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

May 25, 2022

Hon. Kathy Hochul
Governor of New York State
NYS State Capitol Building
Albany, NY 1224

RE: The Knickerbocker Greys at Park Avenue Armory

Dear Honorable Governor Hochul,

At the Full Board meeting of Community Board 8 Manhattan held on May 18, 2022, the board approved the following resolution by a vote of 38 in favor, 0 opposed, 3 abstentions, and 1 not voting for cause.

WHEREAS the Park Avenue Armory located at 643 Park Ave, New York, NY 10065 is a New York State owned building on New York City Property;

WHEREAS the Park Avenue Armory is 143 years old and hosts four tenants: the Park Avenue Armory Conservancy also known as the 7th Regiment Armory Conservancy, also known as The Conservancy; the Women's Mental Health Shelter at the Park Avenue Armory; the National Guard 53rd Armory Digital Liaison Division, and the Knickerbocker Greys;

WHEREAS the Knickerbocker Greys, founded in 1881, are a historic community institution with ties to both the Upper East Side and the Armory for 120 years, and have been headquartered in the Armory since 1902;

WHEREAS the Conservancy has had a lease agreement with the Empire State Development Corporation since 2006;

WHEREAS the Conservancy has invested millions of dollars into the renovation of the building and seeks to renovate the basement where the Greys store archives, uniforms, and equipment and seeks to remove the Greys from the building;

WHEREAS the overwhelming majority of members of the public were in support of the Greys remaining in the Armory at the April Youth, Education & Libraries Committee meeting;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Community Board 8 Manhattan urges the State of New York to work with the Conservancy to reach a resolution that allows the Greys to remain in the

historic Armory by providing official documentation supporting the Greys' use of space in the Armory immediately; as well as engaging in a conversation about a longer-term solution, including the possibility of allowing the Greys to enter a long-term lease directly with the State;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Conservancy should be denied funding from New York City and New York State if the Greys are not permitted to use the Armory for their headquarters, classes, and events.

Please advise us of any action taken on this matter.

Sincerely,

Russell Squire

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Chair

Vanessa Aronson, Taina Borrero, and Rami Sigal

Vanessa Aronson, Taina Borrero, and Rami Sigal
Co-Chairs, Youth, Education and Libraries Committee

cc: Honorable Eric Adams, Mayor of the City of New York
Honorable Carolyn Maloney, 12th Congressional District Representative
Honorable Mark Levine, Manhattan Borough President
Honorable Liz Krueger, NYS Senator, 28th Senatorial District
Honorable José M. Serrano, NYS Senator, 29th Senatorial District
Honorable Dan Quart, NYS Assembly Member, 73rd Assembly District
Honorable Rebecca Seawright, NYS Assembly Member 76th Assembly District
Honorable Julie Menin, NYC Council Member, 5th Council District
Honorable Keith Powers, NYC Council Member, 4th Council District