JEFFREY LEFRANCOIS

JESSE R. BODINE District Manager

June 14, 2022

Hon. Eric Adams Mayor City Hall New York, NY 10007

Hon. Adrienne Adams Speaker New York City Council City Hall New York, New York 10007

Hon. Mark Levine Manhattan Borough President 1 Centre Street, 19th Floor

New York, New York 10007

Re: City Council Intro 258 - A local law in relation to a report on suitable locations for installing public bathrooms

Dear Mayor Adams, Speaker Adams, and Borough President Levine,

Manhattan Community Board 4 (MCB4), at its June 1st Full Board Meeting, voted with 44 in favor, 0 against, 2 abstaining and 0 present but not eligible to vote, in support of Intro 258, a local law in relation to a report on suitable locations for installing public bathrooms.

This bill would require the Department of Transportation and the Department of Parks and Recreation to submit a joint report to the Mayor and to the Speaker of the City Council, identifying at least one location in each New York City zip code suitable for installing a public bathroom. The Department of Transportation and Department of Parks and Recreation would need to consult with community boards and the public when considering the locations for installing a public bathroom. The report would also need to include the factors the agencies considered when choosing the locations for installing public bathrooms, costs and challenges associated with installing public bathrooms, and recommendations for installing public bathrooms and implementing any necessary safety measures for each location identified in the

MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR

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report to address any challenges associated with such installation.

MCB4 recognizes that this is just a first step in the process of addressing how to install more public bathrooms to address this public health need, so as this report is developed, we encourage the city to also explore:

- Plans for existing public bathrooms to make them operable, like those maintained and controlled by the Parks Department and MTA.
- The feasibility of adding public showers to some of the new bathrooms.
- Whether the rest of the public bathrooms purchased during the Bloomberg administration could be installed (only 4 of the 20 were installed).
- Working with Business Improvement Districts to identify how they may play a role in installing and/or maintaining more public bathrooms.
- Subsidizing or incentivizing private property owners to allow use of their businesses as public bathrooms.

MCB4 thanks the Manhattan Borough President's office for presenting this bill to the Arts, Culture, Education, and Street Life Committee and looks forward to hearing updates on progress in the future.

Sincerely,

Jeffery LeFrnacois

Chair

Community Board 4

Allen Oster

Co-Chair

ACES Committee

Kit Tollerson

Co-Chair

ACES Committee

cc: Hon. Erik Bottcher, City Council

Fred Kreizman, Commissioner, Mayor's Community Affairs Unit