



CITY OF NEW YORK

MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR

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J. LEE COMPTON
Chair

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

April 6, 2007

Daniel L. Doctoroff
Deputy Mayor for Economic Development and Rebuilding
City Hall
New York, NY 10007

Re: OpSail Tall Ship Event

Dear Deputy Mayor Doctoroff;

As you know, the Hudson-Fulton-Champlain Quadricentennial will take place from July through September, 2009, along the Hudson River from New York City north and extending into Lake Champlain. As an exciting kick-off for this series of events, a major tall ship event has been proposed for the 4th of July time frame in New York Harbor. This event is being spearheaded by OpSail in conjunction with the American Sail Training Association (ASTA), under the umbrella of the Hudson-Fulton-Champlain Quadricentennial Commission.

Manhattan Community Board 4 supports this major tall ship event, a large portion of which is likely to take place on the waterfront in our district. This is an event that occurs rarely, but when it takes place, generates great anticipation and excitement for all New Yorkers, not to mention economic benefits – and we trust that you, and the City of New York – share this enthusiasm.

However, a major tall ship event requires considerable advance planning as the schedules of these vessels are planned for many months and, in many cases, years in advance. We believe that it is imperative that the City of New York seeks to attract this event as soon as possible. We feel that it's important to send a positive signal to the tall ship community and the organizers that New York welcomes this event. These include OpSail (Chris O'Brien) and ASTA.

We look forward to an exciting Quadricentennial summer, with a spectacular opening on the 4th of July consisting of dozens of Class A tall ships from around the world, joined by many more dozens of smaller vessels, historic ships and educational vessels. Your help, from the City of New York, will be essential toward realizing this vision.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Lee Compton'.

J. Lee Compton
Chair, Manhattan Community Board No. 4

cc:

Karen Helmerson and Jonathan Harley, ASTA
Christopher O'Brien, Operation Sail Inc.
Barbara Fratianni, Executive Director, Hudson-Fulton-Champlain Quadricentennial Commission