



CITY OF NEW YORK
MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR
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Lowell D. Kern
Chair
Jesse Bodine
District Manager

December 15, 2020

Madelyn Wils
President
Hudson River Park Trust
Pier 40
New York, NY 10014

Re: Pier 76 Progress, Interim Use Potential

Dear President Wils,

Thank you for the presentation at the Waterfront, Parks, and Environment meeting on November 12, 2020 regarding potential interim park uses at Pier 76. Relocating the NYPD Tow Pound is and has been a community priority for the past 20 years. We look forward to the removal of the Tow Pound from Pier 76. Unfortunately, the presentation did not provide a definitive timeline to turn Pier 76 into a park. Given the expressed interest of the State and City to relocate the NYPD Tow Pound, at its Full Board meeting on Wednesday, December 2, 2020, Manhattan Community Board 4 voted 38 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions, and 0 present not eligible to recommend the following in anticipation of a newly vacated pier:

MCB4 believes the State of New York should provide the funding for the interim use of the Pier. The Tow Pound's relocation, the removal of the current structure along with resurfacing of the Pier could bring nearly five acres of open space to an otherwise park-starved part of our community. Before a park is fully realized on the Pier and in an effort to create safe, active space for people meeting the community's expectations and meeting Hudson River Parks' caliber for parks, a number of interim uses could be appropriate for the Pier.

Given the size of the Pier, it can incorporate both active and passive uses that will not require costly installations or maintenance. These uses should include: a track around the perimeter, locations for kids to ride a bike or experimental space for performances and theater, the ability to hold events and celebrations, and provide food and drink concessions, as well as tables and chairs, benches, and lighting that will allow for enjoyment of the facility.

Any and all power needs for the Pier should come from sustainable energy. Best efforts should also be made to provide a connection to the Hudson River, for educational and recreational uses.

Manhattan Community Board 4 has been waiting years for this portion of Hudson River Park to be completed, and while there are still hurdles to clear, opening on interim uses for Pier 76 is a good sign that more green space will be in the near future. As this was the first in the process for creating usable space on the Pier, MCB4 anticipates more community input and is excited to be a part of the interim and permanent park process.

Thank you,



Lowell Kern
Chair
Manhattan Community Board 4



Jeffrey LeFrancois
Co-Chair
Waterfront, Parks, & Environment Committee



Maarten deKadt
Co-Chair
Waterfront, Parks & Environment Committee

Cc: Hon. Jerry Nadler, U.S. Congressman
Hon. Brad Hoylman, New York State Senator
Hon. Richard Gottfried, Assembly Member
Hon. Corey Johnson, NYC Council Speaker
Hon. Gale Brewer, Manhattan Borough President
Hon. Vicki Been, NYC Deputy Mayor
Basil Seggos, Chair, HRP Trust, State DEC Commissioner
Erik Kulleseid, State Parks Commissioner