



CITY OF NEW YORK

MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD No. 4

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J. LEE COMPTON
Chair

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

February 8, 2007

Kerry Gould Schmit
Assistant Commissioner
NYC Department of Transportation
Coordinated Street Furniture Franchise Unit
59 Maiden Lane, 35th Floor, Room 35027
New York, NY 10038

Dear Ms. Schmit:

Manhattan Community Board #4 appreciates NYC DOT's outreach efforts in deciding the placement of Automatic Public Toilets. We are also excited that this is part of a multi-year effort to create higher quality and consistent designs for 3,300 bus shelters, 330 newsstands, 20 public toilets, and public furniture.

While we support this effort, we also make the following recommendations:

- To enable handicapped accessibility, street furniture and toilets not be placed within 4 feet of any obstruction including streetlights, traffic signal poles, and street signs within Community Board #4;
Both pedestrian volume and the amount of sidewalk obstructions be considered in the placement of public toilets;
The Department of Transportation refer proposal for electronic signs or advertising on public toilets to the relevant Community Board;
The proposed design guidelines should not apply to street furniture or public toilets placed in areas where there are active Business Improvement Districts (BID's). Any alternative designs or placement guidelines proposed by BID's should be reviewed and approved by Community Boards in advance of placement.

Community Board #4 would welcome the NYC DOT CSFF Unit investigating three potential sites for the placement of public toilets:

- The general area between 14th and 18th Street, between 8th and 9th Avenues;
23rd Street and 6th Avenue; and
The Northwest Corner of 58th and 8th Avenue.

We would request, however, that the NYC DOT CSFF Unit return to the Community Board with any specific site before designating any specific sites for public toilet placement.

Sincerely,

[Signature of J. Lee Compton]

J. Lee Compton
Chair
Manhattan Community Board No. 4

[Signature of Jay Marcus]

Jay Marcus
Co-Chair
Transportation Planning Committee

[Signature of Christine Berthet]

Christine Berthet
Co-Chair
Transportation Planning Committee