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Susan Kent, *First Vice Chair*
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Bob Gormley, *District Manager*

Antony Wong, *Treasurer*
Eugene Yoo, *Secretary*
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COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 2, MANHATTAN
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October 23, 2021

Stefan Grybauskas, Director
CECM/Street Activity Permit Office
100 Gold Street, 2nd Floor
New York, NY 10038

Dear Mr. Grybauskas:

At its Full Board meeting on October 22, 2021, Community Board #2, Manhattan (CB2, Man.) adopted the following resolution:

> **Sunday, October 24, 2021— Protect Chinatown Health Fair 2021 – Centre St. between Grand St. and Howard St. (Applicant: The Peter Kwong Immigrant Workers Learning Center) [full street closure]**

Whereas, the applicant wishes to host a health fair to provide information for those suffering with pandemic and work-related health issues, co-presented by the Coalition to Protect Chinatown and the Lower East Side, The Peter Kwong Immigrant Workers Learning Center, and the National Mobilization Against Sweatshops; and

Whereas, the applicant stated that the event will offer information on occupational therapy services that are available to vulnerable populations, health screenings, and vaccine information; and

Whereas, the event and all services offered will be free and available to all and the applicant has applied for an amplified sound permit from the local NYPD precinct for speeches and a poetry reading, and the amplified sound will only be used for short periods; and

Whereas, the applicant will have six tables and an art display of photographs by Corky Lee depicting service workers over the decades and will offer services to the protesters outside the Museum of Chinese in America (MOCA) who gather on this block in protest daily; and

Whereas, the event will begin set-up at 9 AM, the event will begin at 12 noon and breakdown will be complete by 7 PM; and

Whereas, concerns were raised about the closure of a main northbound street on a busy fall weekend day but the applicant stated that the street closure is necessary to protect the health and safety of all participants at the event who will be seeking assistance for health issues related to their work; and

Whereas, two members of the Broadway Residents Coalition appeared in support of the application for the full closure because of the benefits this event will provide to workers and the community; and

Whereas, the committee discussed the possibility of only using the curb lane on Centre Street; or, alternatively, using the curb lane on Howard Street, between Centre and Lafayette Streets; or, alternatively, a full street closure on Howard Street, between Centre and Lafayette Streets, should there be traffic concerns, and the applicant stated that the Centre Street full-street closure was ideal for their event; now

Therefore Be It Resolved that CB2 Manhattan recommends **approval** of Protect Chinatown Health Fair 2021 – Centre St. between Grand St. and Howard St. [Full Street Closure] (Applicant: The Peter Kwong Immigrant Workers Learning Center) on October 24, 2021 **provided that** the application conforms with all applicable laws, rules, and regulations—including any and all COVID related orders and/or restrictions—and clearance requirements.

Vote: Passed unanimously with 42 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

Joseph Gallagher. Chair
Quality of Life Committee
Community Board 2, Manhattan

JK/jt

c: Hon. Jerrold Nadler, U.S. Representative
Hon. Nydia Velaźquez, U.S. Representative
Hon. Brad Hoylman, State Senator
Hon. Yuh-Line Niou, Assembly Member
Hon. Gale Brewer, Man. Borough President
Hon. Margaret Chin, City Council Member
Paul J Zangrilli, NYPD 5th Precinct Deputy Inspector

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October 22, 2021

Stefan Grybauskas, Director
CECM/Street Activity Permit Office
100 Gold Street, 2nd Floor
New York, NY 10038

Dear Mr. Grybauskas:

At its Full Board meeting on October 21, 2021, Community Board #2, Manhattan (CB2, Man.) adopted the following resolution:

> **Friday-Monday, October 29-November 2, 2021 – Fall Festival: 1) Little West 12th Street between Ninth Avenue and Washington Street; 2) West 13th Street between Ninth Avenue and Washington Street 3) Gansevoort/13 Gansevoort Pedestrian Plaza (Applicant: Meatpacking District Management Association) [curb lane closure and pedestrian plaza street closure]**

Whereas, the applicant wishes to present a "treats-in-the-streets" event for families on Little West 12th Street, while neighboring businesses host Halloween-themed events in their stores; and

Whereas, the event will include a small performance stage for a drag queen scary story hour, live music, and a dog costume contest and the event will use amplified sound with set-up beginning at 7 AM on October 30, the event will take place from 11 AM -5 PM on October 30, and breakdown will be complete by 8 PM on October 30; and

Whereas, the applicant stated that amplified sound will be monitored throughout the event and the applicant intends to keep the sound only as loud as necessary to hear the performer from the stage; and

Whereas, the event will coincide with an urban infrastructure street-design expo on West 13th Street, which will show different designs of how public spaces could be used when the curb space is open and will include designs for parklets, secure bike storage, and some outdoor dining ideas, in order to allow the public to engage with new street ideas and also to show businesses new ideas for outdoor dining; and

Whereas, this portion of the event will take place on Saturday and Sunday, October 30 and 31 from 11 AM-5 PM, and breakdown will be complete by November 1 at 10 AM; now

Therefore Be It Resolved that CB2 Manhattan recommends **approval** of Fall Festival: 1) Little West 12th Street between Ninth Avenue and Washington Street; 2) West 13th Street between Ninth Avenue and Washington Street 3) Gansevoort/13 Gansevoort Pedestrian Plaza (Applicant: Meatpacking District Management Association) [curb lane closure and pedestrian plaza street closure on October 30, 2021.

Vote: Passed unanimously with 42 Board members in favor and one abstention.

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

Sincerely,

Jeannine Kiely, Chair
Community Board 2, Manhattan

Joseph Gallagher. Chair
Quality of Life Committee
Community Board 2, Manhattan

JK/jt

c: Hon. Jerrold Nadler, U.S. Representative
Hon. Brad Hoylman, State Senator
Hon. Deborah Glick, Assembly Member
Hon. Gale Brewer, Man. Borough President
Hon. Corey Johnson, City Council Speaker

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October 22, 2021

Stefan Grybauskas, Director
CECM/Street Activity Permit Office
100 Gold Street, 2nd Floor
New York, NY 10038

Dear Mr. Grybauskas:

At its Full Board meeting on October 21, 2021, Community Board #2, Manhattan (CB2, Man.) adopted the following resolution:

> **Saturday, October 30, 2021 – Children's Museum of the Arts (CMA) Halloween Family Day: 1) Sixth Avenue between Spring Street and Broome Street, 2) Dominick Street between Varick Street and Sixth Avenue (Applicant: CMA) [full street closure]**

Whereas, this is a family day event to replace the annual fair that CMA usually holds on the street in front of its location, which is currently blocked by neighboring construction, and will include Halloween-themed arts and craft activities, and set-up begins at 8 AM, the event will take place from 11 AM to 4 PM, and breakdown will be complete by 6 PM; and the first hour is reserved for families with elderly attendees, and the applicant is using EventBrite to manage the timing of attendees, so that attendance is dispersed throughout the day; and

Whereas, the event is free and open to all, and CMA is encouraging donations from the community but not charging for access, and is using this event to bring attention to the New Digital Commons—an online platform to bring child-centered arts education to the community; and

Whereas, the applicant stated that they may apply for an amplified sound permit to make speeches, and there will be no food or drink served, and the applicant is using a table and chair rental service; and

Whereas, a neighbor appeared at the meeting and expressed concern that the staging area for the Halloween Parade is in the same location the following day and the applicant stated that they would coordinate to make sure that the staging for the events would not conflict; now

Therefore Be It Resolved that CB2 Manhattan recommends **approval** of Children's Museum of the Arts (CMA) Halloween Family Day: Sixth Avenue between Spring Street and Broome Street (Applicant: CMA) [full street closure] on October 30, 2021.

Vote: Passed unanimously with 42 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

Joseph Gallagher. Chair
Quality of Life Committee
Community Board 2, Manhattan

JK/jt

c: Hon. Jerrold Nadler, U.S. Representative
Hon. Brian Kavanagh, State Senator
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Hon. Deborah Glick, Assembly Member
Hon. Gale Brewer, Man. Borough President
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October 22, 2021

Stefan Grybauskas, Director
CECM/Street Activity Permit Office
100 Gold Street, 2nd Floor
New York, NY 10038

Dear Mr. Grybauskas:

At its Full Board meeting on October 21, 2021, Community Board #2, Manhattan (CB2, Man.) adopted the following resolution:

Tuesday-Sunday, November 2-7, 2021 – Netflix-The Harder They Fall: Gansevoort Pedestrian Plaza (Sponsor: IDEKO) [pedestrian plaza street closure]

Whereas, this event is to coincide with the premiere of the Netflix movie *The Harder They Fall*, which explores how Black people helped to build the American West, and this activation is to build a space that mimics the movie's setting, a small frontier town with a marketplace selling goods made by Black-owned enterprises, a replica train car, a replica saloon, a tintype photo booth, and a performance stage with storytelling; and

Whereas, the activation will be completely within a fenced perimeter that has one entrance and several exit points, and it will be free and open to the public on a "first-come-first-served" basis and the number of people at any one time will be metered in the space, with a capacity for about 150-175 people at one time, and there will be a queue line between the fenced perimeter and stone bollards which line the plaza; and

Whereas, Netflix brand ambassadors will be walking around the event and queue and will give out free branded tote bags and bandanas, and there will be costumed actors walking around the space, and set-up for the event will begin at 5 AM on November 2 and continue on November 3, the event will be open from November 4-7 between 11 AM-6 PM, and breakdown will be complete by 8 PM on November 7; and no work will take place between midnight and 5 AM; and the applicant will limit "loud work" set-up between the hours of 5 AM-7 AM; and

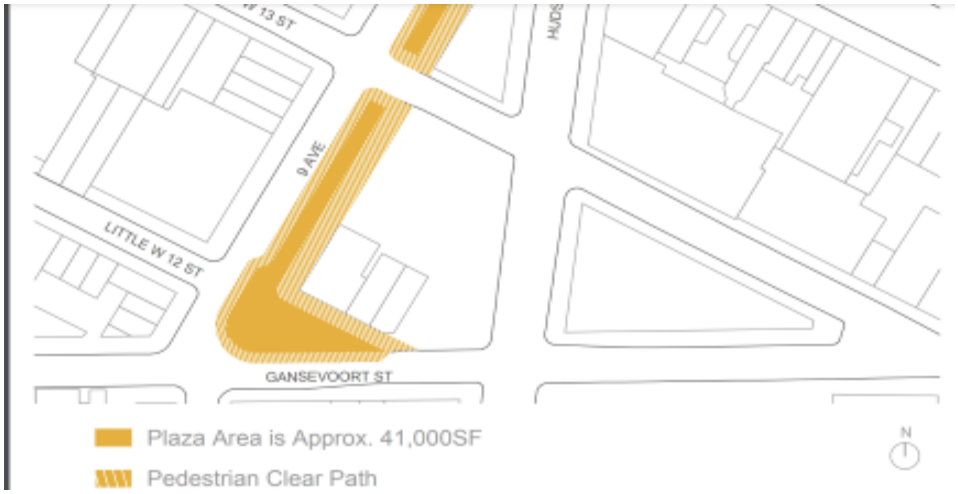
Whereas, the applicant stated the event will use amplified sound and lighting elements but that all light and sound will be directed to within the perimeter of the activation; and

Whereas, the space will be closed to the public after 6 PM, but there will be 5-feet of pedestrian access around the perimeter at all times, and there will be 24-hour security around the space, and the event will be publicized through all Netflix social-media channels, and food and non-alcoholic beverage will be given-away, and the applicant intends to use a portion of the curb lane on Little West 12th and West 13 Streets; and

Whereas, two neighboring residents appeared with concerns about the length (6 days) and size of this event, the amplified sound and use of extra lighting, the amount of people the event will attract, the privatization of public space, the commercialization of a public space, and the lack of connection between the event and the community; and

Whereas, this event and the Disney event in the following resolution will be the third and fourth activations of this plaza by large corporate entities in the last two months: Kate Spade Apple Orchard in September, Miss Dior Pop-Up Store (photo below) in September, Disney and Netflix in October; and

Whereas, the applicant will pay a five-figure fee to the City for the use of the public plaza (picture below) and the Meatpacking BID receives an additional fee from the applicant which is used, at least partially, for the maintenance of this plaza; and



Whereas, some committee members questioned such a blatant commercial use of a public plaza that is usually fully-accessible to all and felt that such well-funded corporate entities are quite able to present these types of experiential events in an empty storefront or event space, as has been done recently by Amazon Prime when they converted an empty storefront in SoHo and transformed it into an operating period-diner for the season premiere of *Marvelous Mrs. Maisel*; and

Whereas, Community District 2 is also home to the pedestrian plaza in Astor Place which has been activated by more community-oriented events like a farmers market, and a performance stage in conjunction with the Public Theatre, and has not seen similar commercial activations; and

Whereas, Community Board 2 will discuss how SAPO can incorporate more stringent guidelines to limit the frequency and intensity of these types of plaza events going forward; and

Whereas, this event has a special value in its celebration of Black history and strong educational component related to the history of the Black contribution to our nation and to the history of our community; now

Therefore Be It Resolved that CB2 Manhattan recommends **approval** of Netflix-The Harder They Fall: Gansevoort Pedestrian Plaza (Sponsor: IDEKO) [pedestrian plaza street closure] from November 2-7, 2021.

Vote: Passed unanimously with 39 Board members in favor, two in opposition (S. Aaron, W. Kawadler), and two abstentions (J. Jiff, R. Sanz).

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

Sincerely,

Jeannine Kiely, Chair
Community Board 2, Manhattan

Joseph Gallagher. Chair
Quality of Life Committee
Community Board 2, Manhattan

JK/jt

c: Hon. Jerrold Nadler, U.S. Representative
Hon. Brad Hoylman, State Senator
Hon. Deborah Glick, Assembly Member
Hon. Gale Brewer, Man. Borough President
Hon. Corey Johnson, City Council Speaker

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October 22, 2021

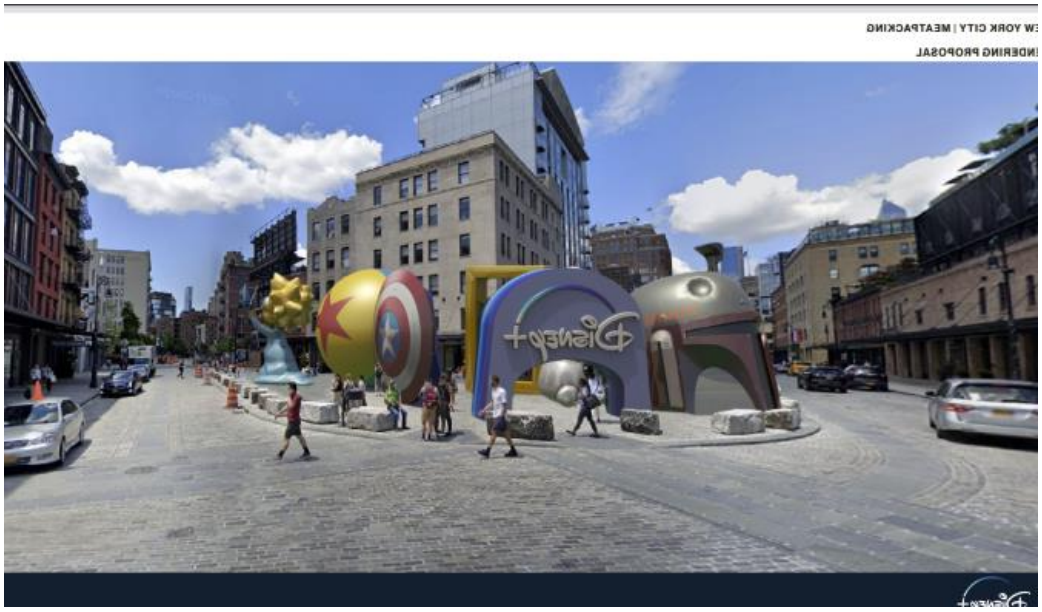
Stefan Grybauskas, Director
CECM/Street Activity Permit Office
100 Gold Street, 2nd Floor
New York, NY 10038

Dear Mr. Grybauskas:

At its Full Board meeting on October 21, 2021, Community Board #2, Manhattan (CB2, Man.) adopted the following resolution:

> **Monday, November 8, 2021 – Disney Inflatable Sculpture Garden Event: Gansevoort Pedestrian Plaza (Sponsor: Alt Terrain LLC) [pedestrian plaza street closure]**

Whereas, The Walk Disney Company, an American multinational entertainment, and media conglomerate, hopes to use the Gansevoort Pedestrian Plaza to display six Disney-branded inflated sculptures (rendering below), ranging in size from 6-25 feet tall, with set-up beginning on November 8 at 7 AM, the event will take place from 10:30 AM-5:30 PM, and breakdown will be complete by 7:30 PM; and



Whereas, the balloons will be weighed down with ballast and will be continually inflated by air fans powered by a 15,000 watt generator (see site plan below), and the applicant stated that they expect attendance between 1,000-4,999 people and the event will be promoted on Disney social media channels, and the applicants expects to use two-three curb spaces on Gansevoort Street; and

Whereas, the applicant stated the site will be monitored by a security team and the applicant is required to obtain a Department of Buildings Structure Permit for all balloons greater than 10 feet in height; and

Whereas, the applicant will pay a five-figure fee to the City for the use of the public plaza and the Meatpacking BID receives an additional fee from the applicant which is used, at least partially, for the maintenance of this plaza; and

Whereas, two neighboring residents appeared with concerns about the size of this event, the continuous use of a generator, the amount of people the event will attract, the privatization of public space, the commercialization of a public space, and the lack of connection between the event and the community; and

Whereas, this event and the Netflix event in the preceding resolution will be the third and fourth activations of this plaza by large corporate entities in the last two months: Kate Spade Apple Orchard in September, Miss Dior Pop-Up Store (photo above) in September, Disney and Netflix in October; and

Whereas, while the committee had less concerns with this event due to its brevity and because the space remains somewhat accessible to pedestrians, some committee members continued to question such a blatant commercial promotional use of a public plaza that is usually fully-accessible to all and felt that such well-funded corporate entities are quite able to present these types of experiential events in an empty storefront or event space, as has been done recently by Amazon Prime when it temporarily converted an empty storefront in SoHo into a fully operating 1950's-period diner for the season premiere of *Marvelous Mrs. Maisel* to the enjoyment of many; and

Whereas, Community District 2 is also home to the pedestrian plaza in Astor Place which has been activated by more community-oriented events like a farmers market, and a performance stage in conjunction with the Public Theatre and has not seen similar commercial activations; now

Therefore Be It Resolved that CB2 Manhattan recommends **denial** of Disney Inflatable Sculpture Garden Event: Gansevoort Pedestrian Plaza (Sponsor: Alt Terrain LLC) [pedestrian plaza street closure] on November 8, 2021.

Vote: Passed with 39 Board members in favor, one in opposition (W. Benesh) and two recusals (M. Osman, E. Yoo)

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

Sincerely,

Jeannine Kiely, Chair
Community Board 2, Manhattan

Joseph Gallagher. Chair
Quality of Life Committee
Community Board 2, Manhattan

JK/jt

c: Hon. Jerrold Nadler, U.S. Representative
Hon. Brad Hoylman, State Senator
Hon. Deborah Glick, Assembly Member
Hon. Gale Brewer, Man. Borough President
Hon. Corey Johnson, City Council Speaker

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October 22, 2021

Stefan Grybauskas, Director
CECM/Street Activity Permit Office
100 Gold Street, 2nd Floor
New York, NY 10038

Dear Mr. Grybauskas:

At its Full Board meeting on October 21, 2021, Community Board #2, Manhattan (CB2, Man.) adopted the following resolution:

Street Activities FYI/Renewals:

- **November 18-December 24, 2021 – South Village Farmer's Market (Applicant: David Gruber): Sixth Avenue between Carmine St. and West Third Street [partial sidewalk closure]**

Whereas, this event has been held continuously for many years and no recent complaints have been received; now

Therefore Be It Resolved that CB2 Manhattan recommends **approval** of the renewal application **provided that** the application conforms with all applicable laws, rules, and regulations—including any and all COVID related orders and/or restrictions—and clearance requirements.

Vote: Passed unanimously with 42 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

Joseph Gallagher. Chair
Quality of Life Committee
Community Board 2, Manhattan

JK/jt

cc: Hon. Jerrold Nadler, U.S. Representative
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