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Bo Riccobono, *First Vice Chair*  
Jo Hamilton, *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

[www.cb2manhattan.org](http://www.cb2manhattan.org)

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February 25, 2013

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 February 21, 2013, Community Board #2, adopted the following resolution:

**Resolution requesting that the width of all Broadway crosswalks from Broome St. to Houston St. be widened.**

**Whereas** Broadway between Broome St. and Houston St. is heavily congested with both automotive and pedestrian traffic, a situation that promotes dangerous pedestrian/vehicular conflicts; and

**Whereas** informal counts have shown that the number of pedestrians crossing Broadway on this stretch (at the intersections of Broome, Spring, Prince and Houston Sts.) exceeds the number of people at Times Sq., yet the haphazard widths of the crosswalks at these intersections are too narrow to accommodate the numbers of crossing pedestrians, who are forced into the open street where their safety is compromised by the passing vehicles, or are so heavily cramped in crossing that they're vulnerable to pickpocketing and other crime, or they're otherwise pushed back onto the already crowded sidewalks, exacerbating the excessive congestion there; and

**Whereas** both the Broadway Residents Coalition and the SoHo Alliance support widening the crosswalks on Broadway at Broome, Spring, Prince and Houston Sts. to remedy this situation; and

**Whereas** garbage receptacles displaced by parked cars take up as much as five or six feet at some of these crosswalks, further blocking pedestrian passage;

**Therefore be it resolved** that Community Board 2 Manhattan (CB2) requests that all of the crosswalks on Broadway from Broome St. to Houston St. be uniformly widened to at least 30 feet on both the north and south sides of all the four intersections involved and converted to high visibility crosswalks, with stop bars added; and

**Be it further resolved** that CB2 asks that midblock crosswalks with traffic lights also be considered for installation along this stretch; and

**Be it finally resolved** that CB2 asks that the corners of the four Broadway intersections in question be daylighted to create space for the trash dispensers that currently block the crosswalks, thereby clearing crosswalk passage and providing visibility for drivers to further safeguard pedestrians.

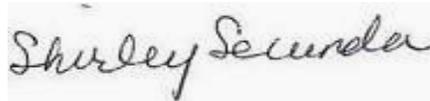
**Vote:** Unanimous, with 40 Board members in favor.

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

Sincerely,



David Gruber, Chair  
Community Board #2, Manhattan



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

DG/gh

c: Hon. Jerrold L. Nadler, Congressman  
Hon. Brad Hoylman, NY State Senator  
Hon. Daniel L. Squadron, NY State Senator  
Hon. Sheldon Silver, Assembly Speaker  
Hon. Deborah J. Glick, Assembly Member  
Hon. Christine C. Quinn, Council Speaker  
Hon. Margaret Chin, Council Member  
Hon. Scott Stringer, Manhattan Borough President  
Hannah Friedman, Community Liaison, Man. Boro. Pres. Office  
Pauline Yu, Community Assistance Unit

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January 25, 2013

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 January 24, 2012, Community Board #2, adopted the following resolution:

**Resolution requesting the NYC Department of Transportation to develop a full set of guidelines for placement of bicycle parking corrals.**

**Whereas** Community Board 2 Manhattan (CB2) thanks the NYC Department of Transportation (DOT) for presenting proposals that were considered by the Board to install two bicycle parking corrals in vehicular street parking curbside spaces, one at 62 Spring St. (on Lafayette St., s.w. corner, using one parking space for 8 bicycles), the other at 30 Prince St. (on Mott St., s.e. corner, using 1 ½ parking spaces for 14 bicycles) (a third, presented without notice, preventing posting of the location to enable community response, was not considered); and

**Whereas** CB2 recognizes the potential advantages presented by DOT of such corrals in certain situations, such as providing facilities where bicycles that are parked helter-skelter on crowded sidewalks can be shifted to provide more pedestrian sidewalk space, removing blockage of vehicular sightlines at pedestrian crossings for greater safety, enhancement with plantings maintained by adjacent businesses or others who also would clean the sites, reduction of bicycles chained to trees and poles and infringing on private property, and at 7 ½ feet wide, taking up less street space than 8-foot wide parking for motor vehicles; and

**Whereas** Friends of Petrosino Square, in addition to many other community members, objected to locating a corral at the s.w. corner on Lafayette at Spring St. (in front of Spring St. Natural restaurant), expressing concern about already heavy vehicular and pedestrian congestion there, including double parking, and problems with emergency access for Ladder 20 of the FDNY just up Lafayette St., both of which they've discussed alleviating by eliminating all parking there; and

**Whereas** community members objected to locating a corral at the s.e. corner on Mott St. at Prince St., (in front of Little Cupcake Bakeshop) citing concerns about safety, accessibility, street cleaning problems, commercial delivery bicycles' overuse and loss of car parking; and

**Whereas** Spring St. Natural and Little Cupcake Bakeshop submitted petitions they distributed on forms provided by DOT that, upon counting, indicated 29 signatures from neighborhood people supporting the proposed bicycle parking corral at 62 Spring St. and 73 signatures from neighborhood people supporting the proposed bicycle parking corral at 30 Prince St.; and

**Whereas** when queried about whether guidelines have been established to assess where bicycle parking corrals could be most suitably and advantageously placed, DOT indicated that no formal guidelines have been developed;

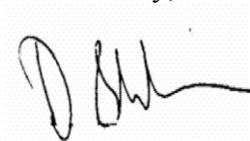
**Therefore be it resolved** that CB2 requests that DOT develop a comprehensive set of guidelines that prescribe the appropriate placement of bicycle parking in the street and that address the overall goals and structure of the corral program, considering such criteria as pedestrian and vehicular traffic conditions, presence and amount of bicycle parking nearby and in the general vicinity including Bike Share parking, determination of how many parking spaces are needed at a location, number of corrals allowed per block, maintenance partner qualifications, and enforcement; and

**Be it further resolved** that CB2 asks that further bicycle corral installations be delayed in CB2 until DOT returns to CB2 to present these guidelines along with details clarifying the broader program's goals and structure for the community.

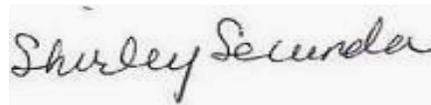
**Vote:** Unanimous, with 43 Board members in favor.

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

Sincerely,



David Gruber, Chair  
Community Board #2, Manhattan



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

DG/gh

c: Hon. Jerrold L. Nadler, Congressman  
Hon. Brad Hoylman, NY State Senator  
Hon. Daniel L. Squadron, NY State Senator  
Hon. Sheldon Silver, Assembly Speaker  
Hon. Deborah J. Glick, Assembly Member  
Hon. Christine C. Quinn, Council Speaker  
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February 22, 2013

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

Deputy Inspector Brandon del Pozo  
Commanding Officer, Sixth Precinct  
233 West 10<sup>th</sup> Street  
New York, NY 10014

Dear Borough Commissioner Forgione and Deputy Inspector Pozo:

At its Full Board meeting February 21, 2013, Community Board #2, adopted the following resolution:

### **Resolution in support of a P.S. 3 play street on Grove St. bet. Bedford and Hudson Sts.**

**Whereas** P.S. 3 on Hudson and Grove Sts., is requesting a play street on Grove St. bet. Bedford and Hudson Sts., adjacent to the school, to provide much needed outdoor play space for essential recreation and physical activity; and

**Whereas** this dire need for outdoor play space has been exacerbated by an increase of over 200 students (close to 800 students in all), which the school's tiny rooftop space is too small to safely handle, as well as by a loss of indoor play space from conversion of the gymnasium into a cafeteria large enough to serve the swelled enrollment, while all other interior space is being used to the maximum; and

**Whereas** the play street will be used Mon.-Fri., between 10:30 am and 2:00 pm only on days when the school is in session, but not during inclement weather (such as snow and rain); and

**Whereas** increased levels of fitness and exercise have been shown to guard against health problems and lower the risk of obesity, especially in children, as well as improve school performance (NYC Health Dept. and Dept. of Education 2009) and behavior, particularly significant at a time when childhood obesity and health problems, such as diabetes, have been increasing; and

**Whereas** guidelines indicate that children need at least 60 minutes a day of physical activity (US Dept. of Health & Human Services 2008), exceptionally important for P.S. 3 children, who greatly need respite from the school's crowded and confining conditions; and

**Whereas** Grove St. bet. Bedford and Hudson Sts. meets play street requirements as follows: It isn't a two-way main road, has very little traffic, wouldn't interfere with local traffic patterns, isn't a designated bus, truck or fire route, has no steep hills or sharp curves, isn't next to a hospital, and doesn't have businesses that depend on truck or other vehicle deliveries; and

**Whereas** play streets have been used by NYC schools for over 100 years to provide outdoor recess for children's play, and there are now play streets throughout the city that operate without incident, including two in Community Board 2 Manhattan (CB2), on Washington Pl. and on MacDougal St., for which CB2 has never received a complaint; and

**Whereas** 14 letters were received (and 12 people spoke, many of those who also wrote the letters) from residents of Grove St. bet. Bedford and Hudson Sts. in opposition to the proposed play street, citing concerns about noise, litter, trespassing on stoops, damage to cars parked on the block, supervision of children, dangerous conditions of existing (broken) sidewalks, clean up at end of playtime, damage to trees, plants and flowers, noise impact on residents working at home, garbage management and effect of garbage exposure on children; and

**Whereas** 8 letters were received (and 8 other people signed up to speak) in favor of the proposed play street, citing our community's responsibility to promote the well being of our children, the need for the children to have an adequate outdoor play area and everyday recess, the lack of distraction from the sounds of grade-school children when working at home, that we live in a congested city in proximity to each other and all make compromises to live here, and that the welfare of the children far outweighs slight inconveniences; and

**Whereas** some of the residents reported disrespectful, destructive and noisy behavior of children from the school in the past, however, it has been ascertained that these were older children from the Greenwich Village Middle School that vacated the P.S. 3 building in 2010 (current enrollment consists of pre-K through 5<sup>th</sup> grade students, younger, more carefully supervised children); and

**Whereas** a petition signed by 224 adults and 100 children in support of the play street was submitted by the P.S. 3 Parent Teachers Association (PTA), all who are members of the District 2 community and, along with P.S. 3, by virtue of their daily presence part of the Grove St. community; and

**Whereas** P.S. 3 has indicated its commitment to being a good neighbor and stated it will work to achieve the following concerning the play street:

- The play street will be limited to the street and the sidewalk adjacent to P.S. 3; no play street activity will be permitted on the sidewalk on the residential (south) side of Grove St. bet. Bedford and Hudson Sts.
- Children will be instructed on proper behavior and expectations for safe play and respect for P.S. 3's Grove St. neighbors and will be monitored accordingly.
- No play will be allowed on private property, including stoops, and no stepping into tree beds or plantings.
- Children always will be under adult supervision.
- Activities will be limited to "soft play," including jump rope, relay, soft-lightweight ball, and the like.

- No eating or drinking (except for water bottles) will be allowed during play street activity.
- The average number of students there will be determined based on scheduling, safety and space.
- If there is parking during play street hours, children will be advised not to lean on or play near parked cars.
- Children will be instructed to always clean up after themselves.
- Should a resident need vehicular access (personal or delivery) or emergency vehicle access be needed to the street during play street hours, activity will be stopped, the children will wait on the sidewalk, and the barricades will be temporarily moved to allow entry and/or exit.
- Ongoing communication will be maintained with the Grove St. Block Association.
- The school will continue to advocate for the repair of P.S. 3 sidewalks (initial communication has been made with the NYC Dept. of Transportation, and the NYC Dept. of Education has already begun an inspection of the sidewalk,).
- The school will work with the Grove St. Block Association for the best possible practical garbage collection options (The NYC Dept. of Sanitation has already been contacted and indicated it may be possible to place a garbage receptacle on a corner of Grove and Bedford).
- A volunteer committee will beautify and maintain tree beds.
- The school will ensure that street blockades are stored safely at night.; and

**Whereas** the P.S. 3 PTA has indicated its agreement to the stipulations in the foregoing (12<sup>th</sup>) “whereas” and has submitted a letter (attached) to CB2 signed and notarized by the PTA president confirming this agreement;

**Therefore be it resolved** that CB2 fully supports a play street for P.S. 3 on Grove St. bet. Bedford and Hudson Sts. for a trial period of one year; and

**Be it further resolved** that CB2 asks P.S. 3 to limit play in the street to two 50 minute sessions per day between the hours of 10:30 am and 2:00 pm; and

**Be it finally resolved** that CB2 urges P.S. 3 and the Grove St. Block Association to work together to resolve concerns and enhance their shared block for their mutual benefit.

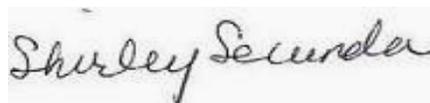
**Vote:** Passed, with 37 Board members in favor and 1 abstain-(Campbell).

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

Sincerely,



David Gruber, Chair  
Community Board #2, Manhattan



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

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