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Daniel Miller, *First Vice Chair*
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COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 2, MANHATTAN

3 WASHINGTON SQUARE VILLAGE

NEW YORK, NY 10012-1899

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May 29, 2019

Madelyn Wils
President & CEO
Hudson River Park Trust
353 West Street, Pier 40, 2nd Floor
New York, NY 10014

Dear President Wils:

At its Full Board meeting on May 23, 2019, Community Board #2, adopted the following resolution:

A Resolution Regarding the Design Process for Gansevoort Peninsula and the Hudson River Park Trust's Published Perspective on Community Input Gathered to Date

Whereas:

1. Gansevoort Peninsula is a 5.56-acre space in Hudson River Park located between Gansevoort and Little W. 12th Streets that has recently been turned over to the Hudson River Park Trust (HRPT) and for which uses, designs and features are being considered; and
2. This design process undertaken by the Hudson River Park Trust and its contracted designers, James Corner Field Operations, has run multiple events to date including a presentation, a Q&A session and two group-planning events to solicit community input, with the most recent of these taking place on March 26; and
3. HRPT recently shared a summary document in which it stated that three themes have been conveyed by the community: the need for new sports fields, the desire for a beach and water access, and the hope for green space for passive recreational pursuits; and
4. This summary document further suggested that most participants and contributors, even those who expressed strong preferences for particular program elements, hope to create balanced plans for Gansevoort Peninsula that incorporate multiple uses; and
5. The majority of attendees at our Committee meeting disagreed with that finding and instead said that, even though the peninsula offers unique opportunities for water access and passive recreation, the shortage of and desperate need for athletic fields in the City would drive them to sacrifice other uses in order to secure full-sized fields if a balance of multiple uses cannot be obtained; and
6. The fields attendees requested are full-sized, regulation-sized fields, not fields for children 12 and under; and
7. The public attendees at prior meetings and workshops expressed a diversity of opinions about desired uses for the Gansevoort Peninsula; and
8. The majority of the public attendees at the May 1st, 2019 meeting spoke in favor of full sized fields; and

9. HRPT and the Whitney will be installing “Day’s End,” a sculpture of a “ghost pier” by artist David Hammons, off the south edge of Gansevoort and our Committee and Full Board supported this project under the condition that the installation in no way limit other programming decisions on Gansevoort Peninsula; and
10. Contributors to the design process have also conveyed hope that the peninsula in the park will focus on uses “for the community” and “representative of the community” and not for tourists or visitors and will be designed in such a way as to avoid being overwhelmed by the crowds from other popular nearby attractions including Pier 55, Pier 57, the High Line, the Meatpacking District, and the Whitney Museum and will not include features that are already available nearby, such as playgrounds; and
11. No information has been conveyed regarding the budget for redevelopment of the peninsula or where funding would be sourced; and

Therefore, Be it Resolved that CB 2, Manhattan:

1. Looks forward to reviewing the design concepts and feasibility analysis as soon as the HRPT is able to share them; and
2. Will continue to take part and will work to get the Community to take part in the planned design process meetings being run by HRPT; and
3. Expect that HRPT will not just engage with us, but consult with us, as they continue through the process which is projected to run through the fall of 2019; and
4. Would like to be provided with information about the budgets for this development project

VOTE: Unanimous, with 39 Board Members in favor.

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. Brad Hoylman, NY State Senator
Hon. Deborah J. Glick, Assembly Member
Hon. Gale Brewer, Man. Borough President
Hon. Corey Johnson, Council Speaker

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May 29, 2019

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

Dear Manhattan Borough Commissioner Castro:

At its Full Board meeting on May 23, 2019, Community Board #2, adopted the following resolution:

A Resolution Regarding the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation Re-interment Plan for Washington Square Park

Whereas:

1. The New York City Department of Parks and Recreation shared this statement with our Committee: “Washington Square Park underwent three phases of reconstruction between 2006 and 2013. During archaeological testing and monitoring, fragmentary human remains believed to have been buried in the potter’s field previously located on the site were removed, with the intent of re-interring them within the park at a later date.
It has been determined that the remains shall be reinterred in Washington Square Park within an existing planting bed, off the entrance path at Sullivan Street and Washington Square South. The remains will be marked with an engraving on a granite paver located adjacent to the planting bed. The text has been written by the Landmarks Preservation Commission's (LPC) archaeology department. All required permits for the re-interment will be secured prior to any work beginning. The plans are currently under review by both the Public Design Commission and LPC.”; and
2. Members of our Committee and some meeting attendees had questions and expressed interest in more information; and
3. The New York City Department of Parks and Recreation offered to come to our June meeting to present in more detail

Therefore, Be it Resolved that CB 2, Manhattan:

Requests that the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation attend and present their plans at our committee meeting in June.

VOTE: Unanimous, with 39 Board Members in favor.

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. Brad Hoylman, NY State Senator
Hon. Deborah J. Glick, Assembly Member
Hon. Gale Brewer, Man. Borough President
Hon. Margaret Chin, Council Member