



CITY OF NEW YORK

MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD No. 4

330 West 42nd Street, 26th floor New York, NY 10036
tel: 212-736-4536 fax: 212-947-9512
www.ManhattanCB4.org

WALTER MANKOFF
Chair

ANTHONY M. BORELLI
District Manager

May 12, 2005

Kate Ascher
NYC Economic Development Corp.
110 William Street
New York, NY 10038

Re: Passenger Ship Terminals

Dear Ms. Ascher,

Thank you for coming to the Waterfront and Parks Committee meeting to present your plans for the Passenger Ship Terminals at Piers 88 and 90. Please also thank Mr. Ajamil for his thoughtful and thorough presentation.

The board and the committee certainly welcome with enthusiasm any improvement to the Passenger Ship Terminals, both in terms of usability and aesthetics. The strategy you have devised, to shift future growth to the new piers in Brooklyn and limit the size and number of ships here in Manhattan, will be a welcome change in Clinton. As you know, while the presence of the Passenger Ship Terminal in our neighborhood has always been appreciated as a water-dependent industry, its ramifications in terms of congestion have been taxing.

We thank you for your sensitivity to the interaction with the park, which as you know is our primary concern. We look forward to finding creative solutions to the improvement of both the park and the terminals in this new plan.

PEDESTRIAN ACCESS TO BULKHEAD

We also applaud both you and your consultants for advocating for greater pedestrian access to the piers. This is not only a better use of the waterfront for our residents, it is also a great PR move for the cruise ships. Getting rid of the chainlink fence and bringing pedestrians to the bulkhead will bring the experience of the water and the ships back to the greater public.

We also love the idea of viewing galleries, so the public can see the ships up close.

BUS CAPACITY

We were very encouraged to see the consideration you have taken to increase the terminal's capacity for buses and cars *inside* the piers. Buses on our residential streets are one of the plagues of the neighborhood.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

We request that you consider the following energy efficiency measures, many of which have been included in the newly constructed Whitehall Ferry Terminal: high performance glazing, high efficiency fluorescent and metal halide lighting, daylight dimming, photovoltaic panels, displacement ventilation, radiant floor heating, energy-efficient chillers, and heat recovery systems on large AHUs.

BIKEWAY

We encourage you to further study the idea of moving the bikeway under the ramps further south, in front of Pier 94. This would solve a tricky problem for both the users of Hudson River Park and Riverside Park South.

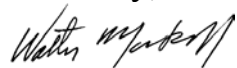
AESTHETICS

We understand that improvements to the aesthetic design of the terminal are not included in this budget. We encourage EDC to find this funding, and offer our advocacy for that wherever and whenever possible.

- The demolition of the helices at either end would go a long way toward improving the look of the terminal and improving the light and air around the walkway/bikeway.
- We also hope that funding can be secured to find a roof that adds to the structure and makes it more of a destination. As the home one of the city's most profitable and exciting industries, the terminal has little visual or architectural presence – and it should. A covered roof could also have a practical purpose as well, for protecting cruisegoers in the winter and rain.
- As well the ramps should be treated creatively to somehow improve their look and presence. From the West Side Highway, and in fact any points east, they serve now as a hulking visual blockade to the terminal. While they cannot be removed, a creative architectural solution for the ramps could greatly improve the terminal's visual impact.

Again, thank you for your presentation. We look forward to the development of the terminal as well as further discussions regarding Piers 92 and 94.

Sincerely,



Walter Mankoff

Chair

Manhattan Community Board No. 4



John Doswell

Co-Chair

Waterfront & Parks Committee

Pam Frederick

Co-Chair

Waterfront & Parks Committee

cc: Elected Officials, Hudson River Park Trust , Luis Ajamil, Friends of Hudson River Park