

**Alida Camp**  
Chair

**Will Brightbill**  
District Manager



**505 Park Avenue**  
**Suite 620**  
**New York, N.Y. 10022**  
**(212) 758-4340**  
**(212) 758-4616 (Fax)**  
**www.cb8m.com Website**  
**info@cb8m.com - E-Mail**

**The City of New York**  
**Community Board 8 Manhattan**

April 29, 2020

Honorable Bill de Blasio  
Mayor of the City of New York  
City Hall  
New York, New York 10007

**RE: Open Streets Program on Park Avenue**

Dear Mayor de Blasio,

At the Full Board meeting of Community Board 8 Manhattan held on April 22, 2020, the board **APPROVED** the following resolution by a vote of 30 in favor, 4 opposed, 3 abstention, and 0 not voting for cause.

**WHEREAS**, New York City has been an epicenter of the COVID-19 outbreak; and

**WHEREAS**, social distancing is a critical practice to slowing the spread of COVID-19 and keeping New Yorkers safe; and

**WHEREAS**, social distancing guidelines recommend people maintain 6 feet of separation at all times; and

**WHEREAS**, public health experts believe that exercise and fresh air are critical to the well-being of the general population; and

**WHEREAS**, Community District 8 has limited open space for people to utilize for walks and other physical activity while maintaining recommended social distancing; and

**WHEREAS**, Community District 8 residents have expressed concerns about crowded parks, sidewalks, and streets that make it challenging to maintain 6 feet in separation from other people; and

**WHEREAS**, New York City has established an Open Streets program which aims to provide expanded space for people to safely be outside for walking and other physical activity by prohibiting vehicular use during certain times of day; and

**WHEREAS**, New York City DOT's Summer Streets program has successfully demonstrated the ability for Park Avenue to be closed to vehicles to promote physical activities such as walking and jogging, including the section of Community District 8 between 59th Street and 72nd Street; and

**WHEREAS**, Park Avenue closures would not impact crosstown traffic operations and allow vehicles to cross over Park Avenue at all times;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that Community Board 8 Manhattan requests that New York City's Open Streets program be implemented on Park Avenue between 59th Street and 96th Street;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Community Board 8 Manhattan requests that Park Avenue street closures to motorized vehicles remain in effect daily from 8:00AM until 8:00PM, as long as social distancing measures are recommended by New York City and State Governments.

Please advise us of any action taken on this matter.

Sincerely,

*Alida Camp*

Alida Camp  
Chair

cc: Honorable Carolyn Maloney, 12<sup>th</sup> Congressional District Representative  
Honorable Gale Brewer, Manhattan Borough President  
Honorable Liz Krueger, NYS Senator, 28<sup>th</sup> Senatorial District  
Honorable Dan Quart, NYS Assembly Member, 73<sup>rd</sup> Assembly District  
Honorable Rebecca Seawright, NYS Assembly Member 76<sup>th</sup> Assembly District  
Honorable Ben Kallos, NYC Council Member, 5<sup>th</sup> Council District Honorable  
Honorable Keith Powers, NYC Council Member, 4<sup>th</sup> Council District