Tobi Bergman, Chair Terri Cude, First Vice Chair Susan Kent, Second Vice Chair Bob Gormley, District Manager



Antony Wong, Treasurer Keen Berger, Secretary Susan Wittenberg, Assistant Secretary

## COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 2, MANHATTAN

3 WASHINGTON SQUARE VILLAGE NEW YORK, NY 10012-1899 www.cb2manhattan.org

March 20, 2015

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 March 19, 2015, Community Board #2, Manhattan adopted the following resolution:

# Resolution in support of the ground text design for the AIDS Memorial in St. Vincent's Triangle Park

#### Whereas

- 1. Design of the AIDS Memorial, which CB2 has supported consistently, has already been approved by the Public Design Commission, but has been awaiting final design of the ground text component of the work; and
- 2. The ground text design presented by NYC AIDS Memorial has been created by renowned artist Jenny Holzer and consists of excerpts from Walt Whitman's poem, "Song of Myself," engraved into granite pavers on the ground in a spiral pattern beginning at the water feature at the center of the memorial and extending throughout the memorial; and
- 3. This design was well-received by our committee and members of the community, though it was noted that it departed from the NYC AIDS Memorial's stated mission to "remember the history of the crisis" in that it included no facts or narrative elements at all, to which NYC AIDS Memorial responded that they planned to fulfil that goal through event programming and online information.

### **Therefore it is resolved,** that CB2:

1. Manhattan Community Board 2 recommends approval of this beautiful design for the ground text at the NYC AIDS Memorial and that

2. CB2 strongly encourages NYC AIDS Memorial to find means to provide visitors with historical information on the AIDS crisis, including its place in the history of Greenwich Village and St. Vincent's Hospital.

**VOTE:** Passed, Unanimous with 38 Board Members in favor.

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

Sincerely,

Tobi Bergman, Chair

Community Board #2, Manhattan

Richard Caccappolo, Chair

Parks, Recreation & Open Space Committee

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Community Board #2, Manhattan

## TB/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

Tobi Bergman, Chair Terri Cude, First Vice Chair Susan Kent, Second Vice Chair Bob Gormley, District Manager



Antony Wong, Treasurer Keen Berger, Secretary Susan Wittenberg, Assistant Secretary

# COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 2, MANHATTAN

3 WASHINGTON SQUARE VILLAGE NEW YORK, NY 10012-1899 www.cb2manhattan.org

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Greenwich Village \* Little Italy \* SoHo \* NoHo \* Hudson Square \* Chinatown \* Gansevoort Market

March 20, 2015

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 March 19, 2015, Community Board #2, Manhattan adopted the following resolution:

## Resolution in support of the revised Planned for Renovation of Father Fagan Park

### Whereas

- 1. Original scoping and design for a renovation of Father Fagan Square, on Avenue of the Americas between Prince and Vandam Streets, was approved by CB2 in 2013; and
- 2. The design for this park requires approval by DEP, which maintains underlying sewer and water mains, and this project has been stalled for years for lack of coordination between DEP and DPR, and only now is able to move forward; and
- 3. The redesign responds to DEP's need for access to underlying sewer and water mains, FDNY's need for access by emergency vehicles, and MTA's concerns for the subway that runs underneath; and
- 4. The redesign calls for a curb cut on Prince Street, a wide path through the park, and a stretch of clear sidewalk on Avenue of the Americas to allow access to emergency vehicles; and
- 5. The redesign calls for cement paving, as it is easy to replace in the event of DEP service work to the underlying sewer and water mains, and no structures to be built atop the access area to the mains; and
- 6. DEP has agreed to inspect sewer and water mains before construction begins so as to reduce the need for later servicing, and has agreed to a narrower access corridor than it normally requires; and
- 7. Renovation will include inspection of existing trees; addition of water source for plant maintenance; vegetation beds; World's Fair benches; existing lighting; a water fountain; and trash cans; and
- 8. Members of the community requested an increase in the number of trash cans planned for the

- space, and expressed concern over the maintainability of the plantings; and expressed concern that the existing lighting was insufficient to provide safety; and
- 9. Members of the community voiced strong support for a plaque honoring Father Fagan and replacement of the trees honoring the fallen firemen.

## Therefore it is resolved, that CB2:

- 1. Recommends approval of the proposed design for Father Fagan Square and requests that this long-delayed project proceed expeditiously; and
- 2. Strongly urges DPR to create a plaque honoring the history of Father Fagan, the namesake of this park, and work with the MTA and/or DOT to replace the dead or dying trees planted in honor of the fallen fireman.

PASSED: Passed, Unanimous with 38 Board Members in favor.

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

Sincerely,

Tobi Bergman, Chair Community Board #2, Manhattan Richard Caccappolo, Chair

Parks, Recreation & Open Space Committee

Lulad A Conenggolo

Community Board #2, Manhattan

## TB/EM

c: Hon. Jerrold Nadler, Congressman

Hon. Daniel Squadron, NY State Senator

Hon. Deborah J. Glick, Assembly Speaker

Hon. Gale Brewer, Manhattan Borough President

Hon. Corey Johnson, Council Member