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Chair

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CITY OF NEW YORK
MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR

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December 31, 2024

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

Re: Precast Porous Concrete Panels in Manhattan Community District 4

Dear Commissioner Pincar,

At its December 4, 2024 meeting by a vote of 42 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstaining, and 0 present but not eligible to vote, Manhattan Community Board 4 (“MCB4”) requests the New York City Department of Transportation (“DOT”) to consider a pilot program to introduce Precast Porous Concrete Panels (“PPCP”) into our district.

The MCB4 Transportation Planning Committee (“TPC”) recently received a presentation from the NYC Department of Design and Construction (“DDC”) regarding their current program to install PPCP into neighborhoods in the Bronx. As the Transportation Planning Committee learned, PPCP is special roadway paving that is designed to collect and manage stormwater that runs off the streets and sidewalks when it rains. Installing green infrastructure like PPCP is particularly important as New York City sees increasing cloudburst events that are releasing amounts of rain that our current infrastructure cannot handle, leading to combined sewer overflows into our rivers.

PPCP, which includes water drainage cells, is a vast improvement to asphalt, as it collects the rainwater rather than having rainwater flow on top without capturing any of the water. In the

Bronx, the DOT and DDC are placing PPCP onto roadways next to sidewalks to collect excess stormwater runoff.

In our district, we have numerous areas of chronic ponding during heavy rainfall, which could be alleviated by the installation of PPCP. These include certain roadway along the curb, and along bike lanes, where the ponding makes it dangerous to ride, intersections, near pedestrian ramps, and school playgrounds.

We request that the DOT work with the DDC to introduce PPCP into our district. We suggest a pilot program targeted at new pedestrian ramps where pooling is reported and the worst areas of chronic pooling, which the MCB4 would assist in identifying.

Sincerely,



Jessica Chait
Chair
Manhattan Community Board 4



Christine Berthet
Co-Chair
Transportation Planning Committee



Jesse Greenwald
Co-Chair
Transportation Planning Committee