



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

CICELY HARRIS
Chairperson

ANDREW LASSALLE
District Manager

July 24, 2017

To the PAWR Project Office:

Manhattan Community Board 10 strongly supports the application by Rutgers University, Columbia University and New York University, along with the City of New York and Silicon Harlem, for FY 2018-2022 funding for the proposed Platforms for Advanced Wireless Research (“PAWR”), with the conditions as described below. The multi-university proposal to develop, deploy, and operate “COSMOS” (Cloud-enhanced Open Software-defined Mobile-wireless Testbed for City-Scaled Deployment) in the Upper Manhattan community will enable Harlem to become a leader in wireless innovation while also providing the National Science Foundation a unique testbed for deploying advanced broadband and other emerging technologies in a wholly diverse and dense urban community.

These aforementioned conditions are as follows:

- Harlem residents, and local upper-Manhattan entrepreneurs, scholars, and researchers will have priority access and consideration during the research, testing, and product development phase after the RFP is completed.
- Community Board 10 will be informed of any and all community impact assessments within 15 days of the COSMOS project being notified, with project updates/ talking points presented as the program rolls out.
- Upper Manhattan Community Boards will be advised of any potential negative or adverse effects, including but not limited to effects on human health, environment and wildlife, and aesthetic conditions that the PAWR testbed activity may cause.
- Upper Manhattan Community Boards will receive written updates regarding the project’s developments every three months, with a representative made available to meet with the affected Community Boards.
- The PAWR test-site community will receive 10% of the gross income realized by the funding applicants, the City of New York, and/or Silicon Harlem as result of products developed out of the funded research and development.
- Community Board 10 reserves the right to withdraw its support if the above conditions are not met or if there are conflicts that develop between the best interests of the Community Board 10 district and the COSMOS project.

The PAWR program provides cities with an opportunity to establish a research environment that fundamentally encourages the development and testing of next generation wireless technology. The establishment of a PAWR platform would enable experimental exploration of robust new wireless devices, communication techniques, networks, systems, and services. The recipient cities or communities of PAWR funding will undoubtedly become leaders in wireless innovation and entrepreneurship as new technologies and infrastructures are developed, deployed, and marketed.

The COSMOS project requires an unparalleled partnership between academic institutions and their surrounding urban community. Establishing a PAWR testbed in Upper Manhattan/Harlem will help to ensure that the next generation of wireless technology is grounded in the needs and interests of one of the World's most diverse, dense, and culturally rich communities.

Additionally, a PAWR platform would bridge the "digital divide" that often plagues low-income communities and communities of color. The PAWR funding would create an environment that encourages digital innovation, entrepreneurship and community engagement in new technologies. There is no community more deserving of this opportunity than Harlem.

Based on all of the foregoing, Community Board 10 strongly recommends that the COSMOS funding application be approved.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cicely Harris". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being more prominent.

Cicely Harris
Board Chairperson
Manhattan Community Board 10