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The City of New York
Community Board 8 Manhattan
Transportation Committee
Wednesday, March 5, 2025 6:30 PM
Conducted Remotely on Zoom

Please note: The resolutions contained in the committee minutes are recommendations submitted by the committee co-chairs to the Community Board. At the monthly full board meeting, the resolution is discussed and voted upon by all members of Community Board 8 Manhattan.

Resolutions to be voted on:

Item 2: Request to NYCDOT for Additional Parking Spaces for NYPD's 19th Precinct (unanimous)

Item 3: Revocable Consent Approval for 134 East 74th Street

MINUTES:

Present: Michele Birnbaum, Lori Bores, Sebastian Hallum Clarke, Paul Krikler, Craig Lader, John McClement, Sharon Pope Marshall, Rita Popper, Judy Schneider, Todd Stein, Charles Warren, Stephanie Reckler (public member)

Absent (excused): Valerie Mason

Absent (unexcused): John Philips

Number of Attendees from the Public: Approximately 35

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 PM.

Item 1: Presentation by NYPD Traffic Enforcement on their actions in our District NYPD

informed CB8M just prior to the meeting that they needed to postpone and reschedule.

Item 2: Request from NYPD for additional parking spots around the 19th Precinct

Nick Viest, as 19th Precinct Community Council President and on behalf of the 19th precinct, presented a request asking NYCDOT to do an evaluation of the area in the immediate proximity of NYPD's 19th Precinct at 153 East 67th Street for availability of spaces for official departmental vehicles. Mr. Viest stated that NYCDOT currently provides 14 spaces with signage specifically dedicated to 19th Precinct for their fleet of 47 official vehicles; previously, 19 spaces had been provided, but this number was recently reduced by 5 spaces in conjunction with the installation of the elevator at the 68th Street Subway Station that resulted in the sidewalk being widened and the spaces being removed permanently. In response to direct requests from the 19th Precinct to evaluate the area for replacing the 5 spaces that were removed, NYCDOT declined and asked them make the request through CB8M. Mr. Viest made clear that these spaces are only for official vehicles with NYPD license plates, and are not used for personal vehicles.

Colleen Chattergoon, Senior Borough Planner at NYCDOT and Liaison to Community Board 8, confirmed that NYCDOT had initially declined the 19th Precinct's request, explaining that parking was very constrained

in the area; she expressed willingness to have her colleagues take another look to find potential locations where the lost 5 spaces could be replaced.

There was strong support for the request, as the importance of the 19th Precinct to the Community was recognized, along with the implications of their vehicles not having sufficient space to park and the recognition that replacing the five spaces that were lost doesn't yield enough parking for official precinct vehicles. Multiple speakers suggested that there are parking spaces alongside the Park Avenue Armory dedicated to their loading purposes that are underutilized and should be considered for the 19th Precinct. Some speakers wanted the resolution to include language indicating that replacing parking spaces that were removed for elevators and accessibility upgrades aren't always going to result in a restoration of parking spaces.

The following resolution was then put forward by Community Board 8:

WHEREAS; NYPD's 19th Precinct is requesting NYCDOT conduct an evaluation of parking near their headquarters at 153 East 67th Street to identify potential additional dedicated on-street spaces; and

WHEREAS; NYPD's 19th Precinct currently has 14 spaces assigned for their fleet of 47 official vehicles; and

WHEREAS; 5 NYPD spaces located on East 68th Street between 3rd Avenue and Lexington Avenue were recently removed as part of the project to renovate the 68th Street NYC Subway Station; and

WHEREAS; the 19th Precinct is now struggling to legally park their vehicles in close proximity to their headquarters with only 14 dedicated parking spaces for 47 official vehicles; and

WHEREAS; NYCDOT has previously denied a request from the 19th Precinct to replace their recently removed dedicated spaces due to limited on-street inventory; and

WHEREAS; the 19th Precinct's operations would benefit from the maximum number of additional parking spaces that could be allotted to them; and

WHEREAS; the community strongly supports the work of the 19th Precinct and their need to safely and legally park their vehicles without interfering with traffic operations;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Community Board 8 Manhattan requests that NYCDOT perform a study of the area in the immediate proximity of NYPD's 19th Precinct at 153 East 67th Street for availability of spaces for official departmental vehicles, with a goal of identifying as many on-street spaces that they can find for their use.

Yes (11): Birnbaum, Bores, Hallum Clarke, Krikler, Lader, McClement, Pope Marshall, Popper, Schneider, Stein, Warren

No (0): None

Abstain (0): None

Item 2: Public Hearing: 134 East 74th Street (b/t Lexington and Park Avenues) Application for a new revocable consent to construct, maintain and use a fenced-in area, including a planted area and steps, block 1408, lot 59, for Petaluma LLC

Kelly Tufts of Langan presented a revocable consent request on behalf of the owners of 134 East 74th Street to construct, maintain and use a new fenced-in area that would extend 3' 1" beyond the property line. This

would be a continuation of an existing fenced-in area along the portion of the 134/136 East 74th Street townhouse that also extends 3' 1" beyond the property line. Mr. Tufts explained that the 138 entranceway will be sunken to allow it to be level with the existing building upon being combined, and the fenced-in area with a gate is necessary to provide protection for pedestrians from the stairs. The adjacent property at 140 East 74th Street includes a stairwell that extends further out than the 3' 1" of the proposed fenced-in area, which will minimize the impact of the proposed revocable consent from a pedestrian flow standpoint. It was noted that the project had previously received support from CB8M after being heard by the Landmarks Committee in May 2023.

The committee was generally supportive of the proposal, though discussion centered around concerns that this proposal would not yield any public benefit, as some members viewed it as a taking of the public right-of-way, and pointed to the narrow extent of the existing sidewalk on the block. There were also comments in regards to the merits of the revocable consent program.

The following resolution was then put forward by Community Board 8:

WHEREAS; 134 East 74th Street is seeking a revocable consent to construct, maintain and use a fenced-in area; and

WHEREAS; there is an existing fenced-in area that extends 3' 1" beyond the property line along a portion of the newly combined property; and

WHEREAS; the owners are seeking to extend the fenced in area to continue across the extent of the entire combined property, which would extend 3' 1" beyond the property line throughout its entirety; and

WHEREAS; the fenced-in area is needed to separate the sidewalk from a proposed sunken stairwell that would allow it to be level with the existing building upon being combined; and

WHEREAS; the proposal for the new entranceway had previously received strong support from Community Board 8 in a May 2023 landmarks resolution;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Community Board 8 Manhattan approves, as presented, the revocable consent request for 134 East 74th Street to construct, maintain and use a fenced-in area, including a planted area and steps.

Yes (6+1): Lader, McClement, Popper, Schneider, Stein, Warren, Reckler (public member)

No (5): Birnbaum, Bores, Hallum Clarke, Krikler, Pope Marshall

Abstain (0): None

Item 3: NYCDOT Updates

Ms. Chattergoon, reported the following:

- NYCDOT is still planning to present on the upcoming York Avenue Traffic Study to the CB8M Transportation Committee, and it expects to convene an Advisory Committee that will meet ahead of a presentation being given to CB8M, and will be followed by a walk-through of the corridor.
- NYCDOT acknowledged receipt of letters from Council Member Julie Menin and CB8M Chair Valerie Mason in regards to traffic signal timing changes on 3rd Avenue, and that they are being

reviewed. Ms. Chattergoon confirmed that the signal timing was changed to effectively slow traffic to 15 MPH between 60th and 96th Streets, though the signed speed limit remains at 25 MPH, and she suggested that CB8M should send a letter to NYCDOT indicating any questions and concerns so that a formal response can be provided. In response to multiple follow-up comments from speakers in regards to this issue, Ms. Chattergoon said that NYCDOT is monitoring the impacts of this change and will share those changes with CB8M.

Item 4: Old and New Business

- A public attendee asked about the status of a July 2023 CB8M resolution that requested that NYCDOT reinstitute street cleaning regulations on Lexington Avenue that were removed in conjunction with the introduction of the Bus Lane. Ms. Chattergoon said she would look into it.
- A public attendee asked about NYCDOT's position on proposed legislation known as Pricilla's Law regarding licensing and registration of electric bikes.
- A member reiterated a prior request for the Committee to hold a discussion on 5G antennas being attached to Bishop Crook light poles.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:18PM.

Respectfully submitted, Charles Warren & Craig Lader, Co-Chairs