



CITY OF NEW YORK

MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR

330 West 42nd Street, 26th floor New York, NY 10036
tel: 212-736-4536 fax: 212-947-9512
www.nyc.gov/mcb4

CHRISTINE BERTHET
Chair

JESSE BODINE
District Manager

April 15, 2015

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

Re: Change in Parking Regulations on the South Side of West 18th Street between 6th and 7th Avenues.

Dear Commissioner Forgione:

Manhattan Community Board 4 (CB4) requests a change to the parking regulations on the south side West 18th Street between 6th and 7th Avenues. More specifically, we request Alternate Side of the street parking from the corner going west from 6th Avenue and East from 7th Avenue for 80'. We request the remainder of the block be "No Standing Except Truck Loading and Unloading 8am to 6pm M-F. Similar to existing regulations, evenings and weekends will continue to be parking for any vehicle with no time restraints.

Like many blocks in West Chelsea, West 18th Street has a growing residential population, particularly near the Avenues at the same time many of its long-term commercial and industrial businesses are continuing to thrive. The current regulations on both the north and south side of the street is primarily 3 hour Metered Commercial parking 8am-6pm. Creating these two zones on the south side near the Avenues, which are currently primarily residential buildings, can create areas for residential vehicles, including for residents from both sides of the street interested in being able to drop off and pick up packages before parking in other parts of the neighborhood.

We also appreciate that this solution, supported by both the residents and businesses who approached the Community Board, reflects a compromise. Residents had wanted a larger residential parking area and the retail, commercial and industrial businesses, which are feeling their growth restricted even by the existing regulations, wanted more minimal changes.

We would like to note that both the businesses and residents who approached the Community Board had preferred a solution of metered parking for all vehicles – encouraging a turnover that was desirable for both. NYD DOT had indicated that it would not approve such a request since they have found substantial enforcement and other difficulties from such an arrangement. While we understand those concerns, we encourage the NYC DOT to more quickly utilize existing technologies and strategies that would permit

metered rather than just uncharged street parking on mixed parking regulations blocks. This not only will enable to the city to better meet the needs of residents and businesses that prefer a higher turnover, but increases city revenues. It also increases the parking regulation tools available to Community Boards seeking to maintain a healthy mixed use district.

We again appreciate the efforts of both residents and businesses on the block working together to identify a solution and the continued open dialogue provided by DOT staff in seeking to address our Community Board's street parking needs.

Sincerely,



Christine Berthet
Chair



Jay Marcus
Co-Chair, Transportation
Planning Committee



Ernest Modarelli
Co-Chair, Transportation
Planning Committee