

December 8, 2003

Robert Walsh  
Commissioner  
Department of Business Services  
110 William Street  
New York, NY 10038

**Re: Proposed Madison/23<sup>rd</sup>/Flatiron/Chelsea BID**

Dear Commissioner Walsh:

Manhattan Community Board No. 4 is writing to support in concept the proposed Madison/ 23<sup>rd</sup>/ Flatiron/Chelsea Business Improvement District. A small part of the proposed District, on the west side of Sixth Avenue between the midline of 20<sup>th</sup>/ 21<sup>st</sup> Streets and 26<sup>th</sup> Street, is located within the boundaries of Community Board 4.

On the basis of presentations to the Chelsea Preservation and Planning Committee and to the full Board at its regular December meeting, the Board voted to give preliminary support to the proposed BID, recognizing that the completed proposal will come before it in the future for detailed discussion and final approval. The Board is glad to see that this concept, which has long been discussed in the area, seems finally to have come to fruition. The proposed BID has been supported by over 80% of responding property owners.

The Board recognizes the desirability of a well-planned and well-managed Business Improvement District to improve the environment of 23<sup>rd</sup> Street, a major crosstown street that lacks strong identity and the services desirable for successful business development.

The initial activity of the new BID will be largely directed towards such supplementary services as sanitation, street cleaning, and security. Other endeavors will be establishing a real identity for the area based in good part on its historic character and supporting services for the homeless that are to be contracted out to a qualified not-for-profit. This appears to be a good beginning towards goals shared by the Board and the proposers of the BID.

The Board looks forward to formally reviewing the detailed proposal of this new entity in and near Chelsea.

Sincerely,



Walter Mankoff  
Chair  
Manhattan Community Board No. 4



Lee Compton  
Co-Chair  
Chelsea Preservation & Planning  
Committee



Edward S. Kirkland  
Co-Chair  
Chelsea Preservation & Planning  
Committee

This letter was passed by Manhattan Community Board No. 4 at its December 3, 2003 full board meeting.

cc: Elected officials  
Community Board Nos. 5 & 6.  
Sharon Ullman, 23<sup>rd</sup> Street Association