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Bob Gormley, *District Manager*



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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

November 23, 2010

Amanda Burden, *Chair*
Department of City Planning
22 Reade Street
New York, New York 10007

Thomas C. Wargo, *Director*
Zoning Division
City Planning Commission
22 Reade Street
New York, NY 10007

Dear Chair Burden and Mr. Wargo:

At its Full Board meeting on November 18, 2010, CB#2, Manhattan (CB#2-Man.), adopted the following resolution:

Resolution: City Planning proposal for: Key Terms Clarification Text Amendment

WHEREAS, The terms "development" and "building" have been called into question through an Article 78 Proceeding, And,

WHEREAS, The current definitions of these key terms has lead to confusing interpretations of the Zoning Resolution, And,

WHEREAS, This application is intended to clarify the meaning of the regulations consistent with their intent, And,

WHEREAS, This proposal will resolve conflicting regulations and bring regulations into accordance with current Department of Buildings practice.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that CB#2, Man. supports this application for the Key Terms Clarification Text Amendment.

Vote: Unanimous, with 47 Board members in favor.

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



Jo Hamilton, Chair
Community Board #2, Manhattan



David Reck, Chair
Land Use and Business Development Committee
Community Board #2, Manhattan

JH/fa

cc: Hon. Jerrold L. Nadler, Congressman
Hon. Thomas K. Duane, NY State Senator
Hon. Daniel L. Squadron, NY State Senator
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
Vivian Awner, Community Board Liaison, Dept. of City Planning
Lorna Edwards, Land Use Review Unit, Dept. of City Planning
Jeff Mulligan, Executive Director, Board of Standards & Appeals
Magdi Mossad, P.E., Man. Borough Commissioner, NYC Department of Buildings
Applicant

Jo Hamilton, *Chair*
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November 23, 2010

Robert W. Walsh, Commissioner
NYC Department of Small Business Services
110 William Street, 7th Floor
New York, NY 10038

Dear Commissioner Walsh:

At its Full Board meeting on November 18, 2010, CB#2, Manhattan (CB#2-Man.), adopted the following resolution:

Proposed SoHo Business Improvement District

Whereas, CB#2, Man. has been asked to review an application to the city for the formation of a SoHo Business Improvement District (BID); and

Whereas, the intent of the proposed BID is to provide services beyond sanitation, including measures to improve public safety, marketing and promotion, and capital improvements; and

Whereas, the intent of the BID is for property owners and commercial tenants and landlords to bear the cost of establishing and maintaining the BID; and

Whereas, the BID applicants have conducted a poor local public education campaign in clearly explaining the costs and benefits of the proposed BID leading to much confusion and contradictory assertions about the BID by a large number of the public and members of this community board.

Therefore Be It Resolved; that CB#2, Man. urges the BID applicants to withdraw their application from NYC Small Business Services and conduct outreach with members of the community in conjunction with a fuller explanation of the costs and benefits of the proposed BID, and only thereafter should they return to the community board with their application; and

Be it further resolved that should the BID applicant not withdraw its application from the BID review process, CB#2, Man. strongly opposes the BID for the following reasons:

1) There was overwhelming public opposition to the BID from local residents who live within the proposed BID boundaries as demonstrated at the community board's full board meeting of November 18, 2010 because they did not believe the BID would benefit them;

2) There is no mechanism in place that will ensure that residential owners not be responsible for any more than a nominal assessment of \$1, and that condo and coop owners would be treated equally;

3) The BID applicants have failed to convince the public of the necessity of a new business improvement district for SoHo, which is a flashpoint for traffic and pedestrian congestion, and there is concern that a BID would only aggravate this situation;

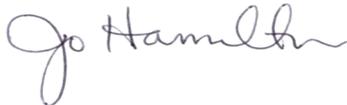
4) The stated mission of the BID to increase local tourism would have a negative impact on the quality of life of local residents of SoHo;

5) Residents believe that there are viable alternatives other than assessing property owners and creating a BID, such as participating in A.C.E. (SoHo Partnership) or increasing efforts to encourage local retailers to voluntarily clean their adjacent sidewalks, which is the hallmark of a good neighbor policy and a common practice elsewhere in Manhattan.

Vote: Unanimous, with 47 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



David Reck, Chair
Land Use and Business Development Committee
Community Board #2, Manhattan

JH/fa

cc: Hon. Jerrold L. Nadler, Congressman
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SoHo Business Improvement District