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COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 2, MANHATTAN

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April 23, 2021

Ed Pincar Jr.
Manhattan Borough Commissioner
NYC Department of Transportation
59 Maiden Lane
New York, NY 10038

Dear Commissioner Pincar:

At its Full Board meeting April 22, 2021, Community Board #2, adopted the following resolution:

Resolution requesting advance notice of plans to install CitiBike stations in CB2, including identification of proposed locations, for community study before DOT presents to the Board and receives feedback.

Whereas in December 2020 and January, February and March 2021, residents and other community members throughout Community Board 2 Manhattan (CB2) were both surprised and distressed to find that CitiBike stations had been installed on their blocks without receiving any advance opportunity to give input on these actions; and

Whereas although the NYC Dept. of Transportation (DOT) presented 10 CitiBike station locations selected for implementation in CB2 to the Board's Traffic and Transportation Committee in November 2020, no preliminary list of locations was issued prior to the meeting, preventing advance dissemination of this essential information that would allow all those in the CB2 community most knowledgeable about these sites and most affected by the changes to be aware of these planned actions and have a chance to comment about them; and

Whereas those who live and work in the community can provide important input on the suitability of specific locations for CitiBike stations and offer useful details, such as the need for disabled access or the existence of garbage pickup at some locations or identification of places where the noise from CitiBike takeout and return activity and maintenance might disturb ground floor living situations, as well as give suggestions for alternative locations; and

Whereas DOT asserts that the CitiBike outreach program has always been the same, however, in the past DOT has sent CB2 advance information *identifying* Citibike station siting possibilities at *individual* locations which gives the people at those specific sites early notice, so that they can weigh in at the beginning about suitability (as opposed to CB2 receiving a notice that a list of locations will be presented with no advance identification of the locations to be on that list); and

Whereas CB2 constituents have observed that numerous CitiBike stations have been placed in close proximity to each other in certain areas, e.g., on Washington and Greenwich Sts. from Bank to Morton Sts. there are 7

stations in 8 blocks, and they ask for the rationale for these locations and others, so they can understand DOT's logic and give constructive feedback; and

Whereas several CitiBike users, especially from the Village's Far West side, pointed out that their problem is not a need for more CitiBike stations, but the absence of proper rebalancing at existing stations leading to a lack of open docks to which to return the bikes. This results in people returning from work and other places having to search for a CitiBike station that isn't full, frequently having to go a long distance, often in the dark and/or in bad weather, and getting home much later than should occur; and

Whereas valet parking can be used to keep docks open for returning bikes. At Duarte Sq.'s CitiBike station, for example, one or two valet parkers keep five or six of the docks there free; when people take more bikes out, these can be replaced with bikes that are kept aside, but some spots are always kept open for returning bikes; and

Whereas CitiBike collects utilization data and publishes monthly reports for DOT;

Therefore, be it resolved that CB2 strongly urges DOT to provide advance notice before presenting to the Board of any plan to install CitiBike stations, whether at one individual location or at several different locations, that identifies each location being considered, along with the length of each station, how many bikes (broken down into types of bikes) each will accommodate, and whether each is in the roadbed, sidewalk or other; and

Be it further resolved that CB2 also urges that this advance notice additionally include the rationale for the proposed locations as well as utilization data for these areas based on the CitiBike monthly report; and

Be it further resolved that CB2 asks that this advance notice, including all the requested information, be made available in ample time for the community to study it and then give useful feedback when it's presented to the Board (at least 2-3 weeks for prior review + sufficient time after DOT receives feedback for adjustments and re-locations before installation); and

Be it finally resolved that CB2 greatly favors installing valet parking in its CitiBike installation areas and requests that valet services be provided in certain high-volume locations in those areas, in consultation with community users.

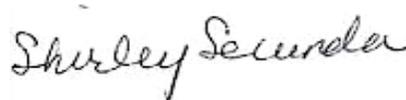
Vote: Unanimous, with 46 Board Members in favor

Please advise us of any decision or action taken in response to this resolution.

Sincerely,



Jeannine Kiely, Chair
Community Board #2, Manhattan



Shirley Secunda, Chair
Traffic & Transportation Committee
Community Board #2, Manhattan

JK/EM

c: Hon. Jerrold Nadler, Congressman
Hon. Carolyn Maloney, Congresswoman
Hon. Nydia Velazquez, Congresswoman
Hon. Brian Kavanagh, NY State Senator
Hon. Brad Hoylman, NY State Senator
Hon. Deborah J. Glick, NY Assembly Member
Hon. Yuh-Lin Niou, NY Assembly Member

Hon. Gale Brewer, Manhattan Borough President
Hon. Corey Johnson, Speaker, NYC City Council
Hon. Margaret Chin, Council Member
Hon. Carlina Rivera, Council Member