December 10, 2002

Mayor Michael Bloomberg City of New York City Hall New York, NY 10007

## **Re: Support for New York Public Libraries**

Dear Mayor Bloomberg:

Manhattan Community Board No. 4 has always strongly supported our New York Public Libraries.

WHEREAS, we feel the cuts to the libraries resulting in a loss of \$16.8 million will have disastrous effects upon the following services:

- 1. The end of six day service where still available,
- 2. 27,000 fewer books per library,
- 3. Cutbacks in CLASP, the libraries' support system to the schools,
- 4. Reduced literacy programs for adults,
- 5. Greater reductions in security and maintenance,
- 6. The only "after school" program option in every community, and
- 7. The use of computers with free internet access.

Therefore, Manhattan Community Board No. 4 urges the City to provide funding to at least maintain five-day service and ensure quality service and adequate materials to ensure the continued viability of the New York Public Library. We also urge the New York Public Library to considering keeping the libraries in our district open at least one day during the weekend.

Sincerely,

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Chair Manhattan Community Board No. 4

Lance Dashefsky Co-Chair Quality of Life Committee Millie Glaberman Co-Chair Quality of Life Committee

This letter was approved by the full Board at its meeting on December 4, 2002.