

1 **Transportation Planning Committee**

Item #: 19

2
3 Margaret Forgione
4 Manhattan Borough Commissioner
5 New York City Department of Transportation
6 55 Water Street, 9th Floor
7 New York, New York 10041
8

9 **Re: Bike Share Stations**

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11 Dear Commissioner Forgione:

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13 Manhattan Community Board 4 (CB4) thanks the Department of Transportation (DOT)
14 for the extensive outreach it did in preparation for the launch of the bike share program.
15 The installation will start in July in Lower Manhattan making its way north to the rest of
16 the Borough over a few weeks.

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18 The plan called for the installation of one bike share station approximately every Avenue
19 and 4 Block radius to provide optimal proximity to this new transportation mode. In our
20 district where sidewalk space is at a premium, a majority of the stations are located on the
21 street, using striped areas or parking spaces. The stations are modular and ranging in size
22 from 35 feet long and six feet wide to 75 feet long and six feet wide. Most stations will
23 start each day with bicycles in half the spots and an equal number of spots left vacant for
24 bicycle drop-offs. Each station will include a kiosk that explains the program, includes
25 safety tips, credit card/cash payment slots, and a map. The stations are movable.
26 “Spotcycle” an app used in other cities will include bicycle share locations and up-to-the
27 minute bike and parking slot availability.

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29 Upon review of the most recent and final iteration of the plan CB4 would like to make
30 the following requests:

- 31 • Remove the easternmost bicycle share stations planned to be located on Port
32 Authority Property on West 42nd Street. There is another station nearby and the
33 volume of pedestrians and of commuter waiting in line for taxis makes this
34 sidewalk exceptionally crowded.
- 35 • It would be preferable to relocate the station currently planned on the striped
36 zone, at the south east corner of west 43rd Street, and Tenth Avenue on W. 43rd
37 Street, to Manhattan Plaza property on the south side of West 43rd Street, where
38 there is ample space. The striped space is often used by Access-A-Ride vehicles
39 and taxis for this entrance of Manhattan Plaza, where many seniors reside. If this
40 relocation is not feasible, ample space should be left on the street in front of the
41 Manhattan Plaza to pick up and drop off seniors at this entrance.

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43 Due to the presence of Lincoln Tunnel traffic or other special considerations, the proposal
44 for CB4 locations did not meet the goal of one station every Avenue and four block
45 radius. We recommend that the following locations be added to improve coverage in our
46 neighborhood:

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- At the intersection of W. 55th Street and Hudson River Park
- One location in proximity to large businesses and hotels on the blocks between Eleventh and Eighth Avenues, W. 46th to W. 50th Streets.
- In proximity to the Yotel / MIMA complex on Tenth Avenue and W. 42nd Street.
- In proximity to W. 37th/38th Streets and Tenth or Ninth Avenues to service new developments, many new hotels and Javits Center visitors.
- In the Elliott-Chelsea affordable housing complex, between W. 25th and W. 27th Streets, Ninth to Tenth Avenues (based on communication with the Elliot-Chelsea residents and staff)

We continue to encourage you to use of the Port Authority property, on the west side of Ninth Avenue, under the bridges between W. 40th and W. 41st Streets for a station and/or a maintenance/storage station for the operator. This space has been empty and unused for many years.

Sincerely,
CJ/CB/JM
Cc Steve Napolitano