



CITY OF NEW YORK

MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR

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CHRISTINE BERTHET
Chair

JESSE R. BODINE
District Manager

March 13, 2015

Julie Menin
Consumer Affairs Commissioner
Department of Consumer Affairs
42 Broadway 5th Floor
New York N.Y. 10004

Re: Saturation of Street Vendors at 34th street and 11th Avenue

Dear Commissioner Menin,

At its February 18, 2015 meeting the Transportation Planning Committee of Manhattan Community Board 4 (CB4) received complaints about the saturation of food vendors on the corner of 34th Street and 11th Avenue. We are writing to the Department of Consumer Affairs to request their assistance in managing the placement of food vendors at this intersection. CB4 is particularly concerned because this sidewalk is already congested by the Megabus curbside operation, who share this concern, and because of the opening of an access point to the new segment of the High Line, the nearby Hudson Blvd, and the new 7 line subway station. While CB4 anticipates the congestion will worsen as the summer approaches and the conflict with pedestrians will increase, we also feel that the variety of activities at this location offers a potential for creating a more pleasant place for what has recently become a more active thoroughfare. Those who are waiting for buses, those just entering or exiting their walk on the High Line, and those entering the neighborhood from the soon to be operating #7 train stop should be able to share a sense of place (including the sense created by well operating food vendors). Therefore we request that DCA ensure the food vendors at this location are operating within DCA guidelines, and we encourage all the stakeholders to work together to create an improved ambiance.

Sincerely,



Christine Berthet
Chair



Jay Marcus
Co-Chair, Transportation
Planning Committee



Ernest Modarelli
Co-Chair, Transportation
Planning Committee

CC: Manhattan Borough Commissioner Margaret Forgione
Friends of the High Line President Joshua David
Hudson Yards/Hell's Kitchen Bid Executive Director Robert J. Benfatto
Council Member Cory Johnson
Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer
Megabus Operations, Coach USA Director Bryony Chamberlain
Jacob Javits Center Tony Sclafani