

District Manager

## CITY OF NEW YORK

## MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD 10

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January 4, 2012

Resolution:

## SUPPORT FOR MANHATTAN BOROUGH BOARD RESOLUTION REGARDING NYPD'S STOP AND FRISK PROGRAM

**WHEREAS**, the New York City Police Department is on pace to execute 700,000 stops in 2011, more than double the number of stops that occurred in 2003; and

WHEREAS, 85% of those stopped last year were Black and Latino; and

WHEREAS, only 7% of stops result in arrest, a figure consistent across racial groups; and

WHEREAS, no gun is found in 99.8% of stops; and

**WHEREAS**, many of these stops are not based on reasonable suspicion that a crime has or is taking place, but instead rely on dubious grounds such as "furtive movement", which was recently banned as a basis for stops in Philadelphia; and

**WHEREAS**, one out of seven arrests in New York City are for low-level marijuana possession, costing the City \$75 million a year in police and court costs; and

**WHEREAS**, many youth are charged with these low-level offenses, which do not carry jail time, but can compromise their chances at securing financial aid, accessing public housing, obtaining gainful employment, and enlisting in the military; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2000, the United States Civil Rights Commission concluded that the NYPD stop and frisk program amounted to racial profiling; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York found, in August 2011, that serious questions remain about racial disparities in current stop and frisk practices; about the constitutionality of thousands of stops that do not result in arrest; and about the role quotas may play in driving the four-fold increase in stops over the last decade; and

**WHEREAS**, the current stop and frisk practice is creating a deep layer of distrust between police and the city's Black and Latino neighborhoods that makes solving crime harder, not easier;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that that the NYPD must take steps to reform stop and frisk immediately—by increasing the accountability for precinct commanders through CompStat; providing new training at the Policy Academy to make stops more constitutional and less confrontational; and by exploring proven alternatives to stop and frisk, like the "call-in" approach pioneered by John Jay Professor David Kennedy, which has reduced violent crime by up to 60% in cities such as Boston, Chicago, and Los Angeles; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the United States Department of Justice should launch an investigation into how stop and frisk is used in New York to determine whether racial profiling remains a problem and, if so, whether the Department of Justice should appoint a special monitor; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that legislation pending before the State Legislature should be passed making possessing small amounts of marijuana in "public view" a violation, rather than a misdemeanor.

At a regularly General Board Meeting on January 4, 2012, Manhattan Community Board 10 voted to support this resolution by a vote of 28 in favor, 5 opposed, and no abstentions.