

June 8, 2005

Deborah Bershad
Executive Director
Art Commission
City Hall
New York, NY 10007

Margaret Forgione
Borough Commissioner
Department of Transportation
40 Worth Street, Room 1103
New York, NY 10013

Re: Replacement design for newsboxes

Dear Director Bershad and Commissioner Forgione:

We write in response to the 34th Street Partnership's request for approval of its new design for newsboxes and its plan to replace eight (8) existing newsboxes within the Partnership's district west of Eighth Avenue.

On July 16, 2003, the Board's Transportation Planning Committee reviewed the materials provided by the Partnership, which described the new design and identified replacement locations. According to the materials provided, the new design represents an improvement over the old design in terms of ease of maintenance and visibility of displayed news materials. The newly designed boxes would also be significantly longer and wider than existing boxes.

Given that the Board is not aware of any complaints or problems at the existing newsbox locations, and that sidewalk space seems sufficient to handle existing pedestrian traffic even with a larger newsbox, the Committee found no objection with the proposal.

This matter was again raised at the meeting of the full board on July 30th, and again, no objection was raised.

Sincerely,



Walter Mankoff
Chair
Manhattan Community Board No. 4



Joshua David
Chair
Transportation Planning Committee

cc: Ignacio Ciocchini, 34th Street Partnership