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Bo Riccobono, *First Vice Chair*
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Erin Roeder, *Treasurer*
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COMMUNITY BOARD No. 2, MANHATTAN

3 WASHINGTON SQUARE VILLAGE

NEW YORK, NY 10012-1899

www.cb2manhattan.org

P: 212-979-2272 F: 212-254-5102 E: info@cb2manhattan.org

Greenwich Village • Little Italy • SoHo • NoHo • Hudson Square • Chinatown • Gansevoort Market

June 21, 2010

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 June 17, 2010, Community Board #2, Manhattan, adopted the following resolution:

Resolution in support of Hudson Square Connection application to the NYC Dept. of Transportation Plaza Program for proposed “Spring St. Shared Space” project.

Whereas the Hudson Square Connection Business Improvement District (BID) is submitting an application to the NYC Department of Transportation’s (DOT) Plaza Program 2010 that proposes a project comprising design and implementation of public space improvements at SoHo Square, bounded by Spring St./north, Broome St./south, Varick St./west, Ave. of the Americas (6th Ave.)/east, and including Little 6th Ave. (east) and Dominick St. (bet. Spring and Broome Sts.), which, if selected, will begin in 2011; and

Whereas the DOT Plaza Program aims to create new neighborhood plazas by transforming underused streets into vibrant, accessible public spaces and walkable destinations that reflect neighborhood character and needs by funding such initiatives and aiding in their design and implementation; and

Whereas the DOT Plaza Program calls for an active community participation process including public visioning workshops and using other outreach techniques such as surveys and promotion in developing a space’s conceptual design to inform the work of a professional design team in collaborating on a final design; and

Whereas the existing square, with assets such as 60 fully grown trees, multiple surrounding uses, and many potential users within walking distance but in poor condition with few amenities, most of which are outdated, badly functioning, uncomfortable and broken, is a setting that can blossom into a revitalized, enhancing community space given the kind of careful planning and well-considered design the DOT Plaza Program can foster; and

Whereas the Hudson Square Connection has had preliminary conversations about its proposed project application with many of its neighbors, including Chelsea Vocational High School, Trinity Real Estate, Here performance space and The Villager newspaper, all of them favorable to the idea, and also is reaching out to businesses and other neighbors; and

Whereas if selected, the proposed Hudson Square Connection “Spring St. Shared Space” project’s actual design definition and character will be developed within the DOT Plaza Program’s required community-based process to be conducted by the BID and DOT and could include such elements as new paving, seating, lighting, permeable surfaces and plantings, bicycle parking, art installations, performances and public events, with the completed space managed and maintained by the BID;

Therefore Be It Resolved that CB2 supports the Hudson Square Connection’s application to the DOT Plaza Program for its proposed “Spring St. Shared Space” project; and

Be it further resolved that should this project be selected for the DOT Plaza Program, CB2 looks forward to participating in community outreach and input; and

Be it finally resolved that if this project is selected, CB2 asks that, upon completion of the process, DOT and the Hudson Square Connection return to CB2 for review and approval of the final design.

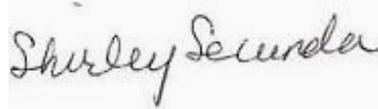
Vote: Unanimous, with 40 Board members in favor.

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

Sincerely,



Jo Hamilton, Chair
Community Board #2, Manhattan



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

JH/gh

cc: 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

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NYC Department of Transportation
59 Maiden Lane, 35thFloor
New York, NY 10038

Dear Manhattan Borough Commissioner Forgione:

At its Full Board meeting June 17, 2010, Community Board #2, Manhattan, adopted the following resolution:

Resolution in support of installing two speed humps on Cornelia St. bet. Bleecker and W. 4th Sts.

Whereas the NYC Department of Transportation (DOT) recently discovered a yellow rubber strip acting as a makeshift speed hump on Cornelia St. bet. Bleecker and W. 4th Sts. that was installed by people in the neighboring community to slow down speeding traffic and promote pedestrian safety; and

Whereas while citizen action in the interests of community safety is to be commended, there are certain guidelines to follow in ensuring that safety, and DOT has indicated that the makeshift configuration is a safety hazard that they must remove; and

Whereas DOT has proposed that its Traffic Planning Division survey Cornelia St. bet. Bleecker and W. 4th Sts to determine the feasibility of installing a legal speed hump; and

Whereas several residents of Cornelia St. bet. Bleecker and W. 4th Sts. have reported that numerous motorists speed through on their block, endangering not only residents, but senior citizens, children from the Pompeii School, and patrons of restaurants and other businesses on the street, and that many pedestrians have been hit by motor vehicles; and

Whereas these residents have also reported that ever since the illegal speed hump was installed, there's been a marked difference in vehicular traffic behavior, with cars slowing down significantly and pedestrian safety increasing; and

Whereas these residents have requested that two legal speed humps be installed on this block, and examples in other cities show that installing two speed humps on a block helps sustain a steady slow speed in motor vehicles that otherwise surge full speed ahead after going over a single speed hump; and

Whereas the intersection where Cornelia and W. 4th Sts. merge is confusing and dangerous, even with new line markings that fail to increase safety;

Therefore be it resolved that Community Board 2 Manhattan (CB2) strongly supports the installation of two speed humps on Cornelia St. bet. Bleecker and W. 4th Sts.; and

Be it further resolved that CB2 urges DOT to conduct its proposed survey of that block to determine the feasibility of installing speed humps as soon as possible, and if feasibility is ascertained; to install two speed humps quickly; and

Be it finally resolved that CB2 asks that DOT include in its study the intersection where Cornelia and W. 4th Sts. merge to determine approaches to increasing safety and eliminating confusion at that dangerous junction.

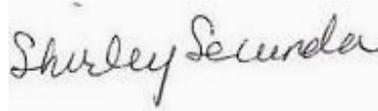
Vote: Unanimous, with 40 Board members in favor.

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

Sincerely,



Jo Hamilton, Chair
Community Board #2, Manhattan



Shirley Secunda, Chair
Traffic & Transportation Committee
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