Jacqueline Ludorf Chair

Latha Thompson District Manager



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The City of New York Manhattan Community Board 8

February 25, 2011

Hon. Adrian Benepe Commissioner Department of Parks and Recreation The Arsenal 830 Fifth Avenue New York, New York 10021

Re: Review of the Parks Dept.'s proposals for specialty cart licenses at various sites in Central Park

Dear Commissioner Benepe:

At the Land Use/Full Board meeting on Wednesday, February 16, 2011, Manhattan Community Board 8 voted to disapprove the following resolution by a vote of 26 in favor, 11 opposed and 4 abstentions:

Resolution:

WHEREAS mobile specialty food carts and food vending trucks create visual blight and potential noise and air pollution in parkland intended to be a verdant, natural setting and haven for cleaner air; and

WHEREAS specialty food carts and mobile trucks are larger, and thus more obtrusive, than traditional hot dog stands; and

WHEREAS restaurants already exist in Central Park that offer food alternatives to hot dogs and beverages;

WHEREAS the plan for specialty carts at one proposed location—80th St. and Central Park West—could include vending from a food truck, despite Community Board 8 M's stated opposition to selling food from such vehicles; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that Community Board 8, Manhattan, opposes the Parks Dept.'s proposal to seek bids to operate specialty carts at two Central Park locations: at 72nd St. and 5th Ave. and at 80th St. and Central Park West.

Sincerely,

Jacqueline Ludorf Chair

Margaret Price and Barbara Rudder Co-Chairs, Parks Committee

cc: Honorable Michael Bloomberg, Mayor of the City of New York Scott Stringer, Manhattan Borough President Carolyn Maloney, 14th Congressional District Representative Liz Krueger, NYS Senator, 26th Senatorial District Micah Kellner, Assemblyman, 65th Assembly District Jonathan Bing, Assemblyman, 73rd Assembly District Jessica Lappin, NYC Council Speaker, 5th Council District Daniel Garodnick, NYC Council Member, 4th Council District