



CITY OF NEW YORK

MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD No. 4

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J. LEE COMPTON
Chair

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District Manager

November 2, 2006

Resolution supporting Manhattan Community Board No 4 membership in the Coalition to Protect Our Parks, which opposes alienation of parkland for municipal purposes, and, in particular, opposes portions of NYC's Solid Waste Management Plan as proposed for the west side of Manhattan, and supports the study of alternative options. [REVISED 1 November 2006]

Whereas NYC has recently approved a city wide Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP), and;

Whereas, a primary component of this plan is to achieve a greater degree of equity in the disposition of waste, calling on each borough to handle its fair share of waste generated, and;

Whereas, in general the SWMP achieves these goals admirably, and;

Whereas, on the west side of Manhattan, the SWMP calls for the creation of a major recycling facility and marine transfer facility (MTS) on what is legally defined as parkland by the NYS Hudson River Park Act, the Gansevoort Peninsula, and;

Whereas, this use is specifically forbidden by the Hudson River Park Act, and;

Whereas, furthermore, the plan calls for a second major MTS for commercial waste at Pier 99 at 59th Street, also within Hudson River Park, and;

Whereas, while the Hudson River Park Act permits a municipal waste facility at Pier 99, enlargement or commercial use of this pier is specifically forbidden by the Hudson River Park Act, and;

Whereas, an new organization has been formed called Coalition to Protect Our Parks (CPOP) that opposes alienation of parkland for municipal purposes, and, in particular, opposes the portions of NYC's Solid Waste Management Plan currently proposed for the west side of Manhattan at Gansevoort Peninsula and Pier 99, and supports the study of alternative options to this plan that can accomplish the same goals of the SWMP in a better way, and;

Whereas, the initial members of CPOP include virtually all west side elected officials, the Friends of Hudson River Park, Manhattan Community Boards 2, 4 (conditionally) and 7, and other civic organizations in formation, and;

Whereas, CPOP endorses the goal that each borough should be responsible for the disposition of its own waste in as equitable a manner as possible, and;

Whereas, CPOP believes that alternatives to the SWMP in Manhattan have not been fully studied, and;

Whereas, the possible alternatives include a below-grade rail option in the vicinity of West 30th Street, and;

Whereas, possible alternatives also include consolidating the handling of both commercial and recycled waste in a single facility at Pier 76, at West 36th Street, thus freeing up Pier 99 for a park or park-compatible use and creating a single MTS for Manhattan waste in Hudson River Park, therefore;

It is resolved that Manhattan Community Board No 4 agrees to join with Manhattan Community Boards 2 and 7 as members of the Coalition to Protect Our Parks, and;

It is further resolved that Manhattan Community Board No 4 opposes alienation of parkland for municipal purposes in general, and, in particular, opposes portions of NYC's SWMP as proposed for the west side of Manhattan at Gansevoort Peninsula and Pier 99, and supports the study of alternative options to this plan, such as those listed above, that may accomplish the same goals of the SWMP in a better way and in a way that does not violate NYS law.