



Community Board 12 - Manhattan Washington Heights & Inwood

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Eleazar Bueno, Chairperson
Ebenezer Smith, District Manager

January 27, 2022

Hon. Gabrielle Fialkoff
Commissioner of NYC Department of Parks & Recreation
830 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10065

Re: Resolution calling on Federal Infrastructure Funding & Amtrak Easement for the "Lighthouse Link" Project in Ft. Washington Park.

Dear Commissioner Silver:

At the General Meeting on Tuesday, January 25, 2022, Community Board 12, Manhattan, passed the following resolution with a vote of 40 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention, 1 not voting, urging the New York City Department of Parks & Recreation and the Mayor's Office of Intergovernmental Affairs (MOIGA) to prioritize this project and to request federal funding to complete it; calling on our federal representatives, Congressman Adriano Espaillat and Senators Chuck Schumer & Kirsten Gillibrand, to allocate sufficient funds to complete this vital infrastructure improvement; and calling on Amtrak to grant an easement to facilitate the construction of this 7-block path.

Whereas: The "Lighthouse Link," a proposed path connecting the 3/4-mile way along the Hudson River south from Dyckman St. to the River-adjacent southbound direction from the Little Red Lighthouse, has been a CB12M Capital Budget priority for years but has never been funded due to its expense, estimated to be in the tens of millions of dollars; and

Whereas: This infrastructure improvement would provide additional recreational passage through our parks as well as providing a vital thoroughfare for those who commute further south within Manhattan by bicycle; and

Whereas: This 7-block path goes through Amtrak's property and would necessitate an easement; and

Whereas: The recent passage of a federal infrastructure bill has made available a source of funding heretofore unavailable to New York City & New York State for such infrastructure improvement, and well beyond what the City and State otherwise would be able to afford; and

Whereas: The process for requesting federal infrastructure funding includes advocacy by the local government to the federal government to prioritize such projects; and

Whereas: New York City regulation prohibits the initiation of any project until it is fully funded, and continued delays in funding only increase the cost of this already expensive project; now, therefore, be it

Resolved: Community Board 12, Manhattan urges the New York City Department of Parks & Recreation and the Mayor's Office of Intergovernmental Affairs (MOIGA) to prioritize this project and to request federal funding to complete it; and be it further.

Hon. Gabrielle Fialkoff

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Resolved: Community Board 12, Manhattan calls on our federal representatives, Congressman Adriano Espaillat and Senators Chuck Schumer & Kirsten Gillibrand, to allocate sufficient funds to complete this vital infrastructure improvement; and be it further.

Resolved: Community Board 12, Manhattan calls on Amtrak to grant an easement to facilitate the construction of this 7-block path.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Eleazar Bueno', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Eleazar Bueno
Chairperson

cc: Hon. William Castro, Borough Commissioner NYC Parks
Hon. Eric Adams, Mayor
Hon. Mark Levine, Manhattan Borough President
Hon. Jumaane Williams, Public Advocate
Hon. Brad Lander, Comptroller
Hon. Adriano Espaillat, Congressman
Hon. Robert Jackson, State Senator
Hon. Cordell Cleare, State Senator
Hon. Al Taylor, Assembly Member
Hon. Carmen De La Rosa, Council Member
Hon. Shaun Abreu, Council Member
Ms. Jennifer Hoppa, Parks Administrator