



CITY OF NEW YORK

MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR

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JOHN WEIS
Chair

ROBERT J. BENFATTO, JR., ESQ.
District Manager

March 31, 2011

Christopher Ward
Executive Director
Port Authority New York and New Jersey
225 Park Avenue South
New York, NY 10003

Re: Alice's Garden

Dear Executive Director Ward:

Manhattan Community Board No 4 applauds the proposal by the Port Authority of NY/NJ (PANYNJ) to permit Alice's Garden, located in the 400 block of West 34th Street, to be managed and operated by the Hell's Kitchen Neighborhood Association (HKNA) and Clinton Housing Development Company (CHDC) in conjunction with Manhattan Community Board No 4 (MCB4). This is precisely the outcome that MCB4 has been in favor of for some time.

Both HKNA and CHDC have been proven leaders in providing and managing similar small pocket parks in the Hell's Kitchen neighborhood. The model described in the proposal, which is not unlike the highly successful Clinton Community Garden, will ensure that this plot will provide significant benefits as well as beauty and much needed open space to the neighborhood.

As described, the plan includes community involvement, a community-based redesign process, volunteer involvement and in-kind donations of garden materials. Individual plots are to be assigned via a lottery process and on-going waiting list. Governance will be modeled after the Clinton Community Garden's bylaws and procedures. The plan anticipates an opening to the public by the end of May, 2011.

MCB4 wishes to thank the PANYNJ and all who have helped to reach this point. We look forward to working with HKNA and CHDC on this important community amenity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Weis". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

John Weis
Chair

cc: Council Speaker Christine Quinn
State Senator Thomas Duane
State Assemblyman Richard Gottfried
Congressman Jerrold Nadler
Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer
Hell's Kitchen Neighborhood Association
Clinton Housing Development Company

Note: Due to a request for a speedy response from MCB4, this letter was approved by the MCB4 Executive Committee, and is subject to ratification by the full board.