



CITY OF NEW YORK

**MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR**

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

**JEAN-DANIEL NOLAND**  
Chair

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

January 12, 2009

Howard H. Roberts, Jr.  
President  
MTA NYC Transit  
2 Broadway  
New York, NY 10004

**Re: Parking on West 53<sup>rd</sup> Street between Eighth and Ninth Avenue**

Dear Mr. Roberts:

Manhattan Community Board 4 recommends that there be an increase in parking enforcement on West 53<sup>rd</sup> Street between Eighth and Ninth Avenues, particularly in front of 333 West 53<sup>rd</sup> Street (the MTA building). It also recommends that the MTA encourage their employees who work at the building to obey the parking regulations on the block.

Almost half the north side of the block of West 53<sup>rd</sup> Street between Eighth and Ninth Avenues is the frontage for the MTA building. That area has a yellow lined curb and signs that indicate Transit Authority vehicles only. Several residents of the block, and community board members, have observed that MTA employees park their cars along this area, forcing the MTA vehicles to park on the south side of the street, where the parking regulations are muni-metered "No Parking Except Trucks Loading and Unloading", or on the north side of the street on either side of the MTA building, where the regulations permit muni-metered 2 hour vehicle parking (9 a.m. to 7 p.m.). The residents have observed that vehicles parked in the MTA vehicle parking area where employees exhibit their MTA badges, vests or other identification are not ticketed.

There is very little residential parking for what is other than the MTA building and two small churches, a residential block. Having the MTA vehicles using those spaces seems inappropriate. The MTA might consider negotiating with the parking lot at 301 West 53<sup>rd</sup> Street for discounted parking for employees, use additional space in the MTA substantial subsurface parking lot, and, of course, encourage their employees to use mass transit.

We also question why the south side of the street does not include any non-commercial vehicle parking when the only commercial businesses are clustered near the avenues and

the block is primarily residential. We request that DOT investigate the feasibility of increasing non-commercial parking on the south side of the street.

Sincerely,



Jean-Daniel Noland  
Chair  
Manhattan  
Community Board 4



Christine Berthet  
Co-Chair  
Transportation Planning  
Committee



Jay Marcus  
Co-Chair  
Transportation Planning  
Committee

c.c.

Community Affairs Officer Diane Menig  
Midtown North Precinct  
306 W. 54<sup>th</sup> Street  
New York, N.Y. 10019

Borough Commissioner Margaret Forgione  
New York City Department of Transportation  
40 Worth Street, Room 940  
New York, NY 10013

Adam Smalley  
Marc Hirschfeld  
Colleen Chattergoon, DOT