

CITY OF NEW YORK MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR

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JESSICA CHAIT Chair

JESSE R. BODINE District Manager

June 18, 2024

Rick Cotton
Executive Director
Port Authority of New York & New Jersey
4 World Trade Center
150 Greenwich Street, 22nd Floor
New York, NY 10007

Re: Lincoln Tunnel Parapet Walls

Dear Mr. Cotton,

Manhattan Community Board 4 (MCB4) by a vote of 40 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstaining, and 0 present but not eligible at the June 5th Full Board meeting, supports the replacement of five parapets on the bridge at West 34th, West 35th and West 37th Streets as proposed by the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey (PANYNJ).

The construction is slated for 2027. We ask that the Port Authority make every effort to construct the parapets so that they can be installed within normal construction hours and minimal disruption to residents.

In 2018, the existing parapets were inspected and deemed structurally unsafe. The PANYNJ reinforced them with bulky cement barriers that encroach on the pedestrian clear path. The new parapets will replace both components, freeing up pedestrian space.

The parapets are located along the bridges over the Expressway to the Lincoln Tunnel, on West 34th and West 35th Streets between Dyer and Tenth Avenue, and on the south side of West 37th Street between Ninth and Tenth Avenues. The parapets on the north side of West 37th Street and both sides of West 38th Street are slated to be removed next year, as part of the construction of deck-overs for the Bus Terminal Replacement Project.

The parapets are 8-ft tall including a cement base and a steel top, with integrated pedestrian lighting. A graffiti-proof coating will protect the painted surface that will be maintained by the

Port Authority. In case the BID decides to change the paint or add murals on the parapets, the HYHK Alliance will take over the maintenance.

The Port Authority worked with the Hudson Yards / Hell's Kitchen Alliance BID who hired a designer to explore various options that would fit with the district streetscape and the PANYNJ technical requirements. The Streetscape planning committee of the BID approved the design.

Sincerely,

Jessica Chait

Chair

Manhattan Community Board 4

Christine Berthet

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Co-Chair

Transportation Planning Committee

Jesse Greenwald

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Co-Chair

Transportation Planning Committee

cc: Robert Benfatto, President, HYHK BID