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

September 22, 2022

Edward F. Pincar
Manhattan Borough Commissioner
Department of Transportation
59 Maiden Lane, 37th Floor
New York, NY 10038

RE: Open Streets within Community District 8

Dear Commissioner Pincar,

At the Full Board meeting of Community Board 8 Manhattan held on September 21, 2022, the board approved the following resolution by a vote of 40 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions and 1 not voting for cause:

WHEREAS; NYCDOT has granted approved applications to the Open Streets program from 11 schools in Community District 8 Manhattan, including on East 78th Street between Park Avenue and Lexington Avenue for Allen-Stevenson School; and

WHEREAS; there have been a series of complaints about misuse of the East 78th Street “Open Street” by Allen-Stevenson School for non-student purposes; and

WHEREAS; the “Open Street” on East 78th Street has interfered with the ability for patients and office staff to conveniently and safely access the many medical offices located on the block; and

WHEREAS; the “Open Street” on East 78th Street has generated noise and congestion complaints, with residents and businesses concerned that the open street will interfere with the ability for emergency response times to be swift; and

WHEREAS; no other schools operating “Open Streets” in Community District 8 have generated significant complaints; and

WHEREAS; NYCDOT has not sought Community Board 8 Manhattan approval for school “Open Street” applications, which it believes it should have been able to review; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Community Board 8 Manhattan requests that NYCDOT look into concerns raised by the residents and businesses on 78th Street, and work with the residents and the Allen Stevenson school to make changes to the open streets program that is currently in place;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Community Board 8 Manhattan requests that NYCDOT going forward should come to CB8 with all open street requests before they get approved.

Please advise us of any action taken on this matter.

Sincerely,

Russell Squire

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Craig Lader and Charles Warren

Craig Lader and Charles Warren
Co-Chairs, Transportation 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 Edward Gibbs, NYS Assembly Member, 68th Assembly District
Honorable Dan Quart, NYS Assembly Member, 73rd Assembly District
Honorable Rebecca Seawright, NYS Assembly Member 76th Assembly District
Honorable Keith Powers, NYC Council Member, 4th Council District
Honorable Julie Menin, NYC Council Member, 5th Council District