



CITY OF NEW YORK

**MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR**

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**CHRISTINE BERTHET**

Chair

**Jesse Bodine**

District Manager

August 12, 2015

Ms. Margaret Forgione  
Manhattan Borough Commissioner  
NYC Department of Transportation  
59 Maiden Lane, 35<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10038

**Re: Intercity bus stop -- 327 West 42<sup>nd</sup> Street**

Dear Commissioner Forgione:

I write to raise serious concerns in regard to process and content for the Department of Transportation (DOT) Application for a proposed pick-ups only bus stop permit at 327 West 42 Street.

As you know the applicants (Galaxy Towers, Inc., Fuji Express, Inc., Fuji Lines, Inc. and Three Aces Transportation, Inc. (dba SPHINX) commuter buses) appeared before MCB4's Transportation Planning Committee on July 15<sup>th</sup> during a regularly scheduled Transportation Planning Committee meeting. The application letter from DOT, dated July 7, specified 48 pick-ups per day for all bus companies throughout 14 hours of operation.

“For Galaxy Towers, Inc. there will be 35 pick-ups per day Monday through Friday and 24 pick-ups per day Saturday and Sunday; for Fuji Express, Inc. there will be 6 pick-ups per day Monday through Sunday; for Fuji Lines, Inc. there will be 6 pick-ups per day Monday through Sunday and for Three Aces Transportation, Inc. there will be 6 pick-ups per day Monday through Sunday. The hours of operation will be from 9:26 am to 11:51 pm”

MCB4 had major concerns with these applications which led to recommend denial at its scheduled Full Board Meeting on Wednesday, July 22.

On July 23, 2015 the applicants sent to DOT, with a copy to MCB4, a letter pointing out that the 48 pick-up number was inaccurate and should be increased to 52. This letter also requested the hours of operation increase by 3 hours.

The Board was then sent by DOT a letter of amendment on August 3<sup>rd</sup>, which indicated an increase in the number of proposed pick-ups by 80 %, or 85 per day, as well as an increase in the hours of operation by 3 hours. The letter stated the following:

“For Galaxy Towers, Inc. there will be 46 pick-ups per day Monday through Friday and 31 pick-ups per day Saturday and Sunday; for Fuji Express, Inc. there will be 13 pick-ups per day Monday through Sunday; for Fuji Lines, Inc. there will be 13 pick-ups per day Monday through Sunday and for Three Aces Transportation, Inc. there will be 13 pick-ups per day Monday through Sunday. The hours of operation will be from 6:00 am to 12:15 am”

These numbers bear no resemblance to the written corrections sent by the applicants to DOT on the 23rd and represent a drastic increase from the original application.

These changes are significant; they are in contradiction to the applicants' request and have been made without explanation. Furthermore, the increase in pick-ups and hours of operation will increase the negative impact these buses have on air pollution and congestion.

MCB4 stands by our initial recommendation to deny this application and this letter supplements the original initial determination. Moreover, the board requests that this application be amended to conform to the law and that each applicant file their own separate application and a permit be issued separately for each company. MCB4 plans to review DOT's August 3<sup>rd</sup> application at the next Transportation Committee meeting on Wednesday, September 16<sup>th</sup> and urges DOT and the applicants to attend.

As always, MCB4 appreciates DOT's cooperation and attention to these issues and looks forward to your response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Christine Berthet', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Christine Berthet  
Chair

cc: Hon. Brad Hoylman, State Senate  
Hon. Dick Gottfried, State Assembly  
Hon. Corey Johnson, City Council