**Date: March 2, 2010** 

**Committee of Origin: Steering** 

Re: Department of Homeless Services Policies in Housing Homeless People.

Full Board Vote: 31 In favor 0 Against 0 Abstentions 0 Present

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

For decades, City agencies with the responsibility of finding housing for their homeless clients, have declared that there is an "emergency" because of the shortage of housing, and so it is proper for them to use any means to obtain housing. Unfortunately, this has brought about an increase in the lack of affordable housing, and an increase in homelessness. The "emergency" never ends.

Commercial SROs have historically provided affordable housing for low income people in New York City, and their affordable rents have been protected by legislation. In recent years, their landlords have seen real estate values rise, and they looked for ways to increase their income. One way of charging more money for rooms was to form relationships with City agencies needing housing for their clients. The agencies would agree to pay exorbitant amounts, sometimes \$3,000 a month, for a room with no bathroom or kitchen facilities, because there was an "emergency". This meant that available permanent housing was being taken off the market, while no new housing was being created. The actions of some landlords to reduce the number of existing tenants by harassing them, was not taken into consideration before arrangements were made to use their empty rooms.

This practice continues today. Affordable housing is greatly depleted. The Department of Homeless Services especially contributes to this. More buildings are being taken over by them, as transitional shelters, which could be used instead by low and moderate income people as permanent housing. This is being done without letting communities know ahead of time

Community Board 7/Manhattan and the neighborhood was not notified of DHS' plans to establish a transitional shelter on West 107<sup>th</sup> Street until the day 40 homeless women were placed there. It is proposed that 135 women will live in 90 rooms in the building. No information was available as to how much the landlord was receiving. This is a building the landlord had been using as a tourist hotel which was closed. This building still has a few, perhaps five, SRO tenants. DHS should not reward the landlord for replacing permanent SRO tenants with temporary, "emergency" tenants at very much higher rents. Homelessness will be increased instead of decreased as the SRO disappears.

At a public meeting concerning this, a large representation from the community was united in their interest in wanting to know what they could do about what was happening. Permanent housing should not be replaced by transitional housing. The neighborhood supports housing for people in need, but not at the expense of permanent housing. DHS needs to plan ahead for continual "emergencies." The support of permanent affordable housing such as SROs should be part of their plan. No landlord should be rewarded for harassing existing tenants.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan calls on the City Council Committee on Governmental Operations to hold a hearing on the procedures followed by City agencies seeking housing for their clients. They decrease affordable housing by offering landlords of commercial SROs rents vastly higher than they are allowed to charge their SRO tenants, thus eliminating affordable permanent housing. The Committee is also called on to look at the practice of agencies of not reviewing the previous records of landlords before making financial arrangements with them.

Committee: 11-0-0-0.

**Date: March 2, 2010** 

**Committee of Origin: Steering** 

Re: Summer Street.

Full Board Vote: 34 In favor 1 Against 0 Abstentions 0 Present

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan **approves** the application by the Columbus-Amsterdam BID to the Mayor's Street Activity Permit Office for a DOT Summer Street on Amsterdam Avenue between 106<sup>th</sup> and 110<sup>th</sup> Streets on May 9, 16, and 23, 2010.

Committee: 10-0-0-0.

**Date: March 2, 2010** 

**Committee of Origin: Land Use** 

Re: 721 Amsterdam Avenue, The Axton (Amsterdam-Columbus Avenues).

Full Board Vote: 34 In favor 1 Against 2 Abstentions 0 Present

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan **approves** application #M920493(D) ZAM to the Department of City Planning by Axton LLC for a modification of the previously approved Large Scale Residential Development within the former West Side Urban Renewal Area, to facilitate the enlargement of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> stories of an existing 27-story mixed-use building, to utilize available floor area for commercial and community facility uses; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan encourages continued cooperative dialogue between the applicant and the Axton Tenants' Association. *Committee:* 8-0-0-0.

**Date: March 2, 2010** 

Committee of Origin: Youth, Education & Libraries

Re: Planned Parenthood NYC's "We're Going To The Principal's Office" Campaign.

Full Board Vote: 30 In favor 2 Against 3 Abstentions 0 Present

This resolution is premised upon the following facts:

New York City's feen pregnancy rates are higher than the national average, and teens in the United States have higher rates of pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases than teens in most developed nations.

Individuals 15-24 years of age represent only one-fourth of the sexually active population, yet account for nearly half of all new sexually transmitted infections each year.

Half of all new HIV infections in the United States occur among people under the age of 25.

According to the New York City Department of Health, about half of high school students say the have had sex, about one-in-three high school students are currently sexually active.

Only two-thirds of New York City's sexually active youth report using condoms, and one-in-five high school age girls did not use any birth control the last time they had sex.

Research shows comprehensive sex education programs delay the initiation of sex and increase the use of contraception, reduce the number of sexual partners, and increase the use of condoms and other contraceptives.

An overwhelming majority of parents support sex education and believe it is already being taught in public schools, with 77% of registered voters in New York State mistakenly believing that sex education is currently part of the required school curriculum, while 85% want comprehensive sex education to be taught in school, according to a recent Hart Research Associates poll.

While the New York City Department of Education has approved a recommended sex education curriculum, neither the DoE nor the State of New York requires that comprehensive sex education be taught in schools nor funds such instruction.

The DoE recommended sex education has age-appropriate curriculum blocks for elementary, middle and high school students.

Individual principals of public schools decide for each school whether, when, how often, how comprehensively and by whom sex education is taught.

The DoE offers its recommended sex education curriculum and related teacher training free of charge to schools.

Planned Parenthood NYC has provided confidential health care services to women, men and teens in New York City for over 90 years regardless of ability to pay, and has offered innovative educational workshops on sex education (including trained peer education), technical assistance, and professional training to communities throughout our City.

Planned Parenthood NYC launched its "We're Going To The Principal's Office" campaign in Fall 2009, which provides parents with background information, checklists, sample letter templates, discussion points, and follow-up materials to facilitate effective meetings with school principals to enable parents to advocate that medically accurate, age-appropriate sex education within their public schools.

NOW, THEREFORE, Community Board 7/Manhattan resolves as follows:

- 1. CB7 calls on the Department of Education to make mandatory the full implementation of the approved sex education curriculum.
- 2. CB7 supports Planned Parenthood NYC's "We're Going To The Principal's Office" campaign as a method to empower parents to advocate for sex education in their public schools by lobbying the principal to implement existing, recommended curriculum, with the goal of increasing frequent, meaningful access to age-appropriate sex education for every New York City student; and
- 3. CB7 urges parents to include in their advocacy to and lobbying of principals a call to implement fully the DoE's HIV/AIDS curriculum as well as the recommended sex education curriculum. *Committee: 4-0-0-0 (January 2010); 3-0-0-0 (February 2010)*

**Date: March 2, 2010** 

**Committee of Origin: Parks & Preservation** 

Re: 12-14 West 68<sup>th</sup> Street (Central Park West-Columbus Avenue). Application to the Landmarks

Preservation Commission to modify the existing illegal penthouse addition.

Full Board Vote: 32 In favor 0 Against 1 Abstention 0 Present

The following facts and concerns were taken into account in arriving at our conclusion: The building at 12 West 68<sup>th</sup> Street, on its own, is a "non-contributing" component of the Historic District.

The Parks & Preservation Committee of Community Board 7/Manhattan believes that it would have approved the proposed design if it had been presented to the Committee as an addition to the building at 12 West 68<sup>th</sup> Street prior to the construction of the illegal addition, and that the proposed modification is reasonably appropriate to the historic character of the building, to the historic relationship between the buildings at 12 and 14 West 68th Street, and to the Historic District.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan **approves** the application to modify the existing illegal penthouse addition at 12 West 68<sup>th</sup> Street. *Committee:* 6-0-0-0. *Board Member:* 1-0-0-0.

**Date: March 2, 2010** 

**Committee of Origin: Parks & Preservation** 

Re: 45 West 84<sup>th</sup> Street (Columbus Avenue – Central Park West.) Application to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for a roof top addition, façade restoration, window replacement, rear yard addition and restoration of the railing on the stairs and balcony.

Full Board Vote: 33 In favor 0 Against 0 Abstentions 0 Present

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

The Parks & Preservation Committee of Community Board 7/Manhattan was advised by the applicant that every element of its proposed work, other than the rear yard addition, is subject to approval at LPC staff level, and therefore takes no position with regard to any element of the work other than the rear yard addition.

The proposed rear yard addition will not be visible from any public way.

The proposed rear yard addition will only minimally encroach into the rear yard "doughnut", being set back about 2 ½ feet further than the existing partial width rear yard extension at the building.

The Committee believes that the proposed rear yard addition is reasonably appropriate to the historic character of the building and of the Historic District.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan **approves** the proposed rear yard addition at 45 West 84<sup>th</sup> Street.

Committee: 6-0-0-0. Board Member: 1-0-0-0.

**Date: March 2, 2010** 

**Committee of Origin: Transportation** 

Re: Unenclosed Sidewalk Café Renewal Applications.

Full Board Vote: 31 In favor 0 Against 1 Abstention 0 Present

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan **approves** the renewal applications for the following unenclosed sidewalk cafes:

- **249-251 Columbus Avenue** (West 71<sup>st</sup> 72<sup>nd</sup> Streets.) Renewal application DCA# 1103658 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by CMR, Corp., d/b/a Café Ronda, for a two-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 8 tables and 19 seats. *Committee: 9-1-0-0. Board Members: 2-0-0-0. Public: 2-0-0-0.*
- **270-276 Columbus Avenue** (West 73<sup>rd</sup> Street.) Renewal application DCA# 1260284 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by 276 Columbus Inc., d/b/a Arte Around Corner, for a two-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 4 tables and 8 seats. *Committee: 9-1-0-0. Board Members: 2-0-0-0. Public: 1-0-1-0.*
- **427 Amsterdam Avenue** (West 80<sup>th</sup> -81<sup>st</sup> Streets.) Renewal application DCA# 1265442 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by J of K Corp., d/b/a Momoya Restaurant, for a two-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 9 tables and 17 seats. *Committee: 9-1-0-0. Board Members: 2-0-0-0. Public: 1-0-0-0.*
- **2340 Broadway** (West 84<sup>th</sup> 85<sup>th</sup> Streets.) Renewal application DCA# 1000314 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Broadway Desserts, Ltd, d/b/a French Roast, for a two-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 21 tables and 48 seats. *Committee: 9-1-0-0. Board Members: 2-0-0-0. Public: 2-0-1-0.*
- **517 Columbus Avenue** (West 85<sup>th</sup> Street.) Renewal application DCA# 812902 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Re Spec Corp., d/b/a Jackson Hole, for a two-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 25 tables and 48 seats. *Committee: 9-1-0-0. Board Members: 2-0-0-0. Public: 1-0-0-0.*

**Date: March 2, 2010** 

**Committee of Origin: Transportation Re: 1900 Broadway (West 63<sup>rd</sup> Street.)** 

Full Board Vote: 20 In favor 8 Against 3 Abstentions 0 Present

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan **approves** new application DCA# 1282969 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by 64 West Restaurant, LLC, d/b/a Bar Boulud, for a two-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 19 tables and 38 seats.

Committee: 8-1-1-0. Board Members: 2-0-0-0. Public: 1-1-0-0.

**Date: March 2, 2010** 

**Committee of Origin: Transportation** 

Re: 285 Columbus Avenue (West 73<sup>rd</sup> – 74<sup>th</sup> Streets.)

Full Board Vote: 18 In favor 11 Against 2 Abstentions 0 Present

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan **disapproves** new application DCA# 1343003 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Tenzan New York Corp, d/b/a Tenzan, for a two-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 9 tables and 18 seats, subject to the applicant's keeping their bicyclists off the sidewalk.

Committee: 6-3-1-0. Board Members: 2-0-0-0. Public: 0-3-1-0.

**Date: March 2, 2010** 

**Committee of Origin: Transportation** 

Re: 302 Columbus Avenue (West 74<sup>th</sup> – 75<sup>th</sup> Streets.)

Full Board Vote: 18 In favor 8 Against 4 Abstentions 0 Present

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan **approves** new application DCA# 1339241 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Lenny's 74<sup>th</sup> Street, LLC, d/b/a Lenny's, for a two-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 9 tables and 18 seats, subject to the applicant moving the bicycles from their present location.

Committee: 7-2-1-0. Board Members: 2-0-0-0. Public: 1-2-0-0.

**Date: March 2, 2010** 

**Committee of Origin: Transportation** 

Re: 450 Amsterdam Avenue (West 81<sup>st</sup> -82<sup>nd</sup> Streets.)

Full Board Vote: 25 In favor 1 Against 2 Abstentions 0 Present

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan **approves** new application DCA# 1341925 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by D&D Thai Restaurant Corp., d/b/a Land Thai 450 Amsterdam, for a two-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 5 tables and 11 seats. *Committee:* 9-1-0-0. *Board Members:* 2-0-0-0. *Public:* 3-0-0-0.

**Date: March 2, 2010** 

Committee of Origin: Transportation Re: 2315 Broadway (West 84<sup>th</sup> Street.)

Full Board Vote: 27 In favor 1 Against 1 Abstention 0 Present

The applicant submitted a revised plan to CB7;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan **approves** new application DCA# 1341402 to the Department of Consumer Affairs by Donizetti, LLC, d/b/a 5 Napkin Burger, for a two-year consent to operate an unenclosed sidewalk café with 12 tables and 34 seats, subject to revised plan being submitted to the CB7 office prior to the March 2 full board meeting.

Committee: 8-2-0-0. Board Members: 2-1-2-0. Public: 1-1-0-0.

**Date: March 2, 2010** 

**Committee of Origin: Transportation** 

Re: Taxi & Limousine Commission proposal for a group taxi-ride stand. Full Board Vote: 18 In favor 7 Against 2 Abstentions 0 Present

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

The TLC has proposed a group taxi-ride stand for 72<sup>nd</sup> -73<sup>rd</sup> Streets &Columbus Avenue.

Community Board 7/Manhattan believes this to be a location that is not conducive to this purpose, including removing parking and loading zones for several merchants on the Avenue.

This location is within close proximity to two major subway lines.

This pilot project is scheduled to last a year.

There are several more worthy places in the CD7 district that lend themselves to a taxi-sharing concept.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan **opposes** the TLC's proposal for a shared taxi stand on Columbus Avenue between West 72<sup>nd</sup> -73<sup>rd</sup> Streets. *Committee: 9-1-0-0. Board Members: 2-0-0-0. Public: 3-1-0-0.* 

**Date: March 2, 2010** 

Committee of Origin: Transportation Re: Columbus Avenue Greenmarket.

Full Board Vote: 27 In favor 0 Against 0 Abstentions 0 Present

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan **approves** application to the Department of Parks & Recreation to operate a greenmarket on the east side of Columbus Avenue between 77<sup>th</sup> and 80<sup>th</sup> Streets on Sundays from 8AM to 6PM,

Committee: 10-0-0-0. Board Members: 2-0-0-0. Public: 1-1-0-0.

**Date: March 2, 2010** 

Committee of Origin: Transportation Re: 115 West 85<sup>th</sup> Street (Central Park West.)

Full Board Vote: 28 In favor 0 Against 0 Abstentions 0 Present

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan approves a new petition by Central Park Properties, LLC to the Department of Transportation to construct, maintain, and use a proposed fenced in planted area with trash enclosure.

Committee: 10-0-0-0. Board Members: 2-0-0-0.

**Date: March 2, 2010** 

Re: Proposal to Relocate Trial to an Alternative Location. Full Board Vote: 23 In favor 8 Against 1 Abstentions 0 Present

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

The New York Police Department (NYPD) recently announced that they estimate the trial of Khalid Sheikh Mohammed to cost over \$200 million a year in security for what is likely to be a multi-year trial, and

The Federal Courthouse is situated in the middle of what is the fourth largest commercial business district in the country and a dense residential neighborhood, and

The lower Manhattan community has already endured the arduous and painful task of rebuilding its neighborhood in the aftermath of September 11th as well as environmental hazards, street closures, the shuttering of businesses and security checkpoints, and

Holding the trial downtown would force the community to endure additional psychological and financial hardship, and

The trials are likely to require extremely burdensome security measures for months and even years, to expose Lower Manhattan to greater than usual terror threats, and to have a severe adverse effect on the ability of Lower Manhattan residents, workers, and local business people to live and conduct business in a secure community with adequate quality of life, and

The magnitude of the estimated costs of security to protect the surrounding neighborhood around the federal courthouse suggests that the site in and of itself may not safe, and

It is inefficient to propose spending close to hundreds of millions of dollars on a trial in the midst of an economic recession, particularly given that the September 11th attacks already wreaked over \$83 billion a year in damage on New York City according to estimates by the New York City Partnership, and

In an article published January 20th, 2010, the New York Daily News cited a speech by NYPD Commissioner Raymond Kelly, which indicated that security will include "a double-layer of security...[with] a 'soft' perimeter...established from Bowery to Broadway, and from Franklin St. to Canal St...manned by cops on foot, horseback, and patrol cars [and a] harder perimeter, which will include bomb squad cops and police snipers...set up in the blocks adjacent to the 500 Pearl St. courthouse" as well as "2,000 barriers and checkpoints that will restrict pedestrians and traffic...[and] unannounced vehicle stops", and

There exist numerous possible alternatives for a federal criminal trial within the Southern District of New York, which should be studied to determine if they are feasible, including but not limited to Governors Island, Stewart Air National Guard Base in Newburgh, the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, and the Bureau of Prisons jail complex at FCI Otisville, and

A feasibility study of the sites should be conducted to examine safety, security, cost, and impact on the community of these and any other sites proposed, now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan urges the Office of Attorney General Eric Holder, the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York, the U.S. Federal Marshals, and NYPD to conduct an immediate assessment of appropriate alternatives within the Southern judicial district including but not limited to Governors Island, Stewart Air National Guard Base in Newburgh, the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, and the Federal jail complex at FCI Otisville, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7 requests a meeting between the Community Board 1 Chair, Julie Menin, and a representative from the Office of Attorney General Eric Holder to discuss this issue.