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Bo Riccobono, *First Vice Chair*
Sheelah Feinberg, *Second Vice Chair*
Bob Gormley, *District Manager*



Erin Roeder, *Treasurer*
Susan Kent, *Secretary*
Elaine Young, *Assistant Secretary*

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

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November 22, 2010

Raymond Kelly, Commissioner
NYC Police Department
One Police Plaza
New York, NY 10038

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

Dear Commissioner Kelly and Manhattan Borough Commissioner Forgione:

At its Full Board meeting November 18, 2010, Community Board #2, Manhattan, adopted the following resolution:

Resolution urging the development of a modernized electronic barcode technology system to identify illegal parking placard use and facilitate enforcement.

Whereas there is rampant, illegal use by motorists in the Community Board 2, Manhattan (CB2) District of bogus parking placards, placed on vehicles' dashboards and often laminated to look official, to get away with parking free in no-parking zones; and,

Whereas this problem extends way beyond CB2's boundaries, e.g., in 2007 a study by Transportation Alternatives found that 77% of placards are used illegally citywide; and,

Whereas the New York City Police Department's (NYPD) traffic enforcement agents often have difficulty distinguishing between official legal parking placards and these fraudulent ones, which hinders enforcement and deprives the City of thousands of dollars of revenue; and

Whereas those who use these illegitimate placards largely experience immunity from the law, a situation that encourages added driving and congestion; and

Whereas New York City is now moving more and more towards the use of modern technology, such as electronic scanning and barcodes to track vehicular and other activities;

Therefore be it resolved that CB2 urges the NYC Council to work toward advancing a requirement for a modernized system for tracking and enforcing illegal parking placard use through technological applications such as electronic scanning and barcodes; and

Be it further resolved that CB2 urges the NYC Department of Transportation and NYPD to work toward developing a barcode technology that quickly identifies illegal parking placard use and facilitates enforcement; and

Be it finally resolved that CB2 recommends investigating the development of a technology with a computerized database that enables the barcodes of both vehicular license registration stickers and parking placards to be electronically scanned and compared (preferably several all at once, such as on an entire street) to identify and ticket those that do not match and are therefore illegitimate.

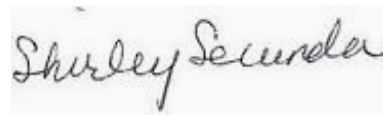
Vote: Passed, with 41 Board members in favor, and 6 in opposition-(Schott, Sanz, Hearn, Yankay, Greenberg, and Schwartz

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

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

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November 22, 2010

Thomas F. Pendergast, President
MTA NYC Transit Authority
2 Broadway
New York, NY 10004

Dear Mr. Pendergast:

At its Full Board meeting November 18, 2010, Community Board #2, Manhattan, adopted the following resolution:

Resolution requesting legislation to allow MTA to impose tolls on the free East River Bridges to be solely dedicated to reducing transit fares and restoring and enhancing service levels.

Whereas Community Board 2, Manhattan (CB2) is overwhelmed with motor vehicular traffic that results in unacceptable levels of air and noise pollution, while diminishing the quality of life in the public realm – the city's streets; and

Whereas only 23% of Manhattan households own cars (2000 U.S. Census), and

Whereas 476,000 motor vehicles enter or leave the Manhattan Central Business District on an average weekday on the four free East River Bridges, while 126,600 use MTA's two toll tunnels crossing the East River: the Queens-Midtown Tunnel and the Brooklyn-Battery Tunnel (2008 *Hub Bound Travel*, NYMTC); and

Whereas the free East River Bridges encourage motorists to drive through the core of the city, rather than to bypass it on other MTA facilities which do charge a toll; and

Whereas motor vehicles crossing the two tunnels contribute over \$200 million per year at current toll rates to underwrite the operation of MTA's trains and buses; and

Whereas if motor vehicles using the currently free East River Bridges were to pay equal tolls now charged on the tunnels, MTA would gain approximately \$800 million per year in new revenues that could offset transit service cuts and help reduce fares; and

Whereas tax revenue from other sources that fund the MTA have declined due to the severe economic recession facing the region and the nation, and revenues provided by the State Legislature to the MTA have been shifted to other state programs; and

Whereas this revenue shortfall has forced the MTA to make severe cuts in service and to adopt steep increases in fares; and

Whereas these actions further increase the motor vehicular traffic loads on CB2's streets;

Therefore be it resolved that CB2 asks elected officials to enact legislation that would allow MTA to impose tolls on the free East River bridges at rates currently charged for MTA's two toll tunnels crossing the East River and that these tolls be solely dedicated to reducing transit fares and restoring and enhancing service levels.

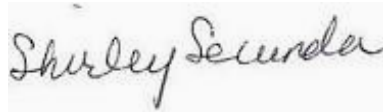
Vote: Passed, with 34 Board members in favor and 13 in opposition-(Sanz, Greene, Derr, Yankay, Johnson, Rakoff, Krimmelman, Rothstein, Booth, Greenberg, Brandt, Ashkinazy, Riccobono

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

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