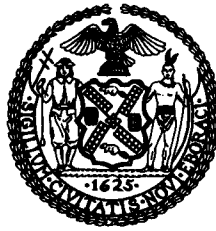


Jacqueline Ludorf
Chair

Latha Thompson
District Manager



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

April 18, 2011

Christine Quinn
NYC Council Speaker
250 Broadway
Suite 1856
New York, New York 10007

Re: Presentation by Civitas on their Newsrack project

Dear Speaker Quinn:

At the April 13, 2011 Land Use/Full Board meeting, Community Board 8M adopted the following resolution by a vote of 37 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 Abstention:

WHEREAS, Community Board 8M passed the attached resolution requesting improved enforcement of the Newsrack Law on May 17, 2006, and

WHEREAS, the situation has continued to deteriorate since then resulting in a negative effect on the quality of life for Upper East Side residents and visitors,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Community Board 8M urges the City Council's Transportation Committee to hold an oversight hearing on current enforcement efforts of the local laws regulating newsracks and consider updating and revising those regulations.

Please advise this office of any action taken regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

Jacqueline Ludorf
Chair

Jonathan Horn and Charles Warren
Co-Chairs, Transportation Committee

cc: Hon. Michael Bloomberg, Mayor of the City of New York
Hon. Scott M. Stringer, Manhattan Borough President
Hon. Carolyn Maloney, United States Congress Member
Hon. Liz Krueger, New York State Senator
Hon. Jonathan Bing, New York State Assembly Member
Hon. Micah Kellner, New York State Assembly Member
Hon. James Vacca, Chair, New York City Council Committee on Transportation
Hon. Daniel Garodnick, New York City Council Member
Hon. Jessica Lappin, New York City Council Member

3. A request to review a new Revocable Consent to construct a fenced in area and stairs at 39 East 75th Street.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Community Board 8M recommends approval of a Revocable Consent to construct a fenced in area and stairs at 39 East 75th Street.

Community Board 8M passed this resolution by a vote of 40 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

4. A request to review a new Revocable Consent to construct a fenced in area in front of 134 East 70th Street.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Community Board 8M recommends approval of a Revocable Consent to construct a fenced in area in front of 134 East 70th Street.

Community Board 8M passed this resolution by a vote of 40 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

*5. **Discussion of the proposed resolution for improved enforcement of the Newsrack Law.**

WHEREAS, the proliferation of newsracks has created cluttered, dangerous, unsanitary and unsightly conditions on the streets of New York City; and

WHEREAS, the owners of the various publications distributed by the newsracks have largely failed to maintain their newsracks according to applicable regulations; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Transportation has not effectively enforced newsrack regulations because of deficiencies in the current law and lack of personnel; and

WHEREAS, use of the 311 system for complaints about unlawfully placed or improperly maintained newsracks has not produced meaningful results; and

WHEREAS, other cities have enacted legislation limiting the number of newsracks on each corner, mandating size, appearance, maintenance and other requirements and have imposed fair licensing fees to fund enforcement activities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Community Board 8M requests that:

1. The City Council study newsrack legislation in other municipalities and enact a newsrack law, which will curb the current abuses and unsafe conditions on our sidewalks.
2. The Department of Transportation provide sufficient administrative and personnel resources to satisfactorily enforce the newsrack regulations.
3. The Office of the Mayor take necessary action to encourage and enable the Department of Transportation to more promptly and effectively respond to 3-1-1 newsracks complaints.

Community Board 8M passed this resolution by a vote of 40 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

6. **Discussion of the Car-Free Central Park campaign.**

WHEREAS, Transportation Alternatives has proposed a pilot program that calls for the closing of the Loop Drive of Central Park during the summer of 2006,

BE IT RESOLVED, that Community Board 8M recommends that the Drive of Central Park be closed to vehicular traffic from June 24 to September 5, 2006, and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Community Board 8M requests that, if Transportation Alternatives proposes the car-free Central Park program in future years, Transportation Alternatives return to Community Board 8M to seek our support.

Community Board 8M passed this resolution by a vote of 23 in favor, 16 opposed, and 1 abstention.

Street Life Committee: Reported by Cos Spagnoletti - Chair of the Street Life Committee:

g. The Carlyle, LLC d/b/ Hotel Carlyle and Bemelman's Café – 983 Madison Avenue – Application for an alteration to extend the licensed premises to include an unenclosed sidewalk café.

WHEREAS, this application is to alter the license to include a sidewalk café for the hotel,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the application is approved based on the owner's agreement to the following stipulations:

- 1) The applicant will abide by the bicycle guidelines.
- 2) The applicant will keep the front of the establishment clean.
- 3) The applicant will not place A-frames in front of establishment

Community Board 8M passed this resolution by a vote of 36 in favor, 2 opposed, and 0 abstentions.