



CITY OF NEW YORK

MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR

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Burt Lazarin
Chair

Jesse R. Bodine
District Manager

November 14, 2019

Hon. Jerrold Nadler
U.S. Congress Member
201 Varick Street
Suite 669
New York, NY 10014

Hon. Carolyn Maloney
U.S. Congress Member
1651 Third Avenue, Suite 311
New York, NY 10128

Re: Non-Essential Helicopter Flights over New York City

Dear Representative Nadler and Representative Maloney,

Manhattan Community Board 4 (“MCB4”), on the recommendation of its Waterfront, Parks & Environment Committee by a vote of 35 in favor, 2 opposed, 0 abstaining; and 0 present but not eligible to vote, supports the opinions expressed in your June 21, 2019 letter to Daniel K. Elwell, Acting Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), to end all non-essential helicopter flights over New York City.

As New York City endeavors to reduce noise and air pollution, increased helicopter flights have made these problems worse. Of particular concern to MCB4 is the impact that the West Side Heliport, located in Hudson River Park (the “Park”) at West 30th Street, is having on area residents and visitors to the Park. The heliport abuts the most heavily used bike and pedestrian paths in the United States raising several concerns:

- Air and noise pollution from landings and take-offs as well as helicopters flying overhead.
- Air and noise pollution from helicopters idling on the ground.
- Air pollution from vehicles idling on the heliport parking lot.
- The safety of bike riders and pedestrians as vehicles cross the bike and pedestrian paths to enter the heliport parking lot.

By a separate letter to our state representatives, we are asking that, if the City and State of New York require a heliport for emergency use on the west side, a new location be found, to turn the current heliport into usable Park space.

Until this complete ban of helicopter flights takes effect, MCB4 requests that the FAA set and enforce regulations at the 30th Street heliport pertaining to helicopter approach and take-off patterns and idling time on the ground. In addition, the committee requests information regarding what penalties or fines are applied and how the public can address possible violations.

Thank you for your continued protection of our Community District.

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

CC: Hon. Brad Hoylman, NYS Senat
Hon. Linda Rosenthal, NYS Assembly
Hon. Richard Gottfried, NYS Assembly
Hon. Corey Johnson, New York City Council Speaker
Hon. Gale Brewer, Manhattan Borough President
Madelyn Wils, President, Hudson River Park Trust