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COMMUNITY BOARD No. 2, MANHATTAN

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January 25, 2016

Hon. Bill de Blasio
Mayor
City Hall
New York, 10007

Hon. Melissa Mark-Viverito
Speaker of the New York City Council
105 East 116th Street
New York, NY 10029

Jonathan B. Jarvis
Director, National Park Service
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240

Mitchell J. Silver, FAICP
NYC Parks Commissioner
The Arsenal, Central Park
830 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10065

Dear Mayor de Blasio, Speaker Mark-Viverito, Director Jarvis, Commissioner Silver, et al :

At its Full Board Committee meeting on January 21, 2016, Community Board #2, Manhattan adopted the following resolution:

Resolution Regarding the Status of Discussions between the National Park Service and NYC Department of Parks & Recreation on Maintenance and Operation of Christopher Park Should It Be Transferred to the Federal Government for the Establishment of a National Park Monument

Whereas

1. The New York City Department of Parks and Recreation and National Park Service came before the CB2 Parks and Waterfront Committee to present and discuss a draft version of an operating agreement for Christopher Park that would serve as a framework for a long term partnership between the two agencies should a Stonewall National Monument be established;
2. The operating agreement will not be finalized until and unless Christopher Park is transferred to the federal government by New York City, which will only occur if and when the Stonewall National Monument is established;
3. The community will have additional opportunities to engage in debate about the specifics of the final operation agreement, including a hearing to be held by the New York City Council;
4. The draft operating agreement addressed many of the questions and potential issues raised by our Stonewall National Monument Working Group in a study and resolution presented to and passed by CB2 at the

December, 2015, Full Board meeting;

5. The transfer of the Park and federal designation of the National Monument will not impede New York City's processes for management and maintenance of the City environment in and around the National Park Monument district;
6. It should be anticipated that required maintenance of Christopher Park will increase as the National Park Monument is developed and such increased burden should not fall to the volunteers who currently support Christopher Park;

Therefore be it resolved that Community Board 2, Manhattan:

1. Continues to support the initiative to establish the Stonewall National Park,
2. Urges New York State and New York City officials to issue authorization to finalize an agreement and facilitate the transfer of Christopher Park to the federal government for the establishment of a this new National Park Monument,
3. Asks that the Department of Parks and Recreation ensure, with all reasonable effort, that proper levels of maintenance of Christopher Park continue after transfer and establishment of the National Park Monument.

VOTE: Unanimous, with 36 Board Members in favor.

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

Sincerely,



Tobi Bergman, Chair
Community Board #2, Manhattan



Richard Caccappolo, Chair
Parks, Recreation & Open Space Committee
Community Board #2, Manhattan

TB/EM

- c:
- Hon. Jerrold Nadler, Congressman
 - Hon. Brad Hoylman, NY State Senator
 - Hon. Deborah J. Glick, Assembly Speaker
 - Hon. Gale Brewer, Manhattan Borough President
 - Hon. Corey Johnson, Council Member
 - Joshua Laird, National Parks of NY Harbor Commissioner
 - William Castro, Manhattan Borough Commissioner
 - Shirley McKinney, Manhattan Sites Superintendent