



THE CITY OF NEW YORK MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD 3

59 East 4th Street - New York, NY 10003

Phone (212) 533-5300

www.cb3manhattan.org - info@cb3manhattan.org

February 2003 Resolutions

At its February 2003 monthly meeting, Community Board #3 passed the following motions:

TITLE: Cuts in New York State budget for Public Education

WHEREAS, Article XI, Section 1 of the New York State Constitution states that "the legislature shall provide for the maintenance and support of a system of free common schools, wherein all the children of this state may be educated."

WHEREAS, Justice LeLand DeGrasse of The New York State Supreme stated in September 2001, that the above mentioned Education Article mandates that every child be provided the opportunity for a "sound basic education," that "consists of the foundational skills that students need to become productive citizens capable of civic engagement and sustaining competitive employment."

AND WHEREAS, Judge DeGrasse further stated that "in order to ensure that public schools offer a sound basic education the State must take steps to ensure at least the following resources, which, as described in the body of this opinion, are for the most part currently not given to New York City's public school students:

1. Sufficient numbers of qualified teachers, principals and other personnel.
2. Appropriate class sizes.
3. Adequate and accessible school buildings with sufficient space to ensure appropriate class size and implementation of a sound curriculum.
4. Sufficient and up to date books, supplies, libraries, educational technology and laboratories.
5. Suitable curricula, including an expanded platform of programs to help at risk students by giving them "more time on task."
6. Adequate resources for students with extraordinary needs.
7. A safe orderly environment." (Campaign for Fiscal Equity)

WHEREAS, of the 2.85 million students in New York State, 1.1 million are students in New York City Public Schools, making New York City the largest school district in the nation (The Regents and the State Education Department; New York: The State of Learning, June 2001)

WHEREAS, nearly 72% of all NYC public school children are eligible for free or reduced-price meals, meaning that they and their families live at or near poverty (OSFNS data, November 2002)

WHEREAS, the City's public schools receive nearly \$2,000 less State aid per child than other high needs school districts (NYCBoosters.com)

WHEREAS, 85% of NYC public school students are minorities (The Regents and SED, ibid)

WHEREAS, only 27% of public high school graduates in NYC earned a Regents diploma in 2000, while 49% did so in the rest of the state (ibid)

WHEREAS, nearly half of all NYC public elementary and middle school students are reading below grade level (Citizens Committee for Children)

WHEREAS, 60% of all NYC schoolchildren are learning in overcrowded buildings (CCC)

WHEREAS, Universal Pre-K and all day Kindergarten serve as springboards for future academic achievement and fulfill working families' needs for affordable childcare, where every day in New York, more than 50,000 children are on a waiting list for public childcare (CCC)

BE IT RESOLVED that Community Board Three, Manhattan finds any cuts in the New York State budget for public education spending to be unacceptable and discriminatory;

AND FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, additional cuts will place an undue hardship on a District that is already underfunded as it simultaneously attempts the largest overhaul in the management and instructional structure in the history of New York City's public education system;

AND FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, Community School District One has maintained a full day pre-kindergarten program to advance our educational needs and that it should not be modified or reduced;

AND FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, Community Board Three adopts the resolution by the Community School District One President's Council seeking a voice in the future of the school system, which will allow parents and community members an active role in the workings of our school system;

AND FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, merging school districts should not reduce the ability of families that reside in Community School District One to be able to maintain the high quality of education to which our families are entitled, nor shall such restructuring reduce resources and services available to our students, teachers, and families.

TITLE: Restore Funds for NYPL

To support the restoration of funds in amount of \$22 million to the New York Public Library (NYPL) system.

TITLE: Appoint Members for Dept. of Youth Evaluation Committee

To designate Lillian Moy, Katrina Monzon, and Gladys Rosenblum (Deborah Simons, alternative) as member to the evaluation committee for Community Board #3 for 2003.

TITLE: Creation of an Arts District on East 4th Street

To support the creation of an arts district on East 4th Street and the transfer of property rights to existing arts-related tenants; further, that said properties transferred remain cultural facilities for the life of the deed and that air rights remain part of the facilities for the life of the deed without prospective sale for upscale development.

TITLE: Tenant Interim Lease II Program for 165-169 Avenue C

To support the sale of 165-169 Avenue C to UHAB and thence to the Tenants Association with the proviso that there is extensive outreach to give residents of the Lower East Side some of the apartments.

TITLE: Community Facility Bonus

To request that the NYC Department of City Planning (DCP) provide the Community Board with a list of developers who have taken advantage of the "community facility bonus", and to create a questionnaire to send to the developers asking what use they have made of the facility.

TITLE: Request for Advisory Committee from the Lower Manhattan Development on WTC

To ask the Lower Manhattan Development Corp. (LMDC) if there is an established route through which Community Board #3 can offer input on the development of the WTC site; in particular, to ask if there is an advisory committee of community leaders onto which residents, business leaders, and members of Community Board #3 could be placed.

TITLE: Grant Application by 3 FARMS

To support the grant application by 3 FARMS to the City Parks Foundation.

TITLE: TLC License Renewal for Good Luck Car Service, 47 Ludlow Street, New York, NY 10002 (B01730)

To approve the application by Good Luck Car Service for renewal of the TLC license (B01730) for a For-Hire Base at 47 Ludlow Street because the applicant provided Community Board #3 with the following: 1) a notarized copy of the memorandum regarding enforcement of "quality of life" rules, signed by Good Luck Car Service's drivers, 2) a copy of the letter from the parking garage to the TLC regarding parking spaces for Good Luck Car Service.

TITLE: Limit Street Fairs

WHEREAS, over the past years, Manhattan Community Board #3 has had an overabundance of street fairs, many of which cause traffic/transportation problems, not only on major avenues but on surrounding streets; and

WHEREAS, Community Board #3 has received an increasing number of complaints from residents and merchants regarding the proliferation of street fairs; and

WHEREAS, several years ago, Community Board #3 revised its street activity permit policy to only allow one street fair a year on Third Avenue due to traffic-related problems and complaints from residents and merchants; and

WHEREAS, it is also the policy of Community Board #3 that the Applicant "have an address on at least one of the streets affected" by the permit; and

WHEREAS, based on the reasons noted above, the application of Two Bridges Neighborhood Council was denied by Community Board #3 last year, although the Mayor's Community Assistance Unit saw fit to ignore/override the guidelines, procedures and decision of this Board and allowed this event to take place; and

WHEREAS, the application of Two Bridges Neighborhood Council for a street activity permit for May 24, 2003 on Third Avenue from 5th to 14th Streets was denied because a permit for Third Avenue has already been granted for this year and because the applicant is not based in the area for which the permit was requested;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Manhattan Community Board #3 requests your intervention in limiting the proliferation of street fairs within our community district by honoring the decisions of this Board in its effort to control this growing problem, including its decision with regard to Two Bridges Neighborhood Council.

TITLE: Cuts in Bus Service for M14, M21, M22 Routes

To protest the proposed cuts in bus service along the M14, M21 and M22 routes – reductions of 2.8%, 13.6% and 19.2% respectively. The M21 is a health route for people on the Lower East Side since it is their transportation to Bellevue Hospital.

See the attached previous resolutions of Community Board #3 Manhattan regarding previous service cuts in this underserved area.

TITLE: Restore Bus Service on M14 C/D lines at Lewis and Delancey

To ask that regular service be restored on the M14 C/D lines at Lewis and Delancey Streets. This stop was discontinued a few years ago due to construction on the Williamsburg Bridge, and there is still a bus shelter at the location.

TITLE: Restore Crosstown Bus Service on Grand Street

To request your support of Manhattan Community Board #3 efforts to restore cross-town bus service on Grand Street. There was such service for over 15 years, but it was discontinued. Lower Manhattan is very underserved by cross-town mass transit.

TITLE: Bus Shelter at St. James Place and Madison Street

To support the request by Ms. Noeva Wong for a bus shelter at St. James Place and Madison Street, while continuing to make strong protest that not all bus stops are currently equipped with shelters and that no shelter is equipped with retractable benches for seniors and persons with mobility impairments exists in San Francisco. Such shelters can only increase ridership on public transportation in a car-choked city.

TITLE: Restore Alternate Side Parking Along 5th Street between First and Second Avenues

To request that DOT temporarily restore alternate side parking along 5th Street between First and Second Avenues, until such time as the Ninth Precinct returns.

TITLE: Parking Meter Removal and Signage Changes on East Side of Bowery between Grand and Broome Streets

To support the removal of the parking meters along the east side of the Bowery between Grand and Broome Streets, and changing the parking regulations to "alternate side parking" and "truck loading/unloading" pending the installation of Muni Meters. These meters would be resistant to vandalism and would allow the turnover of parking that will be beneficial to economic development.