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CITY OF NEW YORK

MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR

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JOHN WEIS Chair

ROBERT J. BENFATTO, JR., ESQ. District Manager

November 3, 2010

Margaret Forgione Manhattan Borough Commissioner New York City Department of Transportation 40 Worth Street New York, New York 10013

Re: West 58th Street Shuttle bus loading

Dear Commissioner Forgione:

Manhattan Community Board 4 (CB4) requests that the Department of Transportation (DOT) study various options to alleviate the double and triple parking of many private shuttle buses on 58th Street at Columbus Circle. The development of Riverside complex - without the implementation of the requisite public transportation - has generated a multitude of private shuttle trips, to bring residents from the far west side to the Columbus Circle subway station at Eighth Avenue and 58th Street. The upcoming development of Riverside South will only add to the volumes.

The use of private shuttles is vastly preferable to the use of individual cars; however, without a proper loading-unloading area, these vehicles create havoc by double - and triple- parking in a street already plagued by heavy traffic. The Hudson Hotel, a very popular hotel and lounge has lines of taxis, Time Warner center and its stores and restaurants receive hundreds of deliveries and the Whole Foods store is serviced by queued tractor trailers double parked waiting to clear the building's security check.

The residents of 58th Street have identified two curbs as good candidates to be designated as shuttle bus loading areas:

- The western curb of Columbus Circle north of the MTA bus stop, at 58th Street. This location is particularly well suited as there is ample space, which does not interfere with traffic.
- The western curb of Eighth Avenue, between 57th and 58th Streets

The loading area would be used only between 7-10 a.m. and 4-7 p.m.

We expect that such a facility will alleviate the congestion on 58th Street and make the commute of Riverside residents more reliable.

Sincerely,

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John Weis Chair

Manhattan Community Board No. 4

Christine Berthet

Co-Chair

Transportation Planning Committee

Jay Marcus Co-Chair

Transportation Planning Committee