



CITY OF NEW YORK  
**MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR**

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**LOWELL D. KERN**  
Chair

**JESSE R. BODINE**  
District Manager

November 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Ellyn Canfield  
Director  
Office of Citywide Events Coordination  
& Management & Street Activity Permit Office  
253 Broadway, 6th Fl.  
New York, NY 10007

Ed Pincar  
Manhattan Borough Commissioner  
Department of Transportation  
59 Maiden Ln., 37th Fl.  
New York, NY 10038

Jonnel Doris  
Commissioner  
NYC Small Business Services  
One Liberty Plaza, 11th Floor  
New York, NY 10006

Re: Art Walk to promote 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue restaurant business.

Dear Director Canfield, Borough Commissioner Pincar, and Commissioner Doris,

At its November 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting, Manhattan Community Board 4's (MCB4) Executive Committee (EXEC) voted to support a joint proposal from the Hudson Yards/ Hell's Kitchen Business Improvement District (The BID) and the 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue Association to organize a Hell's Kitchen and Hudson Yards Art Walk along Ninth Avenue, over the course of two weekend days. (Tentatively December 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.).<sup>1</sup>

The Executive Committee supports the organizer's goal of encouraging foot traffic along 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue. This event will bring attention and interest to visual artists participating in the

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<sup>1</sup> Due to the proposed timing of the event MCB4's EXEC Committee voted to send this letter of support immediately. This letter will be subject to ratification at the December 2, 2020 Full Board meeting.

event as well as neighborhood merchants, restaurants and businesses along the avenue and side streets.

MCB4's Executive Committee believes that since the proposed event takes place on the sidewalk and would support local businesses that the Department of Transportation and NYC Small Business Services are the most appropriate agencies to review and approve the event. However, after initial conversations with NYC DOT, we believe the proposal will require the oversight of the Office of Citywide Events Coordination & Management & Street Activity Permit Office as well. MCB4 knows the 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue Association to be very experienced in managing these type of street events and they would be able to work with the city agencies and produce a safe and successful event. For these reasons, MCB4 supports this event with the following guidelines:

- Street Segment: Along historic 9th Avenue, from 34th to 57th Streets.
- Vendor Set Up:
  - Each artist will set up curbside, on the sidewalk fronting vacant store fronts. No more than five artists per block. All construction and scaffolding will be avoided for safety.
  - Each artist will be given a 4 foot-deep by 10-foot-wide footprint, which is in line with the current furniture area (tree pits), on the sidewalk, to assure adequate space for pedestrian traffic and appropriate social distancing of guests.
- Vendor Responsibilities:
  - Each artist will be responsible, via contract for any and all refuse, as well as set up and breakdown within the parameters of the event.
- COVID19 Precautions:
  - Masks will be required for all artists, artists staff, event ambassadors, participants and guests.
  - Event Ambassadors will ensure proper social distancing, information dissemination and safety throughout the event.
  - Signage will be created and displayed to reinforce appropriate social distancing.
- Sanitation:
  - The BID cleanup team and the ACE partnership along with neighborhood volunteer groups will provide real time event to clean up.
  - The organizers will fund an additional DSNY truck pick up and sweeping route if necessary.
- Security: the event organizers will coordinate with the Midtown North, Midtown South, and 10<sup>th</sup> Precincts, along with the Port Authority Police Department, to ensure safety for both artists and guests.
- Non-profit participation: Art Walk will make available stands for non-profit organizations as requested.

MCB4 looks forward to seeing the city agencies coordinating with the event organizers to produce a successful and safe event.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. Kern', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Lowell D. Kern

Chair

Manhattan Community Board 4

cc: Hon. Corey Johnson, Speaker, City Council  
Hon. Gale A. Brewer, Manhattan Borough President  
Hudson Yards Hell's Kitchen Alliance  
9<sup>th</sup> Avenue Association