



CITY OF NEW YORK

MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR

330 West 42nd Street, 26th floor New York, NY 10036
tel: 212-736-4536 fax: 212-947-9512
www.nyc.gov/mcb4

DELORES RUBIN
Chair

Jesse Bodine
District Manager

July 26, 2017

Stanley Shor
Assistant Commissioner
Department of Information Technology & Telecommunications
255 Greenwich, 9th Floor
New York, NY 10007

Re: Ninth Avenue LINK NYC Installations

Dear Assistant Commissioner Shor,

Manhattan Community Board 4 (CB4) is pleased with the operational adjustments made by Intersections to its Links installation in 2016. However, we are concerned that a roll out on Ninth and Tenth Avenues is being planned without the Department of Information Technology and Telecommunications (DoITT) notifying our community as they had previously committed they would.

We request a meeting and a walk through of our neighborhood with you and Intersections' representatives, the company in charge of the roll out, to clear up any misunderstanding.

As you know, in a meeting with the Borough President's staff in March 2016, you indicated that we would be notified and involved in the plan to roll out the service on Ninth Avenue. Over the last few weeks, markings have appeared in front of certain installations, a sure sign that planning is under way, but we were not notified.

A representative of Intersections attended our Transportation Committee Meeting; while she confirmed that their company was fully aware of the 13 locations where installations will be removed, she would not confirm that planning for our district was under way.

Although this is not an exhaustive list, we have already identified five locations marked for installations, which is contrary to the information we received from DoITT and where an installation will be problematic:

- 462 Ninth Avenue, in a location where currently there is no installation – There is an installation around the corner and this location is across a handicapped ramp.
- 526 Ninth Avenue, the list provided by DoITT in early 2016 indicated that this installation is non-compliant with siting criteria and slated for removal. Additionally, this installation has been a longstanding problem in a location in front of an entrance.
- Tenth Avenue between 40th and 41st Streets - currently there is no installation.
- 637 Ninth Avenue - currently there is no installation. Additionally, the closest installation is a few feet south of this one. This location is in the middle of a pedestrian crossing.
- 645 Ninth Avenue, the list provided by DoITT in early 2016 indicated that this installation is non-compliant with siting criteria and slated for removal. This installation has been a longstanding problem, across a sidewalk café and in the line of sight of turning vehicles. Two pedestrians were killed at this crossing.

Our community has highlighted that the narrow sidewalks of Ninth Avenue are encumbered with too many installations, thus new installations are not welcome.

We are surprised to see that all the locations DoITT deemed non-compliant would even be marked for replacement (see list attached). We expect that, in addition to the 13 locations agreed upon with the Borough President, none of the installations deemed non-compliant would be replaced.

We also understand, as per the memorandum of understanding between the Manhattan Borough President and DoITT (see enclosed), that any proposed installation will be subject to the Community Board's approval and– if approved- will be considered a swap.

CB4 requests that no installation be performed until we have had a chance to review and comment on the plan for 9th and 10th Avenues in early September. We look forward to meeting with you.

Sincerely,



Delores Rubin
Chair
Manhattan Community
Board 4



Christine Berthet
Co-Chair,
Transportation Planning
Committee



Yoni Bokser
Co-Chair,
Transportation Planning
Committee

Enclosure

Cc: Hon. Gale A. Brewer, Manhattan Borough President

Installation ID	Building #	Street	Corner of	Borough	CB	Curb side	# of Phones	Zip code	Obstructions/comments	DoITT's Comments	Remove		
											Yes	No	Maybe
78	3929	401 WEST 54 STREET	9 AVENUE	Manhattan	4	Yes	1	10019	2 on intersection, Sidewalk café, Directly across from commercial entrance (Oscar L. Bodega) with fruit stand. Lacks 9 foot clearance Saturated --- extremely narrow sidewalks see cover notes	2 installation at intersection, 401 W 54 St clear path is 5'-9"	✓		
77	3946	400 WEST 53 STREET	9 AVENUE	Manhattan	4	Yes	1	10019	4 at intersection, Sidewalk narrows.	4 installation at intersection, 1 installation mid block, PPT at 807 9 Ave in siting violation clear path 5'-2" & in front of bldg. entrance. 2 installation in siting violation (400 West 53 Street & 795 9 Ave) < 50' See # 33 - 39	✓		
75	4094	401 WEST 52 STREET	9 AVENUE	Manhattan	4	Yes	1	10019	2 at intersection, Sidewalk café, Directly across from commercial entrance. Sidewalk narrows. Saturated --- extremely narrow sidewalks see cover notes	2 installation at intersection, 401 W 52 St in siting violation sidewalk clearance < 8'	✓		
76	14345	310 WEST 52 STREET	8 AVENUE	Manhattan	4	Yes	1	10019	3 at intersection, 3 on block, In line of sight of turning vehicles, 1 news boxes, Erroneous address --- on 8th avenue. Too close to pedestrian crossing --- garbage --- signal box. Saturated --- extremely narrow sidewalks see cover notes	4 installation at intersection, 1 installation mid block, no siting violation	✓		
74	10352	401 WEST 51 STREET	9 AVENUE	Manhattan	4	Yes	2	10019	4 at intersection, 3 news boxes, Excessive news boxes nearby. Around the corner from another phone booth. Saturated --- extremely narrow sidewalks see cover notes	3 installation at intersection, 2 installation (761 9 Ave & 401 W 52 St) < 50'	✓		
72	15243	401 WEST 48 STREET	9 AVENUE	Manhattan	4	Yes	1	10036	3 at intersection, In line of sight of turning vehicles, The phone booth blocks the view of drivers turning left onto 48th Street. 9AV here is downhill, so cars take the turn fast, and can't see because of the phone booth "I have seen one person get killed at this crosswalk and several injured. Saturated --- extremely narrow sidewalks see cover notes	2 installation at intersection, no siting violation, PPT at 401 W 48 St was temp removed due to construction 7-2013. Construction completed per inspection 9-2015 - Phone has not been reinstalled.	✓		
1	10761	735 10 AVENUE	50th	Manhattan	4	yes		10019	3 at intersection, 2 on block, Saturated --- there are 6 phones 3 on one side of the street and 3 on the other side. people often hide in the booths	4 installation at intersection, PPT at 501 W 50 St in siting violation < 15' from hydrant	✓		
51	1072	651 9 AVENUE		Manhattan	4	Yes	1	10036	4 at intersection, 3 on block, Sidewalk café, facing entrance to restaurant, bike parking, menu stand Saturated --- extremely narrow sidewalks see cover notes	2 installation at intersection, 1 installation mid block, 651 9 Ave & 645 9 Ave in siting violation clear path 5' and 6'	✓		
33	3890	861 9 AVENUE		Manhattan	4	Yes	1	10019	3 on intersection, In line of sight of turning vehicles, Sidewalk café, 4 news boxes, Directly across from commercial entrance (Puttanesca). Mailbox nearby	3 installation at intersection, 2 installation 400 W 56 St & 861 9 Ave < 50' See # 79	✓		

Priority 8th	Priority 9th	Priority Side Streets
--------------	--------------	-----------------------

68	10583	441	9 AVENUE		Manhattan	4	Yes	2	10018	3 at intersection, , , , too many at intersection. Space needed to plant a tree. Saturated --- extremely narrow sidewalks see cover notes	3 installation at intersection, PPT at 440 9 Ave in siting violation - in front of building entrance, 2 installation 380 W 35 St & 440 9 Ave < 50'	✓		
63	10639	526	9 AVENUE		Manhattan	4	Yes	2	10018	3 at intersection, 2 on block, , , 5 news boxes, 5 news boxes. Magnet for garbage, proximity to trap door, less than 9' clearance, frequent commercial complaints--- in front of business entrances Saturated --- extremely narrow sidewalks see cover notes	3 installation at intersection, 526 9 Avenue in siting violation - in front of bldg. entrance	✓		
35	10685	815	9 AVENUE		Manhattan	4	Yes	2	10019	2 on intersection and 3 on block, In line of sight of turning vehicles, Directly across from commercial entrance (Valhalla) and near trapdoor. Saturated --- extremely narrow sidewalks see	2 installation at intersection, 2 installation in siting violation (401 W 54 St < 8' clear path & 815 9 Ave in front of bldg entrance)	✓		
40	10696	762	9 AVENUE		Manhattan	4	Yes	2	10019	4 at intersection, , , 3 news boxes, Directly across from commercial entrance (Petland). Near excessive news boxes. Used as a repository for bird food to attract pigeons Saturated --- extremely narrow sidewalks see cover notes	3 installation at intersection, PPT at 762 9 Ave is not present (site under construction), 2 installation in siting violation (761 9 Ave & 401 W 51 St) < 50'	✓		
47	10698	683	9 AVENUE		Manhattan	4	Yes	2	10036	2 at intersection, In line of sight of turning vehicles, , , not operating, large double phone booth in front of buildings metal basement doors that are used for deliveries. The sidewalk is too narrow. Need a "mini" phone stand. Saturated --- extremely narrow sidewalks see cover	2 installation at intersection, 683 9 Avenue in siting violation clear path 5'	✓		
60	11006	568	9 AVENUE		Manhattan	4	Yes	2	10018	2 on block, enormous amount of garbage	2 installation at intersection, 1 installation in siting violation (551 9 Avenue < than 15' from a fire hydrant)	✓		
52	11008	645	9 AVENUE		Manhattan	4	Yes	2	10036	4 at intersection, 4 on block, , Sidewalk café, , not operating, blocks the view for drivers and pedestrians. takes up valuable sidewalk space. NW corner of 9th Avenue and 45th Street. Blind spot for drivers turning on to West 45th Street. Drivers cannot see peds crossing south	2 installation at intersection, 1 installation mid block, 651 9 Ave & 645 9 Ave in siting violation clear path 5' and 6'	✓		
36	15420	807	9 AVENUE		Manhattan	4	Yes	1	10019	3 on block, , , , Directly across from commercial entrance (Bar Nine) with trapdoor. Sidewalk narrows Saturated --- extremely narrow sidewalks see cover notes	4 installation at intersection, 1 installation mid block, PPT at 807 9 Ave in siting violation clear path 5'-2" & in front of bldg. entrance. 2 installation in siting violation (400 West 53 Street & 795 9 Ave) < 50' See # 77	✓		
14	3936	831	8 AVENUE		Manhattan	4	Yes	1	10019	4 at Intersection, In line of sight of turning vehicles, Subway entrance pedestrians walk in the road --- Level F	4 installation at intersection, no siting violation, 2 installation in CB 5, PPT at 831 8 Ave in siting violation - in front of bldg. entrance.	✓		
11	3948	889	8 AVENUE		Manhattan	4	Yes	1	10019	3 at intersection, 3 on block, In line of sight of turning vehicles, , , pedestrians walk in the road --- Level F	4 installation at intersection, PPT at 888 8 Ave in siting violation < 15' from hydrant	✓		

25	5621	601	8 AVENUE		Manhattan	4	Yes	1	10018	3 at intersection, 2 on block, , , 5 news boxes, garbage magnet pedestrians walk in the road --- Level F	4 installation at intersection, 1 installation in CB5, 2 installation in siting violation (601 8 Ave & 303 West 39 St.) < 50'	✓		
8	10330	947	8 AVENUE		Manhattan	4	Yes	2	10019	2 on block and 2 at intersection, , , , parking meter pedestrians walk in the road --- Level F	3 installation at intersection, PPT at 235 W 56 St in siting violation < 15' from hydrant	✓		
27	10827	575	8 AVENUE		Manhattan	4	Yes	2	10018	3 at intersection, 2 on block, In line of sight of turning vehicles, , , Double bike racks --- Post office Box pedestrians walk in the road --- Level F	5 installation at intersection, 3 installation in CB5, PPT at 270 W 38 St in siting violation < 8' sidewalk clearance, 2 installations (270 West 38 Street & 560 8 Ave) < 50'	✓		
7	14306	969	8 AVENUE		Manhattan	4	Yes	3	10019	3 at intersection, In line of sight of turning vehicles, , , Saturation and Safety pedestrians walk in the road --- Level F	4 installation at intersection, 1 installation mid block, PPT at 264 W 57 St in siting violation < 15' from a hydrant & bus stop shelter	✓		
16	14344	791	8 AVENUE		Manhattan	4	Yes	1	10019	3 at Intersection, In line of sight of turning vehicles, , , Store installation on street, parking metered, single box, Less than 8ft of clearance pedestrians walk in the road --- Level F	5 installation at intersection, 2 installations in CB5, PPT at 791 8 Ave in siting violation < 8' sidewalk clearance, 2 installation in siting violation (300 West 48 Street & 787 8 Ave) < 50'	✓		
30	15348	521	8 AVENUE		Manhattan	4	Yes	2	10018	1 on block 2 at intersection, In line of sight of turning vehicles, , 3 news boxes, pedestrians walk in the road --- Level F	4 installation at intersection, 2 installation in CB5, 2 installation in siting violation (272 W 36 St & 277 W 36 St) < 50'	✓		
29	15407	539	8 AVENUE		Manhattan	4	Yes	1	10018	4 at intersection, 2 on block, In line of sight of turning vehicles, , , pedestrians walk in the	5 installation at intersection, 2 installation mid block, 4 installation in CB5, 2 installation in siting violation (265 W 37 St., 266 W 37 St., & 550 8 Ave) < 50'	✓		



**Information
Technology &
Telecommunications**

Anne Roest
Commissioner
255 Greenwich Street, 9th Floor
New York, NY 10007

RECEIVED SEP 16 REC'D

September 12, 2016

Honorable Gale A. Brewer
Office of the President
Borough of Manhattan
1 Centre Street, 19th Floor
New York, NY 10007

Dear Borough President Brewer:

I am writing in response to your letter dated August 10, 2016 regarding potential LinkNYC locations within Community Board 4 in Manhattan.

As noted at our March 2016 meeting with your staff, the public pay telephone (PPT) installations listed below are owned by Telebeam Telecommunications, who filed a lawsuit against the City and CityBridge, LLC. Due to the pendency of that lawsuit, we cannot determine the future of those sites.

- 440 9th Avenue
- 502 9th Avenue
- 523 9th Avenue
- 542 9th Avenue
- 543 9th Avenue
- 761 9th Avenue
- 795 9th Avenue
- 801 9th Avenue
- 125 West 25th Street

I can inform you that our office has determined that it will not approve Link installations at the other four sites listed in your letter. The Department of Information Technology and Telecommunications (DoITT) will work with CityBridge and your office to choose appropriate alternative locations in Manhattan that will expand the Link program for all New Yorkers while meeting our contractual obligations to CityBridge regarding minimum Link locations in Manhattan.

With regard to usage limitations we share your concerns. DoITT and CityBridge will continue to monitor and assess the usage of all Links and make changes as appropriate.