



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

June 17, 2024

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

Re: Intercity Bus Permit Application
Big Bus Tour – 11th Avenue (14/15)

Dear Commissioner Pincar,

At its June 5th Full Board meeting, by a vote of 39 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstaining, and 1 present but not eligible, Manhattan Community Board 4 (MCB4) does not support the proposed stop for Big Bus Tours on 11th Avenue between West 14th and West 15th Streets, because it is adjacent to a park and on a narrow sidewalk. Further there is no highway pedestrian crossing at this location, a key component of the applicant's operation.

Big Bus Tours operates a hop-on/hop-off service with stops at many tourist attractions in New York. This stop would bring visitors to Pier 57. There would be a trip every 15 minutes from 9:40 AM to 6:00 PM daily. There will be no layover at that location with each bus staying two minutes at the stop.

MCB4 supports – and the applicant has no objection to – the installation of a new sightseeing bus stop for Big Bus Tours on 11th Avenue between West 15th and West 16th Street, closer to West 15th Street where there is a pedestrian crossing of the highway. The stop would be shared with an MTA bus stop. Generally, MCB4 does not favor long distance buses sharing stops with MTA buses. In this case, the stops will be very short since it is a hop-on/hop-off bus. By contrast, long distance buses take much longer to load and unload luggage, and thus are delaying the service to local transit users. Further, the M12 bus stops only twice per hour. The sidewalk is very wide and mostly devoid of pedestrian traffic. The adjacent land use is commercial.

This company has a good safety records and accommodates ADA service.

We ask the DOT to support our proposed location.

Sincerely,



Jessica Chait
Chair
Manhattan Community Board 4



Christine Berthet
Co-Chair
Transportation Planning Committee



Jesse Greenwald
Co-Chair
Transportation Planning Committee

cc: Peter Brown, Big Bus Tours