

David Gruber, *Chair*
Bo Riccobono, *First Vice Chair*
Jo Hamilton, *Second Vice Chair*
Bob Gormley, *District Manager*



Antony Wong, *Treasurer*
Susan Kent, *Secretary*
Keen Berger, *Assistant Secretary*

COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 2, MANHATTAN

3 WASHINGTON SQUARE VILLAGE

NEW YORK, NY 10012-1899

www.cb2manhattan.org

P: 212-979-2272 F: 212-254-5102 E: info@cb2manhattan.org

Greenwich Village ■ Little Italy ■ SoHo ■ NoHo ■ Hudson Square ■ Chinatown ■ Gansevoort Market

May 23, 2014

Margaret Forgione
Manhattan Borough Commissioner
NYC Department of Transportation
59 Maiden Lane, 35th Floor
New York, NY 10038

Dear Manhattan Borough Commissioner Forgione:

At its Full Board meeting May 22, 2014, Community Board #2, adopted the following resolution:

Resolution in support of renewal of P.S. 3 Play Street on Grove St. bet. Bedford and Hudson Sts.

Whereas P.S. 3, on Hudson and Grove Sts., is requesting renewal of the play street approved by DOT for a one-year trial period this past year on Grove St. bet. Bedford and Hudson Sts., adjacent to the school, to continue to provide much needed outdoor play space for essential recreation and physical activity; and

Whereas the play street will be used Mon.-Fri., within a time period equivalent to the current one (between 11:30 am and 1:30 pm), only on days when the school is in session, but not during inclement weather (such as snow and rain), and only for up to an hour for actual play time; and

Whereas P.S. 3 fulfilled its commitment to being a good neighbor, keeping ongoing, open lines of communication with the Grove St. Block Association and running the play street under strict supervision, ensuring that, as stated in their original intentions, that:

- The play street was limited to the street and the sidewalk adjacent to P.S. 3; no play street activity was permitted on the sidewalk on the residential (south) side of Grove St. bet. Bedford and Hudson Sts.
- Children were instructed on proper behavior and expectations for safe play and respect for P.S. 3's Grove St. neighbors and were monitored accordingly.
- No play was allowed on private property, including stoops, and no stepping into tree beds or plantings.
- Children always were under adult supervision.
- Activities were limited to "soft play," such as jump rope, relay, tag, and the like.
- No eating or drinking (except for water bottles) was allowed during play street activity.

- The average number of students there were determined based on scheduling, safety and space.
- Children were advised not to lean on or play near parked cars.
- Children were instructed to always clean up after themselves.
- Children practiced making room for emergency vehicle access as well as other vehicular access (personal or delivery).; and

Whereas the Grove St. Block Association and other representatives of the neighboring community praised P.S. 3 and its principal as well as its PTA liaisons for their responsive, responsible and considerate management and supervision of the play street, their accommodating outreach and cooperation in working with the community and their willingness to work out compromises, and there were no complaints; and

Whereas the Grove St. Block Association and the other neighbors expressed their fervent hope that things could continue as they were, and requested that, to that end, P.S. 3 and the Grove St. Block Association jointly evaluate conditions each year and submit a statement to DOT reporting whether the situation remains positive or not, to be reviewed if problems are reported, and P.S. 3 agreed to this;

Therefore be it resolved that Community Board 2, Manhattan (CB2) fully supports renewal of the P.S. 3 play street on Grove St. bet. Bedford and Hudson Sts.; and

Be it further resolved that CB2 commends P.S. 3, its principal, parents and PTA, and the Grove St. Block Association and other members of the neighboring community for working together cooperatively and amicably to resolve concerns, to enhance their shared block and to ensure that the P.S. 3 play street is the success it is; and

Be it further resolved that CB2 supports the Grove St. Block Association's request and P.S. 3's agreement to it for them to submit a joint letter to DOT every year that reports on the play street's existing conditions, which, if negative, CB2 asks that DOT review them; and

Be it finally resolved that CB2 supports neighbor's requests and P.S. 3's agreement for the play street to be used only for up to one hour for actual play time.

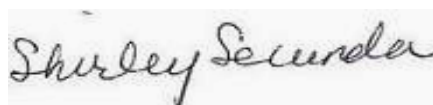
Vote: Unanimous, with 40 Board Members in favor.

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

Sincerely,



David Gruber, Chair
Community Board #2, Manhattan



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

DG/EM

- c: Hon. Jerrold L. Nadler, Congressman
Hon. Brad Hoylman, NY State Senator
Hon. Deborah Glick, State Assembly Member
Hon. Gale Brewer, Manhattan Borough President
Hon. Corey Johnson, Council Member

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Manhattan Borough Commissioner
NYC Department of Transportation
59 Maiden Lane, 35th Floor
New York, NY 10038

Dear Manhattan Borough Commissioner Forgione:

At its Full Board meeting May 22, 2014, Community Board #2, adopted the following resolution:

Resolution in support of extending the West Village Slow Zone to Ave. of the Americas (6th Ave.), including P.S. 41 and other schools and institutions.

Whereas P.S. 41, at Ave. of the Americas (6th Ave) and W. 11th St. (116 W. 11th St.) has requested that the West Village Slow Zone, recently approved by the NYC Department of Transportation (DOT), be extended from its current eastern boundary of 7th Ave. S. to Ave. of the Americas (6th Ave.) as its eastern corridor bounded by W. 11th St. to the north and W. Houston St. to the south, in order to provide safe access to the many school children and other vulnerable populations who walk through this area, which is fraught with hazardous traffic conditions; and

Whereas the principal of P.S. 41, who presented the request, pointed to the increase in pedestrian activity in the area, including children on their way to and from the many educational, recreational and service facilities there, seniors frequenting senior centers and going about their daily activities (such as shopping and errands) and the many other people who walk there, all endangered by speeding, often careless, non-law-abiding motorists whose numbers are growing and who not only present a threat to the walking population, but also have been involved in both actual hits and near misses (e.g., the principal herself witnessed a cab hitting a child [now recuperated] and caregiver [still recuperating] right in front of P.S. 41 this past Fall); and

Whereas P.S.41 has submitted a map (to DOT as well as to Community Board 2, Manhattan (CB2)) showing the boundaries of the proposed Slow Zone extension and the locations of the many schools and institutions that serve the youth population in the extended area, including (in addition to P.S. 41 with approximately 792 students) Jefferson Market Library, Village Pre-School Center, Joffrey Ballet School, Washington Place School & Academy of St. Joseph, Greenwich House Nursery School and Senior Center, Greenwich House Pottery, Our Lady of Pompeii School,

Downing St. Pre-School, Little Red Schoolhouse and Kumon After School Tutoring, and all have been contacted and support the extended Slow Zone; and

Whereas P.S. 41 has submitted a petition to CB2 and to DOT with over 330 signatures from neighborhood people in support of the requested Slow Zone extension, as well as support letters, including those from representatives of some of the above facilities, such as the Village Preschool Center and the Downing St. Play Group (with more to be coming and submitted to CB2), and from the president of the Community Education Council District 2, along with a specially illustrated petition with the signatures of P.S. 41's kindergarteners; and

Whereas the traffic calming measures employed in Slow Zones, that will be worked out in discussions with the community, such as speed humps, a 20 mph speed limit, signs and markings, will help moderate traffic movement and driver behavior to reduce the number and severity of crashes, cut-through traffic and traffic noise, thereby increasing the safety not only of children and seniors, but of the entire walking population in that area and enabling safety changes to be made ahead of potential tragedies rather than in response to them;

Therefore be it resolved that CB2 fully supports extending the West Village Slow Zone to Ave. of the Americas (6th Ave.) as its eastern corridor, including P.S. 41 and other schools and institutions; and

Be it further resolved that CB2 commends P.S. 41, its principal, parents and PTA for working together to support an extended Slow Zone and ensure traffic safety not only for its children but for all constituents in its local community.

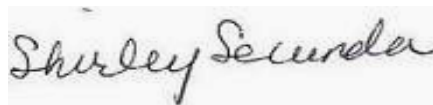
Vote: Unanimous, with 40 Board Members in favor.

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

Sincerely,



David Gruber, Chair
Community Board #2, Manhattan



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