



CITY OF NEW YORK

MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR

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JEAN-DANIEL NOLAND
Chair

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

July 27, 2008

Beverly Gotay, Deputy Director
Special Applications Unit
NYC Department of Consumer Affairs
42 Broadway
New York, NY 10004-1716

Application: Sidewalk Newsstand (NEW)
Proposed location: NWC West 58th Street and Ninth Avenue
DCA Application #: 1286572
Applicant: Shahid Butt

Dear Ms. Gotay,

Manhattan Community Board 4 recommends **denial** of the application of Mr. Butt for a new newsstand on the northwest corner of West 58th Street and Ninth Avenue. This was subsequent to review of the application by the Transportation Planning Committee at its June 18, 2008 and July 16, 2008 meetings.

The recommendation to deny this application is due to the following:

Over-saturation:

There is currently a newsstand at the southeast corner of 58th Street and Ninth Avenue (the same intersection as the current application), and another at the southeast corner of 60th Street and Ninth Avenue (2 blocks away).

Sidewalk congestion:

This sidewalk has a high pedestrian traffic. There is a bus stop a few feet north of the proposed location, and the west side of Ninth Avenue between 58th and 59th Streets is used for deliveries for both the CVS and the Morton Williams supermarket. If needed, we propose that the 7-9am and the 3-5pm periods be used by the DOT for pedestrian flow studies.

Stakeholders in our community object to the proposed newsstand:

The property owner and several residents have voiced their strong opposition to the above location for a newsstand, both in writing and in person at the committee meetings. Their main concerns are reduced pedestrian space and over-saturation of newsstands. Please find the letter attached.

Failure to notify property owner:

The above applicant failed to notify the property owner, though the property owner was mistakenly notified by another applicant who had originally intended to apply for this same location.

CB4 generally encourages small businesses, like newsstands, but due to their permanent nature on the sidewalk and the over-saturation of newsstands in the immediate area, we believe this specific location should be free of unnecessary additional street furniture. For the above reasons, we ask that this application be rejected by your agency.

On July 23rd, 2008 the Full Board voted in favor to recommended denial of this application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of the letters 'Jd' in a stylized, cursive font.

Jean-Daniel Noland
Chair
Manhattan Community Board 4

c.c.:
Department of Transportation
Art Commission
Applicant