

Brad Hoylman, *Chair*
Bo Riccobono, *First Vice Chair*
Alison Greenberg, *Second Vice Chair*
Bob Gormley, *District Manager*



Antony Wong, *Treasurer*
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COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 2, MANHATTAN

3 WASHINGTON SQUARE VILLAGE

NEW YORK, NY 10012-1899

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Hon. Christine C. Quinn,
Council Speaker
224 West 30th St., Suite 1206
New York, NY 10001

Margaret Forgione
Manhattan Boro. Commissioner
NYC Dept. of Transportation
59 Maiden Lane, 35th Floor
New York, NY 10038

Raymond Kelly, Commissioner
NYC Police Department
One Police Plaza
New York, NY 10038

Dear Speaker Quinn, Manhattan Borough Commissioner Forgione and Commissioner Kelly:

At its Full Board meeting April 19, 2012, Community Board #2, adopted the following resolution:

Resolution requesting a pilot project routing tour buses coming east on Bleecker St. to turn right (south) on LaGuardia Pl. and increasing turning space at that corner.

Whereas an overwhelming number of oversize tour (sightseeing) buses has been passing down Bleecker St. from 7th Ave. to Broadway for several years, producing extremely negative impacts, such as air and noise pollution, heavy congestion, structural stress, danger to pedestrians, damage to sidewalks and trees, and encroachment on privacy, all this especially heavy, with frequent backups, on the already congested, residential stretch between LaGuardia Pl. and Broadway (with one travel lane of 10 ½ feet, parking on both sides and a bike lane); and

Whereas in recent discussions between the NYC Department of Transportation (DOT), Community Board No. 2, Manhattan (CB2), local community members from Our Streets Our Lives (OSOL), and City Sights NY tour (sightseeing) bus company, facilitated by NYC Council Speaker Christine C. Quinn's office, consideration has been given to conducting a pilot project evaluating changing the path of these tour buses to continue going east across Bleecker St. as presently, but to turn south (right) at LaGuardia Pl. down to Houston St., then east to Broadway and south from there; and

Whereas the tight right-turn curb radius at the southwest corner of Bleecker St. and Laguardia Pl. limits the turning space for these large buses, and DOT has agreed to explore creating more turning space at that location; and

Whereas OSOL has consulted with all tenants associations in the Bleecker St. area in question, including the Washington Square Village Tenants Association, as well as the Bleecker Area Merchants and Residents Association (BAMRA), and all fully support the proposed pilot project; and

Whereas Bleecker St. in this area is a local (but not a thru-) truck route, but many thru-trucks as well as 9/11 Memorial tour buses drive down this street, further adding to the heavy congestion; and

Whereas DOT has agreed to work with the New York City Police Department (NYPD) to ensure enforcement of the Local Delivery Trucks Only regulation on Bleecker St. and with the Lower Manhattan DOT Commissioner in routing the 9/11 Memorial tour buses away from Bleecker to the routes for that destination;

Therefore be it resolved that CB2 strongly supports conducting a pilot project routing tour buses coming east on Bleecker St. to turn right (south) on LaGuardia Pl., together with an increase in turning space at that corner, and urges DOT to implement this project as soon as possible; and

Be it further resolved that CB2 asks that DOT thoroughly monitor and evaluate this project, and report its findings and results to CB2; and

Be it further resolved that CB2 thanks NYC Council Speaker Christine C. Quinn and her office for facilitating this productive dialogue and DOT, as well as City Sights NY, for their cooperation in exploring and agreeing to solutions; and

Be it further resolved that CB2 thanks DOT for their willingness to work with the New York City Police Department (NYPD) to ensure enforcement of the Local Delivery Trucks Only regulation on Bleecker St. and with the Lower Manhattan DOT Commissioner in routing the 9/11 Memorial tour buses away from Bleecker St. to the routes for that destination and fully supports and requests these actions, and

Be it finally resolved that CB2 urges the NYPD to strictly enforce the Local Delivery Trucks Only regulation on Bleecker St.

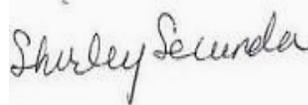
Vote: Unanimous in favor.

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

Sincerely,



Brad Hoylman, Chair
Community Board #2, Manhattan



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

BH/gh

c: Hon. Jerrold L. Nadler, Congressman
Hon. Thomas K. Duane, NY State Senator
Hon. Daniel L. Squadron, NY State Senator
Hon. Sheldon Silver, Assembly Speaker
Hon. Deborah J. Glick, Assembly Member
Hon. Rosie Mendez, Council Member
Jessica Silver, Manhattan Borough President's office
Pauline Yu, Community Assistance Unit

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April 20, 2012

Margaret Forgione
Manhattan Borough Commissioner
NYC Department of Transportation
59 Maiden Lane, 35th Floor
New York, NY 10038

Dear Manhattan Borough Commissioner Forgione:

At its Full Board meeting April 19, 2012, Community Board #2, adopted the following resolution:

Resolution in support of changing the metered parking time limit on 8th St. bet. Broadway and Sixth Ave. from the current one-hour maximum to a two-hour maximum allowable parking period.

Whereas the Village Alliance BID has proposed that metered parking rules on 8th St. bet. Broadway and Sixth Ave. be changed to allow for a two-hour maximum parking period rather than the current one-hour one, in response to extensive requests from restaurants on those blocks seeking additional unbroken dining time for the 30% of their clientele who come by car, as well as from merchants who need as much foot traffic as possible including visiting motorists; and

Whereas this proposal has the full support of residents, merchants and property owners, including the unanimous support of the W. 8th St. Block Association and the Central Village and Co-op and Condo Alliance; and

Whereas current permitted parking hours from 7:00 am to 11:00 pm would be preserved, with parking still prohibited overnight after 11:00 pm; and

Whereas the Village Alliance conducted a survey of existing parking conditions on that 8th St. stretch, showing that less than 50% of parking spaces there are taken at any one hour during the day, thus although a two-hour parking allowance may occupy some street parking a longer time, there's still enough parking space availability; and

Whereas the NYC Department of Transportation has confirmed that two-hour metered parking is being allowed in business areas and has been of help to businesses, not only for restaurants, but for lengthy shopping trips;

Therefore be it resolved that Community Board No. 2, Manhattan fully supports changing the metered parking time limit on 8th St. bet. Broadway and Sixth Ave. from the current one-hour maximum to a two-hour maximum allowable parking period.

Vote: Unanimous, with 37 Board members in favor.

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

Sincerely,



Brad Hoylman, Chair
Community Board #2, Manhattan



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

BH/gh

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