



CITY OF NEW YORK  
**MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD No. 4**

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**JESSICA CHAIT**  
Chair

**JESSE BODINE**  
District Manager

November 13, 2025

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

**Re: Re-design of the 16<sup>th</sup> Street elevator and stairs on the High Line**

Dear Mr. van Capelle,

Thank you for your presentation of the re-design of the 16<sup>th</sup> Street elevator and stairs to Manhattan Community Board 4's (MCB4) Waterfront, Parks and Environment Committee's October 9, 2025 monthly meeting. The Committee appreciated the new design as it will widen the street level sidewalk, improve access to the High Line at that point, create more open access to this access point at the High Line level, and it is esthetically pleasing. When completed, it will be a great improvement over the existing condition. With this letter, we offer a few comments and concerns about the new design.

MCB4, by a vote of 44 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstentions and 1 present but not eligible, approved the following comments at the November 5, 2025 full board meeting.

The committee expressed concern that the closing of the access point to the High Line would unnecessarily restrict access to the High Line as other exits points are also scheduled for closure. We were pleased to learn that your scheduling of work on the High Line's access points already takes this concern into account and that you will limit the access closings at any one time.

We noted that there is a Citi Bike Station that currently blocks easy road access to the stairs and elevator. We believe the bike stands directly in front of the elevator/stairs should be moved to another nearby location to address the concern of pick up/drop off for those with disabilities and special needs. We were pleased to learn you are already in negotiations with Citi Bike to make such a move and ask that you let us know the outcome of those negotiations.

We appreciate your attention to downward focusing lighting so as not to disturb residents in nearby buildings. We were disappointed to learn that you are not including the installation of solar power collectors to augment electricity usage at this location. We ask that you reconsider finding a way to include solar power collectors in this project and thus promote the High Line's commitment to sustainability at this location as well as future installations.

Again, we thank you for your presentation and look forward to the completion of this new entry point to the High Line.

Sincerely,



Jessica Chait  
Chair  
Manhattan Community Board 4



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



Maarten deKadt  
Co-Chair  
Waterfront, Parks & Environment Committee