

HENRIETTA LYLE Chairperson

ANDREW LASSALLE District Manager

## CITY OF NEW YORK

MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD 10

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## STATEMENT FROM MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD 10 ON ATLAH MISSIONARY CHURCH'S DEROGATORY SIGNAGE 4/1/15

Harlem is known worldwide as a vibrant and diverse community. Community Board 10 is proud of this mosaic of cultures and celebrates that people of different races, ethnicities, religions, national origins, abilities and sexual orientations have chosen to make Harlem their home. In particular, CB 10 acknowledges that members of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBTQ) community have chosen to reside in Harlem in large numbers.

All members of the Harlem community have the right to reside, work, and share leisurely pursuits free from any form of hatred and discrimination. Community Board 10 is committed to the principle of the universality of human rights and affirms that cultural, traditional or religious values cannot be invoked to justify any form of discrimination, including discrimination against LGBT persons.

Thus, Community Board 10 emphatically denounces ATLAH World Missionary Church for its display of homophobic messages that incite hate, discrimination and violence against the LGBT community. These messages do not reflect the values of the Harlem community and of the diverse people this Board is honored to represent.

Community Board 10 condemns these messages in the strongest terms possible and demands that they be taken down immediately.

Sincerely,

Henrietta Lyle Chairperson, Manhattan CB 10 Manny Rivera Chair of LGBTQ Task Force