



Community Board 12M

Washington Heights & Inwood

711 West 168th Street — New York, NY 10032

Phone (212) 568-8500 Fax (212) 740-8197

Email: CB12M@Juno.com

October 29, 2003

Honorable Iris Weinshall
Commissioner
NYC Department of Transportation
40 Worth Street
New York, NY 10013


Dear Commissioner Weinshall:

The following resolution was unanimously passed by Community Board 12, Manhattan at it's General Meeting, Tuesday, October 28, 2003:

- Whereas:** The Armory Foundation has requested the installation of road signs within our community to promote the National Track & Field Hall of Fame, due to open on January 24, 2004, and
- Whereas:** The Armory has been part of the Washington Heights community since 1912 and has hosted countless track and field competitions since 1914, and
- Whereas:** Since 1993, when The Armory was rededicated, there have been more than one million athletes from all over the nation as well as foreign countries participating in this sport, and
- Whereas:** The positive economic impact on Washington Heights has been significant, due to the participation of the high school and college teams at The Armory. In fact, in 2003, over 300,000 athletes, coaches, parents and fans visited The Armory improving the overall economic health of neighborhood businesses, and
- Whereas:** This National Track & Field Hall of Fame will be an important addition to the Washington Heights community, as it is the only sports Hall of Fame in New York City, adding to the cultural attractions that draw visitors to Upper Manhattan, and
- Therefore Be It Resolved:** That Community Board 12 Manhattan supports this request to install several road signs on the Westside Highway and Riverside Drive.

We would appreciate your favorable consideration of this resolution and look forward to your response at your earliest possible convenience. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Zead Ramadan', written over a horizontal line.

Zead Ramadan
Chair

cc: Hon. C. Virginia Fields, Manhattan Borough President
Hon. Adriano Espaillat, Assemblyman, District 72
Hon. Herman D. Farrell, Jr., Assemblyman, District 71
Hon. Robert Jackson, Councilmember, District 7
Hon. Miguel Martinez, Councilmember, District 10
Margaret Forgione, Manhattan Borough Commissioner – Dept. of Transportation
Ann Marie Turner, Director – Dept. of Transportation, Division of Highway Design
Dr. Norbert Sander, Executive Director – The Armory Foundation



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October 29, 2003

Honorable James Chin, Chair
Board of Standards & Appeals
40 Rector Street, 9th Floor
New York, NY 10006-1705

RE: BSA Calendar No.: 243-03-BZ
2420 Amsterdam Avenue, New York, NY

Dear Chairman Chin:

The following resolution was passed by a majority vote by Community Board 12, Manhattan at it's General Meeting on Tuesday, October 28, 2003:

Whereas: On July 13, 2003 an application was filed with the Board of Standards and Appeals ("BSA") under calendar number 243-03-BZ seeking to extend the term of an existing variance which expired October 17, 1998 for the Shell Gas Station located at 2420 Amsterdam Avenue, New York, NY, Block 2152, Lots 77 & 83 (the "Applicant") as well as to authorize conversion of a portion of the existing premises to a retail convenience store, and

Whereas: On September 10, 2003 the Land Use Committee of Community Board 12-Manhattan (the "Committee") held a Public Hearing (the "Public Hearing") at Belfer Hall, Yeshiva University to review the application before BSA and to obtain public comments, and

Whereas: Subsequent to the Public Hearing additional information and clarification pertaining to the application was provided to the Committee on behalf the Applicant, and

Whereas: The facility has been continuously occupied as a gas station and related uses since 1936 when BSA first granted a variance to permit such use, and

Whereas: Based on the May 4, 1989 approval provided by Community Board 12-Manhattan, on January 16, 1990 BSA granted the Applicant a 10-year extension to the term of the existing variance from, October 17, 1988 to October 17, 1998,

Therefore Be

It Resolved: That Community Board 12-Manhattan recommends the approval of the application under Calendar Number 243-03-BZ to extend the term of the existing variance for a term of 10-years, from October 17, 1998 to October 17, 2008, and

Be It Further

Resolved: That Community Board 12-Manhattan recommends granting the Applicant the authorization sought to convert or otherwise legalize the conversion of a portion of the existing premises to a convenience retail store, and

Be It Further

Resolved: That the approvals and recommendations provided herewith are conditioned upon the Applicant 1) implementing traffic calming measures at the site, 2) using its best efforts to hire from the local community to fill any new jobs at the gas station or the convenience store, and 3) using its best efforts towards having a majority of the employees of the gas station and the convenience store be residents of the local community, and

Be It Further

Resolved: That the condition that applied to BSA's January 1990 approval, whereby parking of vehicles on the sidewalk or in such manner as to obstruct pedestrian or vehicular traffic is prohibited, shall remain in effect.

We would appreciate a response regarding the above resolution at your earliest convenience. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,



Zead Ramadan, Chairman
Community Board 12, Manhattan

cc: Hon. Michael Bloomberg, Mayor
Hon C. Virginia Fields, Manhattan Borough President
Hon. William Thompson, N.Y.C. Comptroller
Hon. Charles Rangel, Congressman, District 15
Hon. Eric Schneiderman, State Senator, District 31
Hon. David A. Paterson, State Senator, District 29
Hon. Adriano Espaillat, Assemblyman, District 72
Hon. Herman D. Farrell, Assemblyman, District 71
Hon. Gifford Miller, Speaker City Council District 5
Hon. Robert Jackson, Councilman, District 7
Hon. Miguel Martinez, Councilman, District 10
Edwin Marshall, Dept. of City Planning
Janice Calahane, Sheldon Lobel, PC



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October 29, 2003

Mr. Peter S. Kalikow
Chair
Metropolitan Transportation Authority
347 Madison Ave.
New York, NY 10017

Mr. Lawrence G. Reuter
President
MTA New York City Transit
370 Jay Street, Rm. 1300
Brooklyn, New York 11201

Dear Mr. Kalikow and Mr. Reuter:

The following resolution was passed unanimously by Community Board 12-Manhattan at its General Meeting on Tuesday, October 28, 2003:

Whereas: The preliminary FY 2004 budget for the MTA NYC Transit system proposes to cut 22 of the 31 elevator positions in five subway stations in Washington Heights; and

Whereas: The five stations involved are the W. 168th St. IND/IRT station, the IND stations at W. 181st Street and W. 190th Street, and the IRT stations at W. 181st Street and W. 191st Street; and

Whereas: The MTA in the past has promised our community, in response to the concerns of local residents, that these elevators would remain manually operated; and

Whereas: The loss of these 22 elevator positions would be a disaster for this community, creating seriously unsafe conditions in these stations as well as long delays for people on their way to and from work, and adversely affecting the quality of life for more than 100,000 people;

Therefore Be It Resolved: That Community Board 12-Manhattan calls upon the MTA to rescind the proposed cut in the MTA budget of 22 elevator positions and to reaffirm its commitment to continue staffing the elevators with full-time operators for the foreseeable future; and

Be It Further Resolved: That Community Board 12-Manhattan insists that the MTA not reduce elevator service at these five stations in any form whatsoever and that the number of operators in fact be increased to handle the heavy passenger traffic in these stations.

We would appreciate your favorable consideration of this resolution and look forward to your response at your earliest possible convenience. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Zead Ramadan
Chair

c: Hon. George Pataki, Governor
Hon. Michael Bloomberg, Mayor
Hon. William Thompson, Comptroller
Hon. Betsy Gotbaum, Public Advocate
Hon. C. Virginia Fields, Manhattan Borough President
Hon. Charles B. Rangel, Congressman, District 15
Hon. Eric Schneiderman, District 31
Hon. Adriano Espaillat, Assemblyman, District 72
Hon. Herman D. Farrell, Jr., Assemblyman, District 71
Hon. Robert Jackson, Councilmember, District 7
Hon. Miguel Martinez, Councilmember, District 10
Hon. John Liu, Chair, Council Committee on Transportation
Hon. Andrew B. Albert, MTA Board Member
Hon. Kenneth A. Caruso, MTA Board Member
Hon. Susan L. Kupferman, MTA Board Member
Hon. Mark D. Lebow, MTA Board Member
Hon. Mark Page, MTA Board Member



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October 29, 2003

Hon. Gifford Miller
Speaker
City Council
City Hall
New York, NY 10007

Dear Speaker Miller:

The following resolution was unanimously passed by Community Board 12, Manhattan at our General Meeting on October 28, 2003:

- Whereas: The quality of life in Washington Heights-Inwood suffers because of the persistent problem of overflowing litter baskets throughout our community; and
- Whereas: The improper use of these baskets by both residents and businesses is a significant factor contributing to this problem; and
- Whereas: It is vital that the Department of Sanitation empty these baskets on a daily basis, especially on commercial streets with heavy pedestrian traffic, to minimize the health and environmental problems associated with garbage accumulated in the baskets; and
- Whereas: Intro. 528, which is pending in the City Council, would require the Department of Sanitation to provide daily collection service, excluding Sundays, from street litter baskets in all districts in the city; and
- Whereas: Intro. 79, which is also pending in the Council, would increase the fines for repeat violators of the law prohibiting the placement of household or commercial refuse or liquid wastes in the open mesh litter baskets on the city's streets; therefore
- Be It
Resolved: That Community Board 12 – Manhattan urges the City Council to pass Intros. 79 and 528 at its earliest possible opportunity and urges the Mayor then to sign these bills into law; and
- Be It Further
Resolved: That the Department of Sanitation undertake a full-fledged education and outreach campaign, with multi-lingual information materials, prior to Intro. 79 taking effect.

We would appreciate your response regarding this resolution at your earliest convenience. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Zead Ramadan
Chairman

cc: Hon. Michael R. Bloomberg, Mayor, New York City
Hon. William Thompson, N.Y.C. Comptroller
Hon. C. Virginia Fields, Manhattan Borough President
Hon. Betsy Gotbaum, N.Y.C. Public Advocate
Hon. Charles Rangel, Congressman, District 15
Hon. Eric Schneiderman, State Senator, District 31
Hon. David A. Paterson, State Senator, District 30
Hon. Adriano Espaillat, Assemblyman, District 72
Hon. Herman D. Farrell Jr., Assemblyman, District 71
Hon. Robert Jackson, Councilmember, District 7
Hon. Miguel Martinez, Councilmember, District 10
Hon. John Doherty, Commissioner, NYC Dept of Sanitation
Carmen Cognetta, Council on Solid Waste to Sanitation