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COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 2, MANHATTAN

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March 28, 2024

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

Dear Commissioner Pincar:

At its Full Board meeting on March 21, 2024, Community Board #2, adopted the following resolution:

Resolution in response to request for a tour bus stop on the east side of West St. from Spring St. to West Houston St.

Whereas Go New York Tours, Inc. has applied for a sightseeing bus stop for pick-ups and drop offs on the east side of West St. from Spring St. to West Houston St., but closer to West Houston St.; and

Whereas the proposed stop will be a new one added to an existing route of 18 stops that begins at Times Sq., goes down 5th Ave. to 8th St. to Broadway, down to Battery Park, then west to West St. where it travels up to 40th St., then back to Times Sq. Existing stops on this route on West St. are located at Chambers St. and at 17th St.; the proposed Spring to West Houston stop is seen as filling in the long stretch between these two stops while providing accessibility to the Hudson River Park area; and

Whereas the tour buses will operate Mon.-Sun. from 9:30 am to 7:00 pm and make one trip every 1/2 hour; and

Whereas the buses, which operate as "hop ons and hop offs," will stop for no more than 1 1/2 to 2 minutes (within New York City's three-minute idling limitation rule); and

Whereas the buses run on diesel fuel, but the company is looking at options to start using electric buses, which they indicate are currently very expensive, a few years from now; and

Whereas there are no tour guides on the buses; all information is pre-recorded (in multiple languages) and narrated through headphones, thus there's no amplified noise; and

Whereas the land use at the proposed location is Commercial, and the stop is in front of the new Google building; and

Whereas the tour bus company has not spoken with anyone at Google nor have they consulted with anyone from the community about the proposed bus stop; and

Whereas the total area for the proposed tour bus stop is approximately three blocks long, but the actual stop will be located in the northernmost part of the block, right off Houston St. Regulations on that east side length of West St. call for No Parking Anytime;

Therefore be it resolved that Community Board No. 2 Manhattan (CB2) has no objection to adding the requested sightseeing bus stop for pick-ups and drop offs on the east side of West St. from Spring St. to West Houston St.; and

Be it further resolved that CB2 encourages Go New York Tours, Inc. to reach out to Google and local community organizations, such as the Hudson Sq. BID, to advise them of the new tour bus stop and get their input on how they can work together to both theirs and the neighborhood's benefit.

Vote: Unanimous, with 35 Board members in favor.

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

Sincerely,



Susan Kent, Chair
Community Board #2, Manhattan



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

SK/em

cc: Hon. Dan Goldman, Congressman
Hon. Brad Hoylman-Sigal, NY State Senator
Hon. Deborah Glick, NYS Assembly Member
Hon. Mark Levine, Manhattan Borough President
Hon. Erik Bottcher, NYC Council Member
Asen Kostadinov, Go NY Tours
Bret Derman, Go NY Tours