



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

**Burt Lazarin**  
Chair

**Jesse R. Bodine**  
District Manager

April 6, 2018

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

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

**Re: Newsstand Application: NEC Eleventh Avenue and West 58<sup>th</sup> Street.**

Dear Commissioners Salas and Sanchez,

Manhattan Community Board 4's (MCB4) Transportation Planning Committee heard a presentation for a newsstand application at the northeast corner of Eleventh Avenue and West 58th Street. MCB4, at its Full Board meeting on April 4th, voted unanimously to deny this application by a vote of 32 in favor, 0 against, 2 abstaining, and 0 present but not eligible to vote. MCB4 absolutely opposes the installation of a newsstand at the above location for the safety and crowding reasons enumerated below. In case the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) intends to approve the application, we ask that no approval be granted until a pedestrian traffic study is performed by the NYC Department of Transportation (DOT) and its results are shared with our office.

Along with John Jay College, Borough President Gale Brewer and the Dormitory Authority to the State of New York, we strongly oppose this application on the following grounds:

- This location is 20 feet away from a major entrance to John Jay College with its 15,000 students and a faculty of 1,500. It would also obstruct the line of sight of the campus public safety desk. In case of emergency, this entrance is an exit, one of only three to evacuate the college on a sidewalk that is already narrow (13'6") and encumbered by other furniture.
- The newsstand would be located along the only curb currently used by Access-a-Ride to load and unload handicapped students and bring them expeditiously inside the building.
- The entrance to a child care center serving 40 infants is located opposite the proposed newsstand. At opening and closing hours, the sidewalk is overtaken by parents, children and strollers.
- We learned that the applicant has a license to sell cigarettes. John Jay has undertaken a "Healthy CUNY initiative" that prohibits the use of tobacco on all grounds and facilities, including indoor and outdoor locations, since 2012. The faculty and the students oppose the sales of tobacco that would undermine years of efforts to wean students off smoking. We agree that tobacco sales should not be available 20 feet from a college entrance.

The applicant declined MCB4's offer to survey other blocks and find a more suitable location.

We ask DCA 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: Hon. Corey Johnson, Speaker, City Council