the most valued existing features, and the design was presented to the CB2 Parks & Waterfront Committee;
4. The presented design will remedy issues with features requiring repair, including the fountain which has become corroded, the access doors to the underground plumbing for the fountain which are rusted, the fence and the archway which are corroded, the light poles in the park which are in need of updating, some paving blocks that are broken, and the removal of one tree on Greenwich Ave that the Forestry department states must be removed;

5. The presented design would improve ADA compliance regarding access to the park and to the fountain area;
6. The presented design would increase the number and size of flower beds through improved layout of the space, convert some of the plantings from shrubs to trees to increase shade coverage, slightly increase the volume of the sound of falling water within the fountain, introduce illuminating lighting to highlight the fountain from below and LED lighting in the light poles, which would also improve safety at night;
7. The project presented is fully funded, both the construction work, the funds for which were committed by the City Council, and ongoing maintenance, for which the Jackson Square Alliance has pledged to support;

Therefore it is resolved, that CB2:

1. Supports this project, the design of which was presented by the Parks Dept to our committee and the community,
2. Urges the Parks Dept to work to tighten the schedule of what our Parks and Waterfront committee believes to be a universally well-received project with an unnecessarily protracted timeline for completion

PASSED: Unanimous, with 49 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



Richard Caccappolo, Chair
Parks, Recreation & Open Space Committee
Community Board #2, Manhattan

DG/EM

c: Hon. Jerrold Nadler, Congressman
Hon. Brad Hoylman, NY State Senator
Hon. Deborah J. Glick, Assembly Speaker
Hon. Gale Brewer, Manhattan Borough President
Hon. Corey Johnson, Council Member