



Burt Lazarin
Chair

Jesse R. Bodine
District Manager

CITY OF NEW YORK
MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR
330 West 42nd Street, 26th floor New York, NY 10036
tel: 212-736-4536 fax: 212-947-9512
www.nyc.gov/mcb4

June 12, 2018

Lorelei Salas
Commissioner
Department of consumer Affairs
42 Broadway
New York, NY 10004

Luis Sanchez
Manhattan Borough Commissioner
NYC Department of Transportation
59 Maiden Lane, 37th Floor
New York, NY 10037

Re: Newsstand Installation at N/W/C of 9th Avenue and West 41st Street

Dear Commissioners Salas and Sanchez,

Manhattan Community Board 4 (MCB4), at its June 6th Full Board meeting, voted unanimously to deny this application by a vote of 36 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstaining, and 0 present but not eligible to vote. MCB4 absolutely opposes the installation of a newsstand at the above location for the safety reasons enumerated below.

The Hudson Yards/Hell's Kitchen Alliance BID has also expressed its opposition to this installation.

- The measurements provided do not take into account the opening of a traffic control box. This location is five feet away from a very large smart sign belonging to the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey. This sign was installed after 9/11 to dynamically direct traffic in case of an emergency. The electronics are located in a box affixed to the sign, with a door facing the south side of the proposed newsstand. When the door is open, a technician must have enough space to stand and work on the equipment inside the box.
- The installation would limit the visibility for the drivers making the westbound turn. The newsstand would be located very close to the westbound turn from

Ninth Avenue to West 41st Street, an entrance to the Lincoln Tunnel. This area is extremely congested and dangerous: two pedestrians were killed there crossing West 41st Street.

- It does not appear that the newsstand application notice was posted on adjacent buildings.
- This sidewalk is a block away from the bus terminal and well travelled by commuters and shoppers going to a nearby supermarket. The sidewalk is unusually narrow on Ninth Avenue, leaving the minimum clearance required for the pedestrian right of way.

The applicant was invited but did not show up at the Transportation Planning Committee meeting to discuss these issues.

We ask the Department of Consumer Affairs to not grant this application and direct the applicant to contact MCB4 for help with finding a better-suited location.

Sincerely,



Burt Lazarin
Chair
Manhattan Community
Board 4



Christine Berthet
Co-Chair
Transportation Planning
Committee



Dale Corvino
Co-Chair
Transportation Planning
Committee

CC Rick Cotton, Port Authority of NY and NJ
Richard Born, The POD Hotel
Robert Benfatto, Hudson Yards/Hell's Kitchen Alliance BID