



CITY OF NEW YORK
MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR

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JEFFREY LEFRANCOIS
Chair

JESSE R. BODINE
District Manager

February 6, 2023

Alan van Capelle
Executive Director
Friends of The High Line
The Diller – von Furstenberg Building
820 Washington Street
New York, NY 10014

Re: High Line Section 3 WRY Reconstruction Project

Dear Mr. van Capelle,

Thank you for presenting the plans for the High Line Section 3 Western Rail Yard (WRY) reconstruction project at the Manhattan Community Board 4 (MCB4) Waterfront, Parks & Environment Committee (WPE) January 12, 2023 meeting. This section wraps around the Western Rail Yards from 30th to 34th Street hugging the West Side Highway.

At its February 1st Full Board meeting by a vote of 39 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstentions and 2 present but not eligible, MCB4 approves the following comments.

The High Line is a magnificent public space and MCB4 appreciates the value of this beautiful park in our district. We recognize the partially battered conditions, primarily on the walkway, are in need of refurbishment and look forward to planned renovations updating the section mentioned above.

This section is less than 10 years old, and it was troublesome to hear the current bonded aggregate surface is already exhibiting wear and tear. Unfortunately, proper materials were not used in the original construction resulting in premature dilapidation and a costly redo.

MCB4 appreciates the addition of new lighting where none previously existed, which will allow for extended usable hours for this section, coinciding with the rest of the High Line. MCB4 requests this new lighting be powered by green energy. Considering this renovation is using 100% public, city funds and will force this portion be closed for an extended length of time, we expect the new, low level and accent lighting installations will incorporate readily available, sustainable energy components supplying

energy for both day and nighttime hours. It is concerning the plan presented included no renewable energy elements.

Additionally, MCB4 is pleased the High Line is taking this opportunity to refurbish seating in this area, using user-friendly backs and durable materials. We also like the new drainage system will direct rainwater to plant beds likely reducing the quantity that will be sent to the city's stormwater system. We would appreciate more if, in your design process, you seriously considered additional ways to capture and beneficially use storm water.

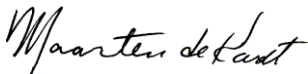
And though an additional entry point on the western side of the High Line is not included in this plan, we hope the push to incorporate the additional required connection, as per the WRY Agreement, is ongoing.

We look forward to the refurbished High Line Section 3 and anticipate a greener, updated section of this beautiful space.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey LeFrancois
Chair
Manhattan Community Board 4



Maarten deKadt
Co-chair
Waterfront, Parks & Environment Committee



Leslie Boghosian Murphy
Co-chair
Waterfront, Parks & Environment Committee

CC: Sreoshy Banerjea, Executive Director, Public Design Commission