



THE CITY OF NEW YORK
MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 3
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Dominic Pisciotta, Board Chair

Susan Stetzer, District Manager

April 29, 2011

Commissioner Cass Holloway
NYC Department of Environmental Protection
59-17 Junction Blvd., 11th Floor
Flushing, NY 11373

Dear Commissioner Holloway,

I am writing in support of Fourth Arts Block's (FAB) application to your Green Infrastructure Grant Program.

FAB, partnering with Cooper Square Mutual Housing Association and The Cooper Union Institute for Sustainable Design, is applying for a grant to 1) construct porous pavement sidewalks along the entire block from 2nd Ave to Bowery and 2) install a green roof on 59-61 E. 4th St.

Your pilot grant program, focusing on citywide storm water management projects that can be constructed within the year and are easily replicable, would be in good hands with FAB. FAB, an arts service organization with dozens of theatre, dance and social service organization members, is leading the development of the East 4th Street Cultural District as a center for creative diversity and innovation. In the past several years, FAB has facilitated capital planning and expansion for the district, along with the generation of more than \$18 million in public capital funds and private grants for the 10 cultural buildings in the block.

Following a collaborative planning process with community stakeholders several years ago, FAB produced a plan, which it is currently implementing, for the East 4th Street Cultural District streetscape.

This past year, FAB launched 'FAB Goes Green,' a sustainability program for the district. Your Green Infrastructure Project aligns perfectly with efforts that they've already begun, to develop a model of sustainability for themselves, other cultural districts and mixed-use neighborhoods throughout the City.

This proposal also represents an engagement with the wider community of stakeholders in the East Village, as FAB is working with The Cooper Union and Cooper Square Mutual Housing Association.

For these reasons, I urge you to give favorable consideration to FAB's Green Infrastructure Grant application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Dominic Pisciotta'.

Dominic Pisciotta
Board Chair