Russell Squire Chair

Will Brightbill District Manager



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The City of New York Community Board 8 Manhattan

November 25, 2022

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

RE: Revocation of Allen Stevenson School's Open Street (East 78th St. between Lexington & Park)

Dear Commissioner Pincar,

At the Full Board meeting of Community Board 8 Manhattan held on November 16, 2022, the board approved the following resolution by a vote of 30 in favor, 11 opposed, 0 abstentions and 1 not voting for cause:

WHEREAS; New York City Department of Transportation has established an Open Streets Program; and

WHEREAS; The Allen Stevenson School, located at 132 East 78th Street, obtained approval from NYCDOT for an open street on East 78th Street between Park Ave. and Lexington Ave. between 7AM and 4PM on weekdays; and

WHEREAS; The Allen Stevenson School uses the open street both as a play area and as a space used for facilitating smooth AM arrival and PM dismissal of students; and

WHEREAS; Neighbors of the Allen Stevenson School have been adversely impacted by the street closures, which have resulted in restrictions to access of residents and visitors and patients of doctors with offices on the block and a degradation of quality of life due to noise and safety concerns; and

WHEREAS; the Community Board agrees with neighbors of the Allen Stevenson School that on open street on the East 78th Street block between Park Ave. and Lexington Ave. is incompatible with the needs of the residents and businesses on the block; and

WHEREAS; the Allen Stevenson School has constructed a rooftop play area that is expected to obtain approval for use by early 2023, reducing the need for the open street to be used as a play area;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Community Board 8 Manhattan requests that NYCDOT allow the Allen Stevenson School's open street on East 78th Street between Park Ave. and Lexington Ave. to remain in place until the school obtains all required permits and approvals for its rooftop play area, at which time NYCDOT shall revoke the open street permit.

Please advise us of any action taken on this matter.

Sincerely,

Russell Squire

Craig Lader and Charles Warren

Russell Squire Chair 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