



CITY OF NEW YORK
MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR

P.O. Box 2622, New York, NY 10108
www.mcb4.nyc

LOWELL D. KERN
Chair

JESSE R. BODINE
District Manager

October 27, 2020

Ed Pincar
Manhattan Borough Commissioner
NYC Department of Transportation
59 Maiden Lane, 37th Floor
New York, NY 10038

Re: Green Island on West 30th Street

Dear Borough Commissioner Pincar,

Manhattan Community Board 4 (MCB4) wholeheartedly supports the Hudson Yards/Hell's Kitchen Alliance (HYHK) proposal to green the northern space equivalent to two traffic lanes on West 30th Street between Dyer and Ninth Avenues¹.

For the last few years, the Department of Design and Construction (DDC) has used the northern traffic lanes of West 30th Street for the water main replacement project and construction storage. As a result, east bound traffic from West 30th Street and eastbound traffic from Dyer Avenue have been channeled onto two southern remaining lanes, without causing delays. This held true even before COVID-related traffic reductions.

Next month, DDC will relinquish the storage space on the eastern part of the block (Dyer to Ninth Avenue) and resurface the area.

HYHK proposes to install a green space with planters in those center lanes freed up from construction to soften this desolate corridor, which is now a main access to the High Line and Hudson Yards. A bus parking will remain on the north side of the block, and the USPS facility, Morgan Center, occupies the south side of the block. Most of the USPS truck loading activity is being moved to West 29th Street, as the top six floors of the Morgan Center are being converted to office space. This will further increase foot traffic on West 30th Street.

¹ Due to the schedule of the road work, this letter was approved by MCB4's Executive Committee on Monday, October 26, 2020 and is pending ratification by the Full Board on Wednesday, November 4, 2020.

We urge the Department of Transportation to take this opportunity to direct DDC to delineate and resurface this area for greening purpose and not redundant traffic capacity.

Sincerely,



Lowell D. Kern
MCB4 Chair



Christine Berthet
Co-chair, Transportation Planning Committee



Dale Corvino
Co-chair, Transportation Planning Committee

Cc: Hon. Corey Johnson, Speaker, NYC Council
Hon. Gale A. Brewer, Manhattan Borough President
Robert J. Benfatto, President, HYHK Alliance