

JEFFREY LEFRANCOIS

JESSE R. BODINE District Manager

Chair

August 2, 2022

CITY OF NEW YORK

MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR

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Thomas Foley Commissioner NYC Department of Design & Construction 30-30 Thomson Avenue Long Island City, NY 11101

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

Re: Water Main Replacement project – Seventh Avenue - MED669

Dear Commissioners Foley & Pincar,

Manhattan Community Board 4 (MCB4) thanks the Department of Design and Construction (DDC) for the information they provided on the upcoming replacement of the Water Main on Seventh Avenue and side streets between West 14th and West 26th Streets. The project will last from 2023 to 2027. (Unfortunately, Con Edison was not able to present at the same time, therefore we do not yet have a complete description of the project and its protocols).

We request that the pavement and sidewalks be permanently restored as soon as the work is completed once on one or at most two blocks instead of installing temporary finishes. As we've learned on Ninth Avenue, temporary finishes are dangerous for pedestrians and cyclists, and leaving them in place for the duration of the project leaves residents with a sense of project fatigue.

It is crucial that all work be done during weekday business hours (7AM to 3PM) instead of overnight as this is a very residential district.

We are pleased to hear that utility work will take into account the presence of bike lanes and pedestrian refuges, and that there will be no loss of trees. We understand that all pedestrian refuges will be restored to their current configuration with trees.

According to DDC, proper bike lane detours will be implemented per Department of Transportation (DOT) guidelines, and bus stops will be relocated to the next block.

We request that DDC consult with the Board for the location of material staging. We further request that DDC confirm our understanding, notify us if any final decisions differ from our requests, and help us secure a meeting with Con Edison regarding their involvement in the project. This letter was voted on at MCB4's July 27 Full Board meeting, by a vote of 38 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstaining, and 0 present but not eligible to vote.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey LeFrancois

Chair

Manhattan Community

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Board 4

Christine Berthet

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Co-chair

Transportation Planning

Committee

Dale Corvino Co-chair

Transportation Planning

Committee

Cc: Kimberly Williams, Con Ed