

Carter Booth, *Chair*
Daniel Miller, *First Vice Chair*
Susan Kent, *Second Vice Chair*
Bob Gormley, *District Manager*



Antony Wong, *Treasurer*
Keen Berger, *Secretary*
Erik Coler, *Assistant Secretary*

COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 2, MANHATTAN

3 WASHINGTON SQUARE VILLAGE

NEW YORK, NY 10012-1899

www.cb2manhattan.org

P: 212-979-2272 F: 212-254-5102 E: info@cb2manhattan.org

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

June 21, 2019

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

Dear Manhattan Borough Commissioner Castro:

At its Full Board meeting on June 20, 2019, Community Board #2, adopted the following resolution:

A Resolution In Support of Revised Designs for DEP Water Tunnel Sites at East 4th Street and Grand Lafayette

Whereas:

1. In December, 2015, Community Board 2 passed a resolution urging the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to convey the three water tunnel sites in Community Board 2 to the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) for conversion into public open space; and
2. In October, 2018, the DPR held scoping sessions for two water tunnel sites; the East 4th Street site (31b, NoHo, 9,835 square feet) and the Grand & Lafayette site (30b, SoHo, 12,560 square feet); and
3. In April, 2019, the DPR presented initial design plans for both sites which incorporated the significant constraints required by DEP for continued access to the water tunnels, and solicited community feedback, which was documented in this committee's resolution; and
4. In June, 2019, the DPR presented revised designs for the proposed parks, done in conjunction with DEP representatives, which were well received and appreciated by the community for the responsiveness they showed to community input;
5. The DPR explained that the significantly improved design they presented for the Grand & Lafayette site would require an additional \$656,000 above the current budget; but that they felt comfortable they could garner the extra funding.

Therefore, Be it Resolved that CB 2, Manhattan:

1. Appreciates the efforts of the DPR to effectively and creatively incorporate the feedback provided by our community during earlier review sessions; and
2. Thanks the DPR and DEP for returning to our committee to present these revised designs before going to Public Design Commission and the Landmarks Preservation Commission; and
3. Strongly approves these revised designs and hopes they will be approved and built, thereby delivering on the 22-year goal for public open spaces to be built and maintained for public use on these sites; and
4. Urges the City Council to provide the estimated additional \$656,000 required to deliver the significantly improved design as presented by the DPR for the Grand & Lafayette site.

VOTE: Unanimous, with 39 Board Members in favor.

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

Sincerely,



Carter Booth, Chair
Community Board #2, Manhattan



Richard Caccappolo, Chair
Parks & Waterfront Committee
Community Board #2, Manhattan

TB/EM

c: Hon. Carolyn Maloney, Congresswoman
Hon. Brad Hoylman, NY State Senator
Hon. Deborah J. Glick, Assembly Member
Hon. Gale Brewer, Man. Borough President
Hon. Carlina Rivera, Council Member
Hon. Margaret Chin, Council Member

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Manhattan Borough Commissioner
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New York, NY 10023

Dear Manhattan Borough Commissioner Castro:

At its Full Board meeting on June 20, 2019, Community Board #2, adopted the following resolution:

A Resolution Regarding the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation Re-interment Plan for Washington Square Park

Whereas:

1. At our committee's May 2019 meeting, the DPR alerted our community to development of a re-interment plan for human bone fragments found in Washington Square Park (WSP) during three phases of reconstruction between 2008 and 2017 and offered to present details of the plan to our committee at our next meeting; and
2. At our June 2019 committee meeting the DPR presented its plan and the proposed text to be engraved on a granite paver located adjacent to the re-internment site; and
3. Attendees of our meeting asked several questions and proposed edits to the text to make it clearer and more accurate; and
4. At the end of the presentation the DPR answered questions and documented feedback and requests for clarification to the proposed text and plan; and
5. DPR has revised the proposed text incorporating many though not all our requests;

Therefore, Be it Resolved that CB 2, Manhattan:

1. Approves the presented plan for re-interment of human bone fragments found in WSP; and
2. Commends the DPR and LPC for the scholarly attention given to this project; and
3. Appreciates the presentation of the proposed memorial text to be engraved on a granite paver, and the response to our committee's feedback in the modified version sent to the Public Design Commission (PDC) for final review; and
4. Looks forward to the re-interment event and the commemoration of the history of Washington Square Park; and
5. Expresses hope that the monument will receive proper funding and attention; and
6. Looks forward to consideration of additional narrative markers, which might elaborate on the rich history of the park.

VOTE: Unanimous, with 39 Board Members in favor.

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

Sincerely,



Carter Booth, Chair
Community Board #2, Manhattan



Richard Caccappolo, Chair
Parks & Waterfront Committee
Community Board #2, Manhattan

TB/EM

c: Hon. Jerrold Nadler, Congressman
Hon. Brad Hoylman, NY State Senator
Hon. Deborah J. Glick, Assembly Member
Hon. Gale Brewer, Man. Borough President
Hon. Margaret Chin, Council Member

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

Dear Manhattan Borough Commissioner Castro:

At its Full Board meeting on June 20, 2019, Community Board #2, adopted the following resolution:

A Resolution Regarding the Design Process for Creating New and/or Renovating Existing Open Spaces

Whereas:

1. Community Boards are intended to obtain community input and it is their responsibility to help extract and amplify the voices of the community; and
2. The DPR has, over the last year, undertaken to lead design scoping sessions for open space creation and renovation projects, which can be viewed as appropriating a role that should be filled by the Community Board; and
3. The most recent example is that of DPR and property owner Trinity Church holding a public meeting with residents to discuss design concepts for renovation of Duarte Square rather than requesting that the Community Board do so; and
4. The input provided at this meeting will be used to create a preliminary design which will be presented to Community Board 2 for public review at a later date, and while our Parks and Waterfront committee will take part in this process, it will not lead it,

Therefore, Be it Resolved that CB 2, Manhattan:

1. Though pleased by the number and quality of open space projects in our district, and consistently impressed by the DPR's skills at running scoping sessions and creating open space designs, is disappointed that a public meeting to provide input to the renovation of Duarte Square was announced just six days beforehand, making it difficult to promote community involvement in this process; and
2. Requests that, along with providing greater lead time before holding meetings, DPR share development schedules and tentative budgets with the community as part of such meetings.

VOTE: Unanimous, with 39 Board Members in favor.

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

Sincerely,



Carter Booth, Chair
Community Board #2, Manhattan



Richard Caccappolo, Chair
Parks & Waterfront Committee
Community Board #2, Manhattan

TB/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, Manhattan Borough President
Hon. Corey Johnson, Council Speaker
Hon. Margaret Chin, Council Member
Hon. Carlina Rivera, Council Member