

Nicholas D. Viest
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The City of New York Manhattan Community Board 8

December 18, 2014

Thomas F. Prendergast
Chairman and CEO, Metropolitan Transportation Authority
347 Madison Avenue
New York, NY 10017

Re: Proposal to Create a Public Park at 1190 Second Avenue

Dear Chairman and CEO Prendergast:

At the Full Board meeting on Wednesday, December 17, 2014, Manhattan Community Board 8 approved the following resolution by a vote of 36 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention and 0 not voting for cause.

WHEREAS the densely populated Upper East Side of Manhattan has among the least public parkland of any district of New York City; and

WHEREAS that lack of public open space prevents the community, including many children and older adults, from enjoying basic quality-of-life opportunities available elsewhere in New York City; and

WHEREAS CB8M's Parks Committee has identified the large lot at 1190 Second Ave. at 63rd St. as a potential site for a future park, since it currently contains no major permanent buildings; and

WHEREAS residents of that area have no other nearby public parkland; and

WHEREAS that Second Ave. site, now being used by the MTA as a construction staging area for its East Side Access (ESA) transportation project, conceivably could become available for parkland once the MTA completes its ESA project in approximately 2022; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that CB8M strongly favors converting the MTA-owned lot at 1190 Second Avenue at 63rd Street to a public park once the East Side Access transportation project is completed. The board also urges the City and the MTA to support this plan for new parkland, since Manhattan's Community Board 8 district has among the least amount of parkland of any New York City area.

Sincerely,

Nicholas D. Viest
Chair

Margaret Price and Barbara Rudder
Co-Chairs, Parks Committee

cc: Honorable Bill de Blasio, Mayor of the City of New York
Gale Brewer, Manhattan Borough President
Carolyn Maloney, 14th Congressional District Representative
Liz Krueger, NYS Senator, 26th Senatorial District
Assembly Member Dan Quart, 73rd Assembly District
Ben Kallos, NYC Council Speaker, 5th Council District
Daniel Garodnick, NYC Council Member, 4th Council District
Honorable William Castro, Manhattan Borough Commissioner
Hon. Commissioner Mitchell J. Silver, NYC Department of Parks and Recreation