



CITY OF NEW YORK

**MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR**

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**COREY JOHNSON**  
Chair

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

August 7, 2013

Lisa Kaplan / Holly Leicht  
Parks Platform 2013 Outreach / Executive Director  
New Yorkers for Parks  
The Arthur Ross Center for Parks and Open Spaces  
55 Broad Street, 23<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10004

**Re: NY4P Platform 2013**

Dear Ms. Kaplan and Leicht:

Manhattan Community Board 4 (MCB4) is a strong advocate for parks and green and open space in our district and throughout the city. Sadly our district ranks near the bottom for New York City in park space per capita. As such, our Board has a long track record of pushing for the greening of our neighborhoods. It is routine for us to ask of developers within our district to include as much open space as possible in their projects. Recently, through the collective action of our Board and the City Council Speaker Christine Quinn, funding was granted for "Block 4" of Hudson Park and Boulevard. This previously unfunded part of Park within the Hudson Yards was mitigation for the loss of ~20,000 square feet of open space promised in the Eastern Rail Yards Agreement. MCB4 continues to have active input in the design of this and other parks to ensure our neighborhoods' needs are reflected.

MCB4 firmly believes parks and open spaces add value to our quality of life. That is why we are happy to support New Yorkers for Parks, recognizing this is an organization that for over 100 years has built, protected and promoted parks and open spaces throughout our city. NY4P's Platform 2013 seeks to achieve many of the same objectives as our Board so we applaud New Yorkers for Parks' campaign to make green and open spaces part of the conversation in this year's mayoral election.

Just as NY4P's Platform 2013 seeks to:

- Integrate Parks Planning into Neighborhood, Citywide and Resiliency Planning;
- Restrict and Strongly Regulate the Privatization of Parkland;
- Increase Transparency and Efficiency of the Parks Department to Ensure Equitable Distribution of Resources; and
- Advocate for the overhaul of how the Parks Department is funded;


we too at MCB4 would like to see the next administration work towards these goals.

This agenda is important for our entire city, but especially for our very dense, park starved district.

Sincerely,



Corey Johnson  
Chair



John Doswell  
Co-Chair  
Waterfront, Parks and Environment

[signed 8/06/2013]

Marten de Kadt  
Co-Chair  
Waterfront, Parks and Environment