

July 9, 2004

Honorable Margaret Forgione
Manhattan Borough Commissioner
New York City Department of Transportation
40 Worth Street
New York, NY 10013

Re: Parking Regulations on West 15th and 16th Streets between 8th and 9th Avenues

Dear Commissioner Forgione,

At its regular meeting on July 7, 2004, Manhattan Community Board No. 4 voted 35 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstaining, and 0 present but not eligible, to request that NYC DOT conduct a study regarding the proposed parking regulation changes on West 15th and 16th Streets between 8th and 9th Avenues, listed below. This request is the result of the testimony and discussion of residents and business owners at the May and June meetings of CB4's Transportation Planning Committee. The need for parking regulation changes is largely due to the evolution of uses at the Port Authority Building from manufacturing and warehousing to offices and medical facilities. The currently posted regulations are often flouted because they were designed to accommodate uses that are no longer prevalent. This, combined with lax enforcement, means that many illegally parked cars prevent street-cleaners from getting the access they need to maintain sanitary conditions.

We request that you investigate implementation of the following changes:

- On the south side of 15th Street between 8th and 9th Avenues there is currently a "No Standing" zone, in front of the Corlears School, at 324 West 15th Street. Parents at the school are ticketed for stopping to pick up and drop off small children. Please investigate changing the regulations in front of the school to "No Parking Anytime," which would give the parents a little more time. The rest of the street should remain as posted—on-street parking with provisions for street-cleaning.
- On the north side of 15th Street, many of the Port Authority Building's truck bays have been sealed off for other interior uses. Please investigate creating on-street parking here, with provisions for street cleaning, except at the entrance of the St. Vincent's outpatient cancer care facility at 325 West 15th Street. In front of that entrance, the Board requests that you investigate creating a posted drop-off zone for patients and ambulances.
- Both sides of 16th Street have "No Parking" regulations, created to allow truck drop-offs in the northern bays of the Port Authority Building. Only three active bays remain on this block. The board requests that DOT investigate putting alternate-side parking with provisions for street cleaning wherever it will not hamper the ability of trucks to access the three remaining active bays.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Walter Mankoff
Chair
Manhattan Community Board No. 4



Joshua David
Co-Chair
Transportation Planning Committee



John Rust
Co-Chair
Transportation Planning Committee

