



CITY OF NEW YORK
MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR

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BURT LAZARIN
Chair

JESSE R. BODINE
District Manager

July 30, 2019

Edward Schnell
Director, Revocable Consents & Security
Division of Legal Affairs, Office of Cityscape & Franchises
NYC Department of Transportation
55 Water Street, 9th Floor
New York, NY 10041

Re: Revocable Consent for 441 Ninth Avenue re Electrical Sockets and Conduits for Existing and New Tree Pits

Dear Director Schnell,

Manhattan Community Board 4 (MCB4) at its July 24th Full Board meeting¹, voted by 35 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstaining, and 0 present but not eligible to vote, to deny the application for electrical sockets and conduits for existing and new tree pits for 441 Ninth Avenue, unless the applicant agrees to the following:

- Maintain all existing trees in front of 441 Ninth Avenue
- Plant two additional trees on West 34th Street instead of the bike rack
- Install a bike corral on West 35th Street in the parking lane, close to the Ninth Avenue corner

MCB4 has long opposed the removal of existing mature trees on Ninth Avenue and this application seeks to remove one of two mature trees from the front of 441 Ninth Avenue. This would be the third removal in the neighborhood, if approved, following the one at Ninth Avenue between 41st and 42nd Streets, which was maintained during construction, and which we vigorously opposed its removal. Mature trees combat global warming and emissions and provide needed shade as an urban canopy. For these reasons MCB4 does not want the existing tree to be removed.

¹ Due to a technical issue relating to an interoffice email error and the Board not holding meetings in August, MCB4 is unable to hold a regularly scheduled public meeting for this application. This letter will be voted out of MCB4's Full Board meeting as New Business in time for NYC DOT's hearing.

Sincerely,



Burt Lazarin
Chair
Manhattan Community Board 4



Christine Berthet
Co-Chair
Transportation Planning Committee



Dale Corvino
Co-Chair
Transportation Planning Committee

cc: Marina Kagan, Revocable Consent Specialist, NYC DOT
William Castro, Manhattan Borough Commissioner, NYC Parks
Benny Moy, Applicant