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The City of New York Manhattan Community Board 8

June 22, 2012

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

Re: Status of Repairs Along the East River Esplanade

Dear Commissioner Benepe:

At the Full Board meeting on Wednesday, June 20, 2012, Manhattan Community Board 8 approved the following resolution by a vote of 32 in favor, 3 opposed and 6 abstentions:

RESOLUTION:

WHEREAS the non-profit organization, New Yorkers for Parks, has proposed to undertake an assessment of the amount and types of parkland on Manhattan's Upper East Side, using the group's Open Space Index; and **WHEREAS** the group, New Yorkers for Parks, has asked CB8M to write a letter to Council Members Daniel Garodnick and Jessica Lappin supporting its plan to index open space on Manhattan's Upper East Side; and **WHEREAS** results of this assessment would be presented at the CB8M Parks Committee's forum on the need for more public open space on Manhattan's Upper East Side; and

WHEREAS CB8M would express support only for the New Yorkers for Parks' plan to carry out open space indexing in the CB8M district; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that Community Board 8 Manhattan approves of New Yorkers for Parks' request that Community Board 8, Manhattan, write a letter to Council Members Daniel Garodnick and Jessica Lappin in support of its plan to index open space on Manhattan's Upper East Side using the group's Open Space Index.

LETTER:

Dear Council Members Garodnick and Lappin,

Community Board 8, Manhattan, wishes to express its support of a plan by New Yorkers for Parks to conduct an open space assessment of Manhattan's Upper East Side using the group's Open Space Index.

We know that parks are essential to the health of New Yorkers, the livability of its neighborhoods and the economic development of the City. Yet, Manhattan Community Board 8 is extremely lacking in parks and open space. In order to address that problem, we need the detailed data about open space quality, maintenance, access, variety and environmental sustainability that NY4P's Open Space Index will provide.

With this tool, we will all be able to champion for the green spaces our community needs. Therefore, we urge you to back the plan by New Yorkers for Parks to carry out its open space indexing of the Upper East Side of Manhattan. Sincerely,

Sincerely,

Nicholas D. Viest
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
Assembly Member Dan Quart, 73rd Assembly District
Jessica Lappin, NYC Council Speaker, 5th Council District
Daniel Garodnick, NYC Council Member, 4th Council District
Honorable William Castro, Manhattan Borough Commissioner