



CITY OF NEW YORK

MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD No. 4

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J. LEE COMPTON
Chair

ANTHONY M. BORELLI
District Manager

September 8, 2005

Gino Menchini
Commissioner, DoITT
75 Place Place, Ninth Floor
New York, NY 10007

Re: Proposed Changes to PPT Regulations

Dear Mr. Menchini:

Manhattan Community Board No. 4 supports the proposal by The Department of Information Technology and Telecommunications to change regulations regarding public pay telephones. The proposed changes address many of our concerns. We feel that these changes constitute a significant step towards the enactment of sensible policies on payphone placement in our neighborhoods.

Specifically, we are pleased with these changes:

- Denial of new installation permits to owners with existing phones with violations;
- Strict timelines for payphone repair or cure of violations;
- Annual repainting of payphone surfaces;
- Prohibition of new payphones with advertising in Manhattan Community Districts 1-8;
- Prohibition of new payphones within 4 feet of "Pedestal Structures" or other sidewalk encumbrance and 8 feet of a bicycle rack.

Furthermore, we would like to propose additional changes to the DoITT regulations consistent with our letter dated July 28, 2005:

- Denial of any new permits to owners that do not meet the minimum 25% ADA compliance on their existing installations;
- No installation can be located within 25 feet of 3 pieces of fixed urban furniture or alongside buildings on blocks with 3 or more horizontal cellar doors;
- 50% of public phones on any 2 contiguous blocks on the same side of an avenue must be compliant with ADA (wheelchairs, sight, and hearing impaired);
- If a given installation is used less than once a day, a new installation cannot be installed on any of the adjacent corners ;
- At an intersection, limit the number of public phones to 2 installations maximum, one installation on each side of the avenue.

These rules are intended to be in addition to existing rules.

Thank you for your consideration and the time and assistance offered by your staff. We look forward to continuing to work with you to promote responsible payphone placement.

Sincerely yours,



J. Lee Compton
Chair
Manhattan Community Board No. 4



Jay Marcus
Chair
Transportation Planning Committee

cc: Elected Officials