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## COMMUNITY BOARD No. 2, MANHATTAN

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June 30, 2011

Hon. Michael Bloomberg  
Mayor of the City of New York  
City Hall  
New York, New York 10007

Dear Mayor Bloomberg:

At its Full Board meeting on June 23, 2011, Community Board #2, Manhattan adopted the following resolution:

### **CB 2 Resolution on NYC Budget for Senior Citizen Services - 2012**

**Whereas** Senior Citizens are an especially vulnerable population, and many Senior Citizens are entirely dependent on social service programs to provide them with their basic necessities, such as: nutritious meals, socialization, physical and mental health care, transportation and protection from abuse,

**And Whereas** New York City already designates a smaller percentage of its Budget to Senior Programs than it does to other populations,

**And Whereas** Since 2008 The Department for the Aging (DFTA) has sustained \$51 million in cuts, including more than \$20 million, last year, in funding for important services that support older adults, such as senior centers, social adult day care, homecare, meals

**And Whereas** The proposed Budget for 2012 includes even more drastic cuts than before -- that would eliminate another \$41.2 million from the funding of Senior services-- including: \$5 million from Senior Center restoration; \$4.5 million from Home Delivered Meals, plus an additional \$4.5 million for raw food costs; \$2 million from Transportation Programs; \$1.5 million from rent and maintenance assistance to Senior Centers; \$900,000 to Naturally Occurring Retirement Communities (NORC), such as Westbeth; \$2 million from the Geriatric Mental Health Initiative; \$1 million from City Meals on Wheels; \$800,000 from Elder Abuse programs; \$4.1 million from the Borough Presidents Senior Program Discretionary Funds, and even \$5.5 million from The City Council's own Discretionary Aging Funding,

**And Whereas** Community Board 2 already lost an entire Senior Center last year, with the closing of The First Presbyterian Senior Center,

**And Whereas** Home delivery of meals to Seniors not only provides a nutritious meal, but also provides a link to the homebound elderly that monitors their status and can flag sudden or serious changes in their health and wellbeing

**And Whereas** cutting funds from Senior programs leads to increased incidents of costly Hospitalizations and visits to Emergency Room visits,

**Therefore Be It Resolved** that Community Board 2 Manhattan urges our Mayor, Michael Bloomberg and all of the members of our City Council to work together in order to find ways to restore funding to Senior Citizen programs, in both its Baseline Budget and its Discretionary Funds, to at least last year's levels, so that Senior Citizens can continue to receive these life-sustaining services.

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  
Community Board #2, Manhattan



Keen Berger, Chair  
Social Services & Education Committee  
Community Board #2, Manhattan

JH/gh

- c: 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