



CITY OF NEW YORK

MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR

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BURT LAZARIN
Chair

JESSE R. BODINE
District Manager

December 10, 2019

Vincent Sapienza
Commissioner
NYC Department of Environmental Protection
59–17 Junction Boulevard, 19th Floor
Flushing, NY 11373

Re: Proposed Increases to Idling Fines and Enforcement

Dear Commissioner Sapienza,

At its December 4, 2019 monthly Full Board meeting, Manhattan Community Board 4 (MCB4) voted by a vote of 40 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstaining, and 0 present but not eligible to vote, to request that the NYC Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) increase the penalty to commercial trucks and buses for idling from the current ticket of \$350 to \$1,000 for a first-time violation, \$2,000 for a second-time violation, and \$3,000 for a third-time violation. We further request that the DEP shut down any exceptions that effectively exempt violators from tickets, such as loading/unloading or truck queuing exemptions. The only legitimate exemption we would like to see going forward is for concrete mixing trucks where idling is required.

Our district has seen a huge increase in the number of idling commercial trucks and buses, the latter routinely idle for 15 minutes or more to load or unload their passengers at curbside locations. This problem is part of the reason our district has the third worst air quality in the city. We recognize the DEP's constraints in manpower and enforcement—currently a summons issued today would not be processed until late 2020, thus diminishing the education and dissuasion effect of the summons—and therefore further recommend allocating all proceeds of these increased fines to improve DEP's enforcement capacity.

Sincerely,

Burt Lazarin
Chair
Manhattan Community Board 4



Christine Berthet
Co-Chair
Transportation Planning Committee



Dale Corvino
Co-Chair
Transportation Planning Committee