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The City of New York
Manhattan Community Board 8

April 20, 2017

Commissioner Mitchell J. Silver
New York City Parks and Recreation
The Arsenal
Central Park
830 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10065

RE: The Rising Costs of Repairing and Upgrading the East River Esplanade on the Upper East Side

Dear Commissioner Silver:

At its April 19, 2017 Full Board meeting, the full CB8M board voted to adopt the following resolution by a unanimous vote of 37 in favor, 0 opposed and 0 abstentions.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS The East River Esplanade continues to deteriorate, creating a dangerous, unsightly and disruptive situation for its many users; and

WHEREAS recent Parks Dept. information shows a jump in expected Esplanade repair costs, now cited as \$210 million for engineering and design work, and projected to rise further; and

WHEREAS Community Board 8-Manhattan recently passed a resolution asking for a \$169 million of public funding to add to the existing \$41 million already allocated for the Esplanade to cover known repair expenses; and

WHEREAS CB8-M and other groups concerned about the Esplanade's rising costs wish to obtain more frequent City reports on Esplanade work and repair costs; and

WHEREAS CB8-M hopes that at least quarterly meetings can be re-established between the Parks Dept. and the East River Esplanade Task force, or at least the Parks Dept. and CB8-M, on the status of Esplanade repairs; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that Community Board 8-Manhattan asks the Parks Dept. to re-establish at least quarterly meetings with the East River Esplanade Task Force about the status of East River Esplanade repairs. The Community Board also asks the Parks Dept. to provide CB8-M with at least quarterly reports on current repairs to the East River Esplanade and projections for future Esplanade work and its expected cost.

Sincerely,

James G. Clynes
Chairman

Susan Evans and Margaret Price
Co-Chairs, Parks Committee

cc: Hon. Bill de Blasio, Mayor of the City of New York
Hon. Gale Brewer, Manhattan Borough President
Hon. Carolyn Maloney, 12th Congressional District Representative
Hon. Liz Krueger, NYS Senator, 28th Senatorial District
Hon. Dan Quart, 73rd Assembly District
Hon. Rebecca Seawright, 76th Assembly District
Hon. Daniel Garodnick, NYC Council Member, 4th Council District
Hon. Ben Kallos, NYC Council Member, 5th Council District
William Castro, Manhattan Borough Commissioner, NYC Parks & Recreation
Steve Simon, Manhattan Chief-of-Staff, NYC Parks & Recreation