CITY OF NEW YORK

MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD No. 4

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https://cbmanhattan.cityofnewyork.us/cb4/

JESSICA CHAIT
Chair

JESSE R. BODINE
District Manager

November 14, 2025

Captain Marion M. Cuevas
New York Police Department
Transit District 1
New York, NY 10019

Re: Request to Remove Barricades on the A/C/E platform at the Times Square-42nd Street Subway Station

Dear Captain Cuevas,

At its November 5, 2025 meeting by a vote of 45 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstaining, and 0 present but not eligible to vote, Manhattan Community Board 4 ("MCB4") writes to request removal of the barricades partially blocking pedestrian access to the mezzanine of the A/C/E platform at Times Square subway station, near the 44th Street entrance.

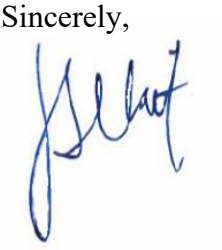
For the past several months, members of the community have complained about the NYPD Transit Bureau barricades located outside of the entrance to the Transit Bureau precinct located inside the Times Square-42nd Street subway station. Specifically, the barricades are located inside the mezzanine hallway underneath Eighth Avenue that funnels passengers from the A/C/E trains to the Port Authority Bus Terminal and the rest of the Times Square-42nd Street subway station.

The barricades block half of the hallway, which conflicts with MTA's intended circulation in this area as there are signs throughout the corridor asking passengers to "Keep Right." That is not possible because the barricades block half of the corridor, which contributes to overcrowding. It also appears that the barricades are used to denote areas where trash bags and other property are stored.

According to MTA data, the Times Square-42nd Street subway station is the busiest in the entire system as it saw an average of 177,000 passengers per weekday during 2024.[1]

We respectfully request removal of the barricades so that the hallway may be used as designed. If there is an operational need to keep the barricades, we respectfully request a meeting to discuss alternative options such as the NYPD Transit Bureau removing the barricades during peak times.

Sincerely,



Jessica Chait Chair Manhattan Community Board 4	Christine Berthet Co-Chair Transportation Planning Committee	Jesse Greenwald Co-Chair Transportation Planning Committee

CC: MTA Times Square-42nd Street Station Manager
MCB5 Transportation Committee

[1] Station data available at https://www.mta.info/agency/new-york-city-transit/subway-bus-ridership-2024