



CITY OF NEW YORK
MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR

424 West 33rd Street, Suite 580 New York, NY 10001

tel: 212-736-4536
www.nyc.gov/mcb4

JESSICA CHAIT
Chair

JESSE R. BODINE
District Manager

May 15, 2024

Hon. Erik Bottcher
NYC Council Member
224 W. 30th Street, Suite 1206
New York, NY 10001

Re: NYC Street Co-naming Application
23rd Street & 8th Avenue in honor of Rock Band KISS

Dear Council Member Bottcher,

Manhattan Community Board 4 (MCB4), at the May 1 Full Board Meeting voted, by a vote of 37 in favor, 2 opposed, 0 abstention, and 0 present but not eligible, to recommend **denial** of Michael Fame’s request for a Secondary Street Co-Naming of “KISS Korner” on the corner of 23rd Street & Eighth Avenue.

Although the Board applauds the exceptional presentation by the applicant for this project, the Board finds that the application does not meet the intent of the Board’s longstanding guidelines regarding Secondary Street Co-Namings. The Board acknowledges the artistic legacy of the rock band KISS, including their decades of producing popular music and legions of devoted fans. The Board further acknowledges that KISS posed in front of this corner on the album cover of their hit 1975 “Dressed to Kill” album.

However, the Board believes that Secondary Street Co-Namings should be reserved for individuals who have demonstrated extraordinary longstanding commitment to New York City and the relevant area. Moreover, the Board’s guidelines require that there be “virtually no opposition from residents . . . in the immediate vicinity of the proposed sign.” During the Transportation Planning Committee’s April 17, 2024 meeting, the block association and several

residents were opposed to the proposed “KISS Korner.” Therefore, the Board believes that a Secondary Street Co-Naming for the band KISS at this location would not be appropriate at this time. A plaque on the building at this corner, or where their studio was located further east, may be a more appropriate homage to this important New York Band. We also want to acknowledge the extraordinary work done by the applicant for this project.

Sincerely,



Jessica Chait
Chair
Manhattan Community Board 4



Christine Berthet
Co-Chair
Transportation Planning Committee



Jesse Greenwald
Co-Chair
Transportation Planning Committee

Cc: Michael Fame, Street Co-Naming Applicant