

Carter Booth, Chair  
Daniel Miller, First Vice Chair  
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Bob Gormley, District Manager



Antony Wong, Treasurer  
Keen Berger, Secretary  
Erik Coler, Assistant Secretary

## COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 2, MANHATTAN

3 WASHINGTON SQUARE VILLAGE  
NEW YORK, NY 10012-1899

[www.cb2manhattan.org](http://www.cb2manhattan.org)

P: 212-979-2272 F: 212-254-5102 E: [info@cb2manhattan.org](mailto:info@cb2manhattan.org)

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January 25, 2019

William T. Castro  
Manhattan Borough Commissioner  
Arsenal West  
24 West 61<sup>st</sup> Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10023

Dear Commissioner Castro:

At its Full Board Committee meeting on January 24, Community Board #2, Manhattan adopted the following resolution:

### A RESOLUTION REQUESTING RENOVATION OF MERCER PLAYGROUND

#### **WHEREAS:**

- 1) Mercer Playground is the narrow strip between Bleecker & W. 3rd Streets running along Mercer Street; and
- 2) Mercer Playground was transferred to the Department of Parks and Recreation from the Department of Transportation a few years ago; and
- 3) Our committee held a meeting to discuss the renovation of the playground and representatives of at least 10 buildings in the surrounding area attended the meeting and conveyed support for this request; and
- 4) Mercer Playground has traditionally been used by children older than Key Park area (ages 5 to 12) for unstructured play; and
- 5) The playground has become unsafe, unwelcoming, not maintained, not secure, not managed, and therefore, unappealing to families; and
- 6) NYU has expressed support of a renovation project and has committed to contribute capital to and take part in scope and envisioning; and
- 7) The Parks Department has requested that some portion of funding from NYU be delivered immediately, that is, prior to the normal capital allocation process, so the renovation design process can be started as soon as possible.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT COMMUNITY BOARD 2, MANHATTAN**

Requests that the Parks Department initiate a project to renovate Mercer Playground and that the renovated space remains a playground and a city-owned and operated public park and that the Parks Department, in conjunction with Community Board 2, schedule and facilitate a visioning as possible.

**VOTE: Passed, with 41 Board Members in favor.  
1 Board Member in abstention. (R. Kessler)**

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

Sincerely,



Carter Booth, Chair  
Community Board #2, Manhattan



Richard Caccappolo, Chair  
Parks & Waterfront Committee  
Community Board #2, Manhattan

TB/EM

- c:
- Hon. Jerrold Nadler, Congressman
  - Hon. Brian Kavanagh, NYS Senator
  - Hon. Deborah J. Glick, NYS Assembly Speaker
  - Hon. Gale Brewer, Manhattan Borough President
  - Hon. Corey Johnson, NYC Council Speaker
  - Hon. Margaret Chin, NYC Council Member