



CITY OF NEW YORK

MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD No. 4

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J. LEE COMPTON
Chair

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

December 11, 2006

Mr. Frank Dunstan
Division of Lands and Forests
NYS DEC
625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12233-4253

Re: 2006 Tree Planting Cost-Share Grants for Urban and Community Forestry in New York State –
For Hell’s Kitchen South Neighborhood, Manhattan, NY

Dear Mr. Dunstan

At the last meeting of the Waterfront & Parks Committee of Manhattan Community Board No 4, the Hell’s Kitchen Neighborhood Association advised us that it was seeking a grant from DEC, to be shared with a matching grant from the Office of the Manhattan Borough President, to plant 33 trees along Ninth Avenue from 35th to 40th Street. As it is clear to us that street trees in urban areas such as Manhattan have many benefits including health and quality of life, and as it is further clear that this stretch of busy roadway is deficient in the number trees along the area defined, Manhattan Community Board No 4 wholeheartedly endorses this grant request and urges both NYS DEC and the Manhattan Borough President’s Office to approved the grant request.

The Hell’s Kitchen Neighborhood Association is a long and well established group of area residents who live in a neighborhood that is both park-starved as well as overloaded with roadways, overpasses and cuts that serve the large Port Authority Bus Terminal as well as the extremely busy Lincoln Tunnel. The trees that these grants would fund will make a marked difference in this area and are sorely needed, and HKNA will be an excellent steward for this project.

Sincerely

J. Lee Compton
Chair
Manhattan Community Board 4

Kristin Dionne
Co-Chair
Waterfront and Parks

John Doswell
Co-Chair
Waterfront and Parks

cc: HKNA
MBPO
Electeds