



CITY OF NEW YORK
MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR

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LOWELL D. KERN
Chair

JESSE R. BODINE
District Manager

May 8, 2020

Kevin O'Toole
Chairman
Port Authority of New York & New Jersey
4 World Trade Center, 150 Greenwich Street, 22nd Fl.
New York, NY 10006

Rick Cotton
Executive Director
The Port Authority of New York & New Jersey
4 World Trade Center, 150 Greenwich Street, 22nd Fl.
New York, NY 10007

Re: Port Authority Bus Terminal Replacement Project

Dear Messrs. O'Toole and Cotton,

While the city and the region are engulfed in the fight against the COVID-19 virus, Manhattan Community Board 4 (MCB4) appreciates the dedication of Port Authority personnel who are keeping transportation facilities operating to sustain New York City and the metropolitan region. We are relieved that Mr. Cotton recovered from the virus and wish him and you good health going forward.

We also understand that with revenues in free fall, the Port Authority's capital budget will need to be adjusted to reflect a new reality. We request that the Port Authority Bus Terminal Replacement project continue as planned¹.

MCB4 is also grateful the PANYNJ team has been open to discussing the implementation of the Hell's Kitchen South Coalition Neighborhood Plan in conjunction with the rebuilding of the bus terminal. The plan is strongly supported by MCB4 and our elected officials. If

¹ At its May 6th Full Board meeting, MCB4 voted to approve this letter with 47 in favor, 0 against, 1 abstaining, and 0 present but not eligible to vote.

implemented, the plan would revitalize a core section of Midtown Manhattan with residences, office space and much-needed parks on nearly 13 acres of Port Authority (PA) properties. Your team understands MCB4's requests that the Bus Terminal Replacement Project must include the removal of hundreds of long-distance buses from our streets, and incorporate mitigation measures, such as air filtering and green open spaces to improve the district's poor air quality. We look forward to continuing our dialogue with the PA about these issues.

Should the project's scope include these components, which are key to the community support, the Bus Terminal Replacement Project will go beyond infrastructure work to facilitate commuters' transit: it will transform a large swath of the west side of Manhattan by bringing meaningful improvements to the environment and creating a major source of jobs at a time when the region needs them the most.

The project has just entered the EIS phase which will take at least 18 months to complete. We urge the Port Authority to stay the course through completion of the process with all elements MCB4 has requested included.

We look forward to the next steps and hope to be able to meet soon, as was planned for early March. We also look forward to receiving the final version of the highly anticipated report on "Best Practices to Manage Long Distance Buses."

Sincerely,



Lowell D. Kern
Chair
Manhattan Community Board 4



Christine Berthet
Co-chair
Transportation Planning Committee



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

Cc: Hon. Bob Menendez, U.S. Senator, NJ
Hon. Cory Booker, U.S. Senator, NJ
Hon. Loretta Weinberg, New Jersey State Senator
Hon. Robert M. Gordon, New Jersey State Senator
Hon. Tom Kean, New Jersey State Senator
Hon. Joseph A. Lagana, New Jersey State Senator
Hon. Mark Magyar, Associate Executive Director, NJ Senate Democratic Office
Hon. Jerrold Nadler, U.S. Congressman

Hon. Chuck Schumer, U.S. Senator, NY
Hon. Kirsten Gillibrand, U.S. Senator, NY
Hon. Brad Hoylman, New York State Senator
Hon. Richard Gottfried, New York State Assembly Member
Hon. Linda B. Rosenthal, New York State Assembly Member
Hon. Gale A. Brewer, Manhattan Borough President
Hon. Corey Johnson, New York City Council
Carolyn Grossman, Director of Regional Planning, NYC Dept. of City Planning
Glenn Guzi, Port Authority of New York & New Jersey
Justin Bernbach, Port Authority of New York & New Jersey
Michael Lavery, Port Authority of New York & New Jersey
Jenny Davis, Port Authority of New York & New Jersey
Ernest Modarelli, Port Authority of New York & New Jersey
Tiffany Triplett Henkel, Hell's Kitchen South Coalition
Vikki Barbero, Chair, Manhattan Community Board 5
Wally Rubin, District Manager, Manhattan Community Board 5

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