



CITY OF NEW YORK

**MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR**

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**JEAN-DANIEL NOLAND**  
Chair

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

July 27, 2008

Beverly Gotay, Deputy Director  
Special Applications Unit  
NYC Department of Consumer Affairs  
42 Broadway  
New York, NY 10004-1716

Application: Sidewalk Newsstand (NEW)  
Proposed location: NWC West 55<sup>th</sup> Street and Ninth Avenue  
DCA Application #: 1290171  
Applicant: Isprans Youssef

Dear Ms. Gotay,

Manhattan Community Board 4 recommends **denial** of the application of Ms. Isprans Youssef for a new newsstand on the northwest corner of West 55th Street and Ninth Avenue. This was subsequent to review of the application by the Transportation Planning Committee at its July 16, 2008 meeting.

The recommendation to deny this application is due to the following:

The application is not in compliance with the Newsstand Rules of the Department of Consumer Affairs:

- There is only an 8 foot 7 inch clearance between the proposed newsstand and the property line. This is in violation of the rules (Section 2-65 (a) (1) (A) that requires a straight unobstructed path ("clear path") of at least 9 ½ feet of sidewalk width. Although there is a little extra room within the property line, this should not count for measuring the clear path since the property owner could limit access to this space in the future.

Stakeholders in our community object to the proposed newsstand:

- The property owner, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre, has created a video art installation in the windows of its ground floor studios and these will be on display until the summer of 2009. In fact, a distinctive feature of the Theatre building is its open studios on the ground floor where pedestrians can view the dancers from the sidewalks. The proposed newsstand would limit visibility of both the ground floor studios and the video installation. The property owner is thus strongly opposed to the installation of a newsstand at the current location. Please find the letter attached.

For the above reasons, we ask that this application be rejected by your agency.

On July 23rd, 2008 the Full Board voted in favor to recommended denial of this application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of the letters 'Jd' in a cursive, stylized font.

Jean-Daniel Noland  
Chair  
Manhattan Community Board 4

c.c.:  
Department of Transportation  
Art Commission  
Applicant