

November 6, 2003

Andrew Alper
President
NYC Economic Development Corporation
110 William Street
New York, NY 10038

Re: RFP for West Midtown Bus Parking and Storage Study

Dear Mr. Alper:

We are glad that the NYC Economic Development Corporation (EDC), in conjunction with the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey (PANYNJ), the NYC Department of Transportation (DOT) and the NYC Department of City Planning (DCP), has initiated a process to begin the West Midtown Bus Parking Study. Such a study is sorely needed to address the existing traffic, congestion and quality of life problems associated with the severe shortage of bus parking and staging areas in our community. The study is also crucial to responsible planning for the growth and development of Midtown, especially in Hell's Kitchen/Hudson Yards.

We are also glad to learn that your agencies are seeking a consultant possessing "strong competencies with... community input" – among other professional qualifications. We too consider community input essential to this process. Two-thirds of the study area lies within our board's boundaries and our neighborhoods have a significant interest in the outcome of the study. For these reasons, we look forward to more information on the community consultation process.

We also understand that the selected consultant will meet regularly with an Oversight Committee, comprised of representatives of EDC, PANYNJ, DOT and DCP, to make progress reports and to receive policy guidance. We are concerned that the community has been left out of this important component of the study. Our neighborhoods are acutely aware of the problems and issues associated with local bus operations. This valuable perspective must be integral to the process of defining problems and finding solutions, including any new bus facilities in our area. As local stakeholders, we request that Manhattan Community Board No. 4 be included as part of the Oversight Committee.

A. Alper
November 6, 2003
Page 2 of 2

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Walter Mankoff
Chair
Manhattan Community Board No. 4



Anna Hayes Levin
Co-Chair
Clinton/Hell's Kitchen Land Use
Committee



Simone Sindin
Co-Chair
Clinton/Hell's Kitchen Land Use
Committee

Cc: Mayor Bloomberg
Borough President Fields
Local elected officials
J. Seymour, Port Authority of NY & NJ
V. Chakrabarti, DCP
M. Forgione, DOT
L. Blatchford, Deputy Mayor's Office
A. Weisbrod, EDC