



CITY OF NEW YORK

MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR

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COREY JOHNSON
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District Manager

January 4, 2012

Margaret Forgione
Manhattan Borough Commissioner
New York City Department of Transportation
55 Water Street, 9th Floor
New York, New York 10041

RE: Mega Bus Loading/Unloading Zone

Dear Commissioner Forgione:

Manhattan Community Board 4 is pleased that the Mega Bus Loading Zone on 9th Avenue near 33rd Street will be relocated in January 2012. We have long been opposed to that loading zone due to the heavy pedestrian traffic from passengers, lack of rest room facilities for waiting passengers, double parking, and high level of noise disrupting nearby residents and severely reducing pedestrian access to the avenue. We are disappointed that it was not those concerns, but rather the needs of a developer building next to the loading zone that finally has forced DOT to relocate it. In any case, we encourage DOT to remove that loading zone expeditiously.

We are, however, pleased that DOT has agreed to consult with the Community Board in advance of identifying a permanent replacement loading zone. We ask that DOT notify CB4 of the proposed location in the first 3 weeks of January 2012 to give us time to vet it and still achieve a January move. We also understand that a temporary relocation may occur in advance of DOT working with the Community Board to identify a more suitable location. We insist that any such temporary relocation be removed from heavy pedestrian and residential areas. We suggest locations along the West 30th on 11th Avenue as a possibility, which are also the locations we hope for any permanent relocation.

We remain very concerned by the use of our streets for major bus companies loading and the severe problems they cause. As you know we are working with our state representatives toward state legislation to enable NYC DOT to regulate long term bus traffic and loading and unloading more aggressively. However, in the interim, we are pleased that NYC DOT has committed to working with the Community Board to find any future loading zone sites.

Sincerely yours,

Corey Johnson
Chair
Manhattan Community Board 4

Christine Berthet
Co-Chair
Transportation Planning Committee

Jay Marcus
Co-Chair
Transportation Planning Committee