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COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 2, MANHATTAN

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February 1, 2011

Ms. Gigi Li Chinatown Working Group c/o Community Bd#1 Manhattan 49-51 Chambers St., Rm 715 New York, NY 10007

Dear Ms. Li:

At its Full Board meeting January 20, 2011, Community Board #2, Manhattan, adopted the following resolution:

Resolution supporting the Chinatown Working Group's Transportation Preliminary Action Plan.

Whereas the greater Chinatown area is surrounded on all sides by major bridges and roadways including, but not limited to, the Brooklyn Bridge, the Manhattan Bridge, the FDR Drive, and is near the Williamsburg Bridge and the Holland Tunnel; and

Whereas there is a need for better and safer pedestrian and cyclist access especially around bridge entrances and exits; and

Whereas intra-borough vehicular traffic and traffic on Canal Street needs to be reduced; and

Whereas parking issues and the continuing impact of placard parking require solutions;

Whereas the closure of vehicular and pedestrian access between Government Center and Chinatown since 9/11 has produced negative impacts on Park Row and other access points to Chinatown for businesses and residents; and

Whereas the growing number of interstate buses and commuter vans in Chinatown are important to Chinatown's economy and workers, but issues of noise, pollution and traffic impacts need to be addressed, and

Whereas Chinatown, as a residential, business, and tourist center needs an integrated "ready-access" mass- transportation hub, and

Whereas the greater Chinatown area needs improved coordination between local residents and businesses with City agencies in ongoing transportation improvement planning, and

Whereas the Chinatown Working Group's (CWG) Parking, Transportation, Circulation and Safety working team prepared a Preliminary Action Plan (PAP) to address these concerns, as part of a comprehensive community-based

plan to improve the greater Chinatown community, and presented this plan to Community Board 2 Manhattan's (CB2) Traffic and Transportation Committee in June 2010 for input; and

Whereas CWG is revising their PAP based on feedback from a wide array of community stakeholders through meetings as well as two town halls and is integrating into their plan CB2's suggestions for a Park Row shuttle and one that links Tribeca, SoHo and Chinatown along or around Canal St., and also is recognizing the competing goal of relieving traffic congestion and restoring pre-9/11 parking by including a park and ride possibility and continuing to look for other alternatives that strike a reasonable balance between the two;

Therefore be it resolved that CB2 supports the CWG's Parking, Transportation, Circulation and Safety PAP as part of a comprehensive, meaningful community-based plan to improve the greater Chinatown community.

Vote: Unanimous, with 38 Board members in favor.

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

Sincerely,

Jo Hamilton, Chair

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Community Board #2, Manhattan

Shirley Secunda, Chair

Traffic & Transportation Committee Community Board #2, Manhattan

Shirley Securder

JH/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. Scott M. Stringer, Man. Borough President

Hon. Christine C. Quinn, Council Speaker

Hon. Margaret Chin, Council Member

Hon. Rosie Mendez, Council Member

Sandy Myers, CB2 liaison, Man. Borough President's office

Lolita Jackson, Manhattan Director, CAU