

August 12, 2004

Mildred Duran, Director
Street Activity Permit Office
100 Gold Street, 2nd floor
New York, NY 10038

Re: STREET ACTIVITY PERMIT APPLICATION

Applicant: Downtown for Democracy
Location: West 22nd Street, between 10th and 11th Avenues
Date: Sunday, September 12, 2004
Time: 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Dear Ms. Duran:

At its July 21, 2004 meeting, the Transportation Planning Committee of Manhattan Community Board No. 4 reviewed the above Street Activity Permit application. Although no one appeared in opposition to the application, two issues of concern were raised by the committee.

Since Downtown for Democracy is based in Brooklyn, its request for use of 22nd Street in Manhattan was called into question. As several of 22nd Street's art galleries, as well as other nearby galleries in the far West 20s, are leaders in the organization and are participating in this event, the requested event was deemed to qualify as community-based.

Organizers of the event also expressed their intent to charge admission for entrance to the street during the event as a way of raising funds. While the Committee and the Board has in the past approved street activities that raise funds for community-based political organizations, the committee felt it inappropriate for a public space such as a city street to be used as a private space for any community-based event. The organizers agreed to keep the street open to pedestrian traffic, free of ticket fees, charging admission only for events within specific booths or in participating galleries.

The Transportation Planning Committee voted to approve the application with the stipulation that the street must be kept open to the public, free of charge, as agreed to by the applicant.

At its meeting on August 11, 2004, the Full Board approved this application.

Sincerely,



Walter Mankoff
Chair
Manhattan Community Board No. 4



Joshua David
Co-Chair
Transportation Planning Committee



John Rust
Co-Chair
Transportation Planning Committee

cc: Hon. Michael Bloomberg, Mayor
Hon. C. Virginia Fields, Manhattan Borough President
Local Elected Officials
Applicant