



Burt Lazarin
Chair

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District Manager

CITY OF NEW YORK
MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR
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May 30, 2018

Hon. Bill De Blasio
Mayor, City of New York
City Hall
New York, New York 10007

Re: Hudson Yards Parks (Blocks 4, 5 and 6)

Dear Mayor De Blasio,

Manhattan Community Board 4 (MCB4) was dismayed by the failure of the Administration to once again provide funding to develop and complete the promised park space on Blocks 4, 5 and 6 of the Hudson Yards complex, as reflected in the Executive Budget you published on April 26, 2018. The Executive Budget makes no mention of these promised parks, despite repeated requests by MCB4 for this funding and repeated promises by the City that these parks would be built.

The City promised the community that park space would be built on Blocks 4, 5 and 6, to mitigate the enormous commercial development taking place in Hudson Yards and surrounding areas. The Hudson Yards area is taking shape as a sea of tall buildings, without sufficient open space to offset this. Blocks 1-3 were developed as part of the #7 train extension. Block 4 is to be built by the developer, as a condition of the development rights they received, but city funding is still required to complete this block. The park at Blocks 5 and 6 are completely non-funded, and this is the responsibility of the City to complete.

A request for this funding was made by MCB4 in our 2019 Statement of District Needs. We listed this park as our #5 priority (behind requests to address the need for affordable housing and protection of the homeless population). The official Office of Management and Budget (OMB) response to this need was to refer this request back to the Economic Development Corp. (EDC), which is responsible for the Hudson Yards project. We ask your Administration to take responsibility for

fulfilling this promise that was made to MCB4 and the broader community to build parks on Blocks 4, 5 and 6 of Hudson Yards.

MCB4 has worked very closely with the City and EDC to develop Hudson Yards. This need for open space is important to the community, and, at its May 2nd Full Board meeting, MCB4 voted 43 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstaining and 0 present but not eligible to vote to request that appropriate funding be allocated.

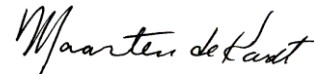
Sincerely,



Burt Lazarin
Chair
Manhattan Community
Board 4



Lowell Kern
Co-Chair
Waterfront, Parks &
Environment Committee



Maarten de Kadt
Co-Chair
Waterfront, Parks
Environment Committee



Jean-Daniel Noland
Chair
Clinton/Hell's Kitchen
Land Use Committee

CC: James Patchett, President, Economic Development Corp.
Hon. Alicia Glen, Deputy Mayor
Hon. Scott Stringer, Comptroller, City of New York
Hon. Letitia James, Public Advocate
Hon. Corey Johnson, Speaker, New York City Council
Hon. Melanie Hartzog, Director, Mayor's Office of Management and Budget
Angela Cavaluzzi, President, Hudson Yards Development Corp.
Robert Benfatto, Hudson Yards/Hell's Kitchen Alliance