

RESOLUTION

Date: March 2, 2021

Committees of Origin: Transportation

Re: Street safety and left-turning vehicles.

Full Board Vote: 0 In Favor 0 Against 0 Abstentions 0 Present

Committee: 8-0-1-0. Non-committee Board Member: 0-0-1-0

The following facts and concerns were taken into account in arriving at our conclusions:

Pedestrians and bicyclists are more than three times more likely to be killed or seriously injured by a left-turning driver than by a right-turning one -- 19 percent of deaths or serious injuries are caused by left turns compared to 6 percent by right turns, according to NYC DOT statistics.

Seniors are more likely to be injured or killed by left-turning vehicles: The average age of victims in left-turn crashes is 67, compared to 50 for victims of right-turn crashes, according to NYC DOT.

Left turns are more dangerous than right turns for crossing pedestrians and cyclists because:

- Crossing pedestrians have a greater area of exposure to left-turning vehicles than for right turns;
- Motorists tend to take left turns faster than right turns;
- A driver's vision is obstructed by the vehicle's "A-pillar" (between the windshield and the driver's door) when making left turns;
- Drivers face the pressure of traffic backed up behind them and, on two-way streets, must negotiate oncoming traffic while turning;
- Left turns are more complicated than rights, requiring more mental and physical effort; ("driver workload") than right turns.

On two-way streets, left turns slow down traffic as vehicles need to wait for oncoming traffic, spending more time idling and causing traffic delays.

UPS plans routes to prevent their drivers from turning left because they recognize the increased danger.

According to NYC DOT's 2016 report "Don't Cut Corners," the most effective measure to make left turns safer for pedestrians and cyclists is restricting left turns (41% reduction in injuries).

Split phase signals – where vehicles cannot legally turn when pedestrians have a walk signal -- is another highly effective treatment in DOT's toolbox for making left turns safer.

The addition of split-phase signals at intersections in Manhattan Community Board 4 resulted in significant decreases in injuries (43% at 41st St. and 9th Ave. and 41% at all intersections on 9th Ave. between 23rd and 34th streets).

According data supplied by DOT to Manhattan Community Board 7, the Upper West Side has only six split-phase signals.

In December 2019, CB7 passed a resolution that it, in conjunction with NYC DOT and the 20th and 24th precincts, would identify the 10 most dangerous intersections in CD7 and work together to find solutions to make them safe.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan asks the New York City Department of Transportation beginning with the 10 most dangerous intersections (and 79th Street and Amsterdam and West End Avenue) in our district and all Broadway intersections, to explore restricting left turns or installing more 'no left turn' signs or signals wherever practicable for reasons of safety; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT t every intersection where left turns by vehicles are allowed, Community Board 7 asks that split phase signals be made the norm rather than the rare exception, again beginning with the 10 most dangerous intersections; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT in cases where left turns cannot be eliminated or a split-phase signal is not employed, and a left-turn arrow permits drivers to turn into crossing pedestrians and cyclists, the left turn arrow should in no case be steady green but should be flashing yellow to indicate motorists use caution. ; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Regarding left turns from Broadway onto cross-streets, install "stop here on red" signs adjacent to the Broadway Malls; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THATT the determination as to where it is practicable to restrict or eliminate left turns should be informed by considerations of adding left-turn volume at intersections that are already among our most dangerous.



RESOLUTION

Date: March 2, 2021

Committees of Origin: Preservation

Re: 33 West 74th Street (Columbus Avenue – Central Park West.) Application #LPC-21-02124 to the Landmarks Preservation Commission. to (a) install inward opening paired casement windows on the front and back facades; (b) modify the existing rear facade; and (c) create a roof stair bulkhead.

Full Board Vote: 0 In Favor 0 Against 0 Abstentions 0 Present

Committee:6-2-1-0. Non-committee Board Members:0-0-1-0.

This building is a 20' wide single-family, four story, townhouse, built in 1901, on the north side of West 74th Street, undergoing a complete renovation from a two family to a one family residence. The applicant, through their Architects Brett Kearney and Joseph Bruno, are making the following application: On the **rooftop**: to install a stair bulkhead, and to raise existing chimneys as required by the Building Code; on the **rear façade**: to create new window openings on the inward facing façade of the existing L-extension, to install paired inward-opening casement windows, to create a Juliet balcony/terrace with a metal stairway to the garden level; and on the **front façade**: to replace existing 1:1 double-hung windows with divided light paired wood casement windows in patterns that match those proposed for the rear façade.

The resolution is based upon the following facts:

Rooftop

The proposed bulkhead will contain a stairway to the roof, be 11'11" high, and will not be visible from any public way. It will be clad in uncoated copper, and will have steel doors and a sky light. Three (3) existing chimneys (2 on the West side, 1 on the East side) will be raised to a height required by the Building Code. The two front chimneys will be slightly visible from certain perspectives along West 74th Street. The bulkhead will be set back 26' from the large front pediment and cornice, and will be the same height as the current neighboring rooftop addition to the West. The proposed bulkhead will be partial-width across the roof, and will have a metal firefighter access ladder to its roof. There will also be a new 5' parapet in the front, placed behind the current parapet, and a new iron railing in the rear. The proposal includes cabinets, sink and grill of which none of which will be visible from any public way.

Rear façade

In addition to replacing all the rear windows, 3 new openings will be created on the West facing wall of an existing "L" extension. The first floor windows on the rear façade will be lowered and a door created to a new terrace in the form of a Juliet balcony. From the terrace, a new metal stairway will give access to the garden level.

The existing parlor and second floor windows on the rear façade are surrounded by corbeled brick treatments below their sills, with thin flat brick arrangements to emulate pilasters flanking the existing windows. All corbels below the existing windows on the parlor and second floors will be removed to create a two-story fenestration pattern for windows and doors to the rear yard, and the entire rear façade

will be extended slightly to the plane of the existing pilasters. No changes will be made to the bricks or red brick color, except for repointing the brick surfaces and the window headers and lintels will be cast stone. Window openings on the basement, 1st & 2d floors will be enlarged.

The rear façade windows will remain in punched brick openings, and the existing 1:1 double-hung windows are proposed to be replaced with paired inward-opening casement windows with two horizontal muntins in each to create a three-panel divided light effect in each. The casement windows in the rear will be of dark metal.

Front façade

The only significant proposed change to the front façade in this application is to replace all of the front façade windows, currently 1:1 double-hung windows, with inward-opening paired casement windows with two horizontal muntins in each creating a three-panel divided light pattern. The applicant's architects believe the existing double hung windows are original per a 1941 tax photo, but there is no available history before that. Some adjacent townhouses have a mix of casement and double-hung windows.

The proposed changes to the front façade fenestration; rear façade brick surfaces, window openings, and replacement fenestration, and rooftop stair bulkhead are appropriate to the character of the Historic District.

NOW THEREFORE, Community Board 7/Manhattan, in consideration of the facts presented and the discussion held, **approves** the application as appropriate to the character of the Historic District.

RESOLUTION

Date: March 2, 2021

Committees of Origin: Preservation

Re: 45 West 85th Street (Columbus Avenue – Central Park West.) Application #LPC-21-05125 to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for General Requirements, Installation of Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and other Mechanical Equipment.

Full Board Vote: 0 In Favor 0 Against 0 Abstentions 0 Present

Committee: 8-0-1-0. Non-committee Board Members: 0-0-1-0.

This resolution is based upon the following facts:

This building is a Beaux-Arts style rowhouse designed by Lafayette A. Goldston and built in 1906-07. It is included in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District.

The applicant/owner, Naomi Avigdor, wishes to replace a heavily deteriorated double hung one-over-one stained glass window in apartment 3A that is only visible in the rear east façade and not from any street. Apartment 3A is a small studio apartment.

The window is located in a bathroom, is nearly completely covered by a tiled wall and it is not visible from the inside. The window opening size is 2'-2"x4'-8". The second window in the bathroom is inoperable.

The window is heavily damaged and needs to be replaced. The stained-glass window frame and sill is badly deteriorated. The proposal is to replace the stained-glass window with a double hung one-over-one black aluminum frame window with a vent in lieu of the upper pane to provide ventilation. The proposed replacement window will match the other windows in the building. The louvered vent will include a fan to mechanically exhaust moist air to the exterior. The lower pane of the proposed replacement window will be of opaque glass, and the upper pane surrounding the vent will be sheet metal. To insert the fan, they will make a six-inch square hole in the sheet metal pane to attach the fan duct terminating with a louver at the exterior.

The applicant agreed to retain/store the stained-glass window for possible re-use at a later date in some other venue.

While the committee generally does not consider cost in evaluating applications, the applicant advised that it would cost a minimum of \$4000 to repair the window.

There are no other stained-glass windows in this building. Research has been unable to determine whether the stained-glass window was original to the building, or whether there were other stained-glass windows that were removed pre-designation.

Given its obscure placement, its not being visible from any public way, its uncertain origin, and the commitment of the applicant to store the removed stained-glass window for potential future use, the removal of the special stained-glass window and its replacement with a functional one-over-one double-hung aluminum window that matches the fenestration in the building is appropriate to the character of the Historic District.

THEFORE, in consideration of the facts presented and the discussion held, Community Board 7/Manhattan **approves** the application to remove the stained-glass existing window and to replace it with a functional one-over-one double-hung aluminum window that matches the fenestration in the building as appropriate to the character of the Historic District.

RESOLUTION

Date: March 2, 2021

Committees of Origin: Business & Consumer Issues

Re: 50 West 72nd Street (Central Park West-Columbus Avenue.)

Full Board Vote: 0 In Favor 0 Against 0 Abstentions 0 Present

Committee: 5-0-0-0. Non-Committee Board Members: 4-0-0-0.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan **approves** new application to the SLA for two- year liquor license by Fridman's CPW, LLC.

RESOLUTION

Date: March 2, 2021

Committees of Origin: Youth, Education and Libraries

Re: Impact of school closures, social isolation, and pandemic-related stress and trauma on the mental health of NYC youth.

Full Board Vote: 0 In Favor 0 Against 0 Abstentions 0 Present

The following facts and concerns were taken into consideration:

- One year into the COVID-19 pandemic, New York City public schools have still not fully reopened, disrupting the educational experience of hundreds of thousands of students, and contributing to the increased social isolation that is taking a toll on the mental health of the city's youth.
- NYC high schools, in particular, have remained closed since March 2020, except for a brief interval in the Fall of 2020. NYC's middle schools are scheduled to reopen on February 25, 2021, though only the minority of students whose families opted last fall for blended learning will be permitted to attend, so the percentages of total students attending will remain quite small. Lastly, most of the city's elementary schools, though open, are not providing in-person learning for students 5 days a week.
- In normal times, schools are important centers of connection and communication for youth, but the traditional methods by which teachers and school employees build trust with students, and the non-academic moments in which those relationships are often built, have been challenged by the transition to remote learning and the lack of in-person interaction.
- Community-based organizations (CBOs) and agencies – always important school partners in providing services for students – have also been forced to shift to alternative methods of maintaining contact and building connection remotely, including phone calls, video conferences, and sending needed items like snacks and art supplies home to children, rather than utilize their normal methods for growing trusting relationships with students.
- Major research studies are ongoing, but initial indicators point to a growing mental health crisis as the disruption to the normal in-person school experience continues.
 - In a national survey of high school students conducted last spring, 30% of students indicated they were feeling unhappy or depressed “much more than usual.”¹
 - A national survey of high-schoolers this fall found students feeling increasingly disconnected from teachers and peers since the pandemic began (50% saying the strength of relationships with teachers had decreased), and noted that while a majority feel they have an adult at school to whom they can turn if they have a problem, the percentage who feel they have a trusted adult at school was lower for those whom attend schools with more socioeconomically disadvantaged student bodies. ²

¹ <https://www.americaspromise.org/sites/default/files/d8/Updated%20Appendix.pdf>

² <https://www.challengesuccess.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/CS-NBC-Study-Kids-Under-Pressure-PUBLISHED.pdf>

- As of the writing of this resolution, there is no date to reopen schools for High School students and there remain concerns for a full opening for 2021-22 school year.
- Even prior to the pandemic, there was a need for increased mental health resources in city schools:
 - The NYC Department of Education (DOE) website reports that one in five children struggle, or will struggle at some point in their life, with their mental health.³
 - A 2019 study by the NYC Independent Budget Office identified more than 700 NYC public schools which did not have a full-time dedicated social worker.⁴
- The pandemic has only heightened the need to provide mental health support for students: last week, DOE officials reported that five public school students have committed suicide during the current 2020-2021 academic year, including three students in February 2021 alone— an increase over the 2019-2020 school year, in which there were four reported student suicides.⁵
- The crisis reflects a larger nationwide trend: according to the CDC, emergency departments nationwide reported significant increases in the proportion of pediatric mental health-related visits from April-October 2020, up 24% vs. the prior year for children aged 5-11, and up 31% for those aged 12-17 years old.⁶
- City plans to address the youth mental health crisis have begun to take shape:
 - The NYC DOE's 2020-2021 Bridge to School Plan included a trauma-informed training series developed in partnership with the Trauma Responsive Educational Practices (TREP) project at the University of Chicago, and recommended that all school employees voluntarily participate during the first few weeks of the school year.⁷
 - New York State's preliminary budget for fiscal year 2022 calls for \$35 million in funding for student social/emotional support.⁸
 - The 2021 Student Achievement Plan, announced in December 2020, includes a mental health plan intended to provide support to students citywide. Its first phase will target the 27 communities hardest-hit by the COVID-19 pandemic, and promises:
 - 150 additional social workers across the approximately 830 schools in those 27 neighborhoods
 - An additional community school in each of the 27 neighborhoods
 - Social, emotional, and academic screeners for all K-12 students
 - Partnerships with community-based organizations
 - The second phase of this plan aspires to extend the benefits citywide, but acknowledges it would require significant federal funding to do so.⁹

Community Board 7/Manhattan believes the city's youth are experiencing an urgent mental health crisis, and that our students and schools will continue to struggle with the social and emotional impact of the pandemic for years to come.

³ <https://www.schools.nyc.gov/school-life/health-and-wellness/mental-health>

⁴ <https://ibo.nyc.ny.us/iboreports/letter-bp-brewer-may-2019.pdf>

⁵ <https://www.wsj.com/articles/five-new-york-city-students-have-died-by-suicide-this-school-year-11613600251>

⁶ <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/69/wr/mm6945a3.htm>

⁷ <https://www.schools.nyc.gov/docs/default-source/default-document-library/bridge-to-school-plan-08272020>

⁸ <https://www1.nyc.gov/office-of-the-mayor/news/030-21/fact-sheet-mayor-de-blasio-releases-preliminary-budget-fiscal-year-2022>

⁹ <https://www1.nyc.gov/office-of-the-mayor/news/879-20/mayor-de-blasio-first-lady-mccray-chancellor-carranza-2021-mental-health-and>

The Board also believes that student experiences are crucial to informing policy decisions at all times, but are especially important now, as the education system is facing unprecedented changes. Students have a unique and critical perspective based on their diverse experiences and the existential challenges that they are facing, including lack of socialization and social-emotional learning, increased stress and trauma, learning loss, etc. Students' voices must be heard and their recommendations and assessments taken to heart in building solutions to the issues before us. Efforts to increase student voice should also prioritize equity, ensuring that a diverse and representative set of student contributions and perspectives on issues are heard and acknowledged.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan urges city and state officials to support funding and resources for mental health and social/emotional development for youth, their families and guardians, and schools in the Fiscal Year 2022 budget, and to plan for ongoing baselined funding to address what is likely to be ongoing heightened youth mental health needs citywide in the years ahead.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan urges city officials to support increased funding for ongoing mental health training and supervision for teachers, administrators and school aides to prepare them to address and support the mental health of their students, especially those who have experienced trauma during the COVID-19 pandemic.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan calls on the DOE to incorporate student input and feedback into all policy decision cycles including issues regarding mental health and wellness by leveraging pre-existing student groups (the Chancellor's Student Advisory Council and 7 Borough Student Advisory Councils) and creating new opportunities (such as town halls, councils, and forums) for student voices on mental health issues.