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March 2, 2022

Susan Donoghue
Commissioner
New York City Department of Parks & Recreation
830 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10065

Re: Letter of Support to Maintain 2022 Start Date for the Hansborough Recreation Center And Pool Renovations

Dear Commissioner Donoghue:

Manhattan Community Board 10 is writing this letter to strongly recommend that the 2022 reconstruction date for the Hansborough Recreation Center and pool to be maintained.

The Center is located at 34 West 134th Street. NYC Parks presented revised design plans to our Parks and Recreation Committee in June of 2021. The \$22.5 million capital project includes:

- new pool in existing pool opening to permit competitive swimming
- new pool filtration equipment
- repair exterior of pool building
- new skylight
- new boilers for the Recreation Center
- replacement of the building elevator

The new plan completion was targeted for 2024. The delay would take completion to 2025. The Community Board remains concerned about the the continued lack of access to a premiere community facility which has been unavailable since 2019. The Community Board unanimously passed a full Board resolution in support of the renovation on October 5th, 2018.

We submitted a letter of request in June 2021 recommending that the project be expedited and, based upon a feasibility study, be implemented in phased work which could accommodate the construction-free areas of the center to remain open to the public. The proposed renovations will upgrade the fitness and recreational amenities, enhance the environmental qualities of the site and facilitate increased recreational use of the site.

The Center, located at 34 West 134th Street is home to the renowned Harlem Honeys and Bears; a seniors' synchronized swimming group who have been featured on National Geographic, CNN and MSN, just to name a few. They are truly a Harlem treasure and are currently being deprived of the Hansborough facility which they have utilized since 1979.

Manhattan Community Board 10 was recently advised by NYC Parks that the project construction date, which has already been subjected to delays due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, has now been deferred to 2023.

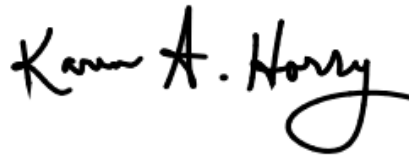
The Hansborough pool has been closed since May 12th, 2019. Again, it is the strong recommendation of Manhattan CB10 that the 2022 start date for the revised and expanded plans be maintained.

On March 2, 2022 the General Board had quorum and voted by common consent, 39 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions and 0 recusals to support to maintain the 2022 start date for the Hansborough Recreation Center and pool renovations.

Sincerely,



Cicely Harris
Chairperson
Manhattan Community Board 10



Karen Horry
Chair
Parks and Recreation Committee
Manhattan Community Board 10

Via Email:

Hon. Mark Levine, Manhattan Borough President, City of New York
William T. Castro, Manhattan Borough Commissioner, NYC Department of Parks & Recreation
Steve Simon, Chief of Staff Manhattan Borough Commissioner NYC Department of Parks and Recreation