



CITY OF NEW YORK

MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR

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JEAN-DANIEL NOLAND
Chair

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

May 18, 2009

Borough Commissioner Margaret Forgione
NYC Department of Transportation
59 Maiden Lane, 35th Floor
New York, NY 10038

Re: Parking Regulation West 53rd Street between Eighth and Ninth Avenues

Dear Commissioner Forgione,

Manhattan Community Board 4 supports the proposal to change parking regulations on the south side of West 53rd Street between Eighth and Ninth Avenues to be more consistent with the residential nature of that block. Specifically, we support the following parking regulations for the block:

- **No Standing Except Trucks Loading and Unloading 7am to 7pm, Metered Parking 3 hour limit** for the first approximately 100 feet from the western corner and approximately 150 feet from the eastern corner;
- **Continue the existing “No Parking 7am to 4pm School Days”** for the approximately 50 feet in front of the PS 35 Manhattan School;
- **Continue the existing No Standing Anytime** for the approximately 80 feet in front of the Rectory and Church of St. Benedict the Moor; and
- **Alternate Side Parking regulations** to permit street cleaning two days a week and permit residential and other parking other times for the remainder of the block.

Existing parking regulations on the block is made up primarily of **No Standing Except Commercial Vehicles Metered Parking 3 hr Limit Except Sunday**. Many of the spaces are frequently taken by Metropolitan Transportation Agency vans, though they already have exclusive parking for a large portion of the north side of the street. The south side of the block is made up primarily of residential buildings plus four retail businesses and one smaller mixed use building. The proposed change in parking regulation is supported by the 6 residential buildings (the owners or the President of the Condo Association/Cooperative Board of Directors) and three of the four retail businesses. One of the retail businesses, “Flowers by Richard” opposes the change since their business is slightly over 200 feet from the corner and they frequently need to load and unload flowers and floral arrangements. We propose a slightly increased No Standing zone at the Eastern side of the block to accommodate this business.

We believe this change in regulation more accurately reflects the parking needs of the residents and retail businesses along the south side of the block, assists in limiting the expansive MTA parking beyond their boundaries, and reinforces the parking policy for the north side of the block supported by this Community Board on January 7, 2009.

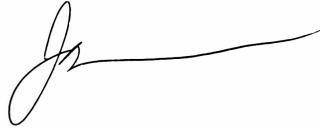
Sincerely,



Jean-Daniel Noland
Chair
Manhattan
Community Board 4



Christine Berthet
Co-Chair
Transportation Planning
Committee



Jay Marcus
Co-Chair
Transportation Planning
Committee

c.c.

Owners/Businesses on the block