

CITY OF NEW YORK

MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD 10 215 West 125th Street, 4th Floor New York, NY 10027 T: 212-749-3105 F: 212-662-4215

June, 17 2021

Marie Warsh Historian Central Park Conservancy 14 East 60th Street New York, NY 10022

Re: Central Park Conservancy Request to Extend Permit For Temporary Seneca Village Exhibit

Dear Mrs. Walsh:

Manhattan Community Board 10 is writing this letter in support of the request by Central Park Conservancy (CPC) to extend the permit for the Temporary Seneca Village Exhibit.

CPC advises that staffing issues which started even prior to the pandemic, have developed a delay in planning for the permanent commemoration of Seneca Village. CPC is still engaged in research, creating online resources, promoting the signs, and developing public programs, such as the Juneteenth programs that will be taking place the weekend of June 19th and 20th. CPC would like to extend the permit on the temporary exhibit of interpretative signs, which expires in October 2021. The signs have been key towards the goal of ensuring that more people know about Seneca Village and its history.

Manhattan Community Board 10 has been working with the Central Park Conservancy on plans to educate the public about Seneca Village and to develop a permanent commemoration. The temporary exhibit of interpretative signs has been a vital part of this effort, enabling many people to learn more about Seneca Village and its relationship to Central Park. Restrictions and the overall chaos wrought by the pandemic limited the number of people who could access the signs, for these reasons the duration of the exhibition should be extended.

It is the recommendation of Manhattan Community Board 10 that the permit extension be granted to Central Park Conservancy to sustain the temporary Seneca Village commemoration as the formulation of the design of the permanent exhibit is processed and to compensate for the loss of public access as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Sincerely,

Cicely Harris Chairperson

Manhattan Community Board 10

Karen Horry

Chair

Manhattan Community Board 10 Parks and Recreation Committee