

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

December 16, 2022

Susan M. Donoghue
Commissioner
Department of Parks & Recreation
830 Fifth Ave
New York, NY, 10065

RE: Million Trees Initiative

Dear Commissioner Donoghue,

At the Full Board meeting of Community Board 8 Manhattan held on December 14, 2022, the board **APPROVED** the following resolution by a vote of 44 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions and 0 not voting for cause:

WHEREAS, trees help improve the livability of the city by cleaning the air of pollutants, reducing the impacts of climate change, cooling city streets and buildings, absorbing stormwater, serving as habitats for wildlife, adding beauty, and promoting human health and well-being, and;

WHEREAS, the majority of trees on public lands are not protected from being removed and there is no sufficient budget for their long-term care, and no coordinated vision or plan for their management and without these policies in place, our urban forest and its many benefits are at risk, and;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Community Board 8 Manhattan Supports the five Borough Presidents' goal of planting one million more trees by 2035, with an emphasis on increasing equity in canopy distribution by expanding tree canopy in the most heat vulnerable communities, and

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Community Board 8 endorses the NYC Urban Forest Agenda and supports the implementation of that agenda including: funding for education of tree stewardship programs and encouraging urban forestry careers and work force.

Please advise us of any action taken on this matter.

Sincerely,

Russell Squire

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Felice Farber and Judith E. Schneider

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Co-Chairs, Parks and Waterfront 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 Julie Menin, NYC Council Member, 5th Council District
Honorable Keith Powers, NYC Council Member, 4th Council District