



CITY OF NEW YORK

MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR

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DELORES RUBIN
Chair

Jesse R. Bodine
District Manager

May 9, 2016

Margaret Forgione
Manhattan Borough Commissioner
NYC Department of Transportation
59 Maiden Lane, 37th Floor
New York, NY 10038

RE: Street Seat at 431 W 37th Street (in front of Brooklyn Fare)

Dear Ms. Forgione,

Manhattan Community Board 4 (CB4) supports the application for a Street Seat at this location in front of Brooklyn Fare, a food market in Hell's Kitchen, between 9th and 10th Avenue, replacing one parking space.

Street Seats is a program of New York City Department of Transportation (DOT) to increase the number of public seating areas for pedestrians when there is not enough sidewalk space to provide such. Walking markedly improves health and longevity. It is proven that older adults walk more if there is seating available at regular intervals.

Street Seats are installed in the parking lane. Each installation consists of a raised platform flushed with the curb for ADA access, planters, and seating, in conformance with the DOT's design parameters for Street Seats. It is to be paid for, insured, and maintained by the applicant, Brooklyn Fare. It would be removed to storage each year during the winter months of November 15th to April 15th.

This application is for a 20 feet long Street Seat, using one on-street parking space in front of the store. The site had previously been favorably vetted by the Hudson Yards / Hell's Kitchen Alliance, the newly formed Business Improvement District for this neighborhood.

The applicant presented signatures of many neighbors who support this installation. As a condition of this approval, Brooklyn Fare has agreed not to install storm enclosures that exceed the 18" sidewalk projection permitted by law.

CB4 enthusiastically endorses this implementation of the DOT's Street Seat program. It is at a well-suited location, a welcoming waypoint in an increasingly residential neighborhood and streetscape of Hudson Yards.

Sincerely,



Delores Rubin
Chair



Christine Berthet
Co-Chair, Transportation
Planning Committee



Ernest Modarelli
Co-Chair, Transportation
Planning Committee