

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

April 24, 2023

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

RE: Approval of Hospital for Special Surgery's proposed changes and the planned upgrades to the East River Esplanade between 72nd and 78th Streets.

Dear Commissioner Donoghue,

At the Full Board meeting of Community Board 8 Manhattan held on April 19, 2023, the board approved the following resolution by a vote of 44 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions and 0 not voting for cause:

WHEREAS, Hospital for Special Surgery has identified a new location for the installation of outdoor exercise equipment on the East River Esplanade that will not interfere with any future maintenance and operation issues related to the DOT-owned Pedestrian Bridge at 77th Street; and

WHEREAS, the new location between 75th and 76th Streets will allow for additional space for the exercise equipment including more room between each piece of equipment, the addition of ADA Accessible exercise equipment, and equipment that will meet the needs of users of differing heights and abilities; and

WHEREAS, HSS will install plantings approved by the Parks Department and Department of Transportation under the 77th Street Pedestrian Bridge that will beautify the area and will be maintained by HSS;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Community Board 8 Manhattan approves HSS's proposed changes including moving the exercise equipment south, from under the 78th Street bridge, and the planned upgrades to the East River Esplanade between 72nd and 78th Streets.

Please advise us of any action taken on this matter.

Sincerely,

Russell Squire

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Felice Farber and Judy Schneider

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Co-Chairs, Parks and Waterfront Committee

cc: Honorable Eric Adams, Mayor of the City of New York
Honorable Mark Levine, Manhattan Borough President
Honorable Jerry Nadler, 12th Congressional District Representative
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 Alex Bores, 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
Honorable Anthony Perez, Borough Commissioner, NYC Department of Parks & Recreation
Honorable Steve Simon, Chief of Staff to the Manhattan Borough Commissioner, NYC Department of Parks & Recreation