



<http://savechelseahistoricdistrict.blogspot.com>

PO Box 1315 Old Chelsea Station New York, NY 10113-1315
email: savechelseanyc@gmail.com

December 13, 2011

Hon. James Vacca
NYC Council Member
NYC Transportation Committee, Chair
250 Broadway, Suite 1749
New York, NY 10007

Dear Council Member Vacca,

Like many other neighborhoods, Chelsea is greatly concerned about the proliferation of ill-maintained and poorly located newsracks cluttering New York City sidewalks. From Queens to Manhattan to the Bronx, this quality of life nuisance is prevalent throughout our city.

Beyond being eyesores, in some cases, newsracks pose an actual danger to pedestrians by blocking visibility when attempting to cross both buffered bike lanes and wide avenues throughout our community.

We completely support CIVITAS in their efforts to both regulate and enforce the regulations that apply to what has largely become a citywide problem. We ask that the New York City Council Transportation Committee schedule an oversight hearing on the newsrack law immediately so we can start working toward the solution. Newsracks can serve an important function by making free publications available, and the lack of enforcement and poor condition of so many newsracks, does nothing but make the public hesitant to touch or to take materials from them...thereby completely defeating the original purpose.

We urge New York City Council to work toward improved policies to maintain newsracks and regulate their placement.

Sincerely,

Lesley Doyel and Justin Hoy
Co-Presidents, Save Chelsea