

Nicholas Viest  
Chair

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

September 23, 2014

Chairman Carl Weisbrod  
New York City Planning Commission  
22 Reade Street  
New York, NY 10007

**Re: A request to permanently close East 91<sup>st</sup>  
Street between Second and Third Avenues to  
vehicular traffic. (joint with Parks Committee)**

Dear Chair Weisbrod:

At the September 17, 2014 Full Board meeting, the board passed the following resolution of **approval** by a vote of 43 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstentions and 0 not voting for cause:

WHEREAS East 91st Street between Second and Third Avenues has been closed to vehicular traffic for approximately four decades; and

WHEREAS this street serves as an oasis for New Yorkers of all ages, in a district that currently boasts less than half an acre of open space per thousand residents; and

WHEREAS The Related Companies closed nearby Ruppert Playground three years ago, further decreasing open space in this area;

WHEREAS the closure of this street has not been made official and therefore is at risk of reversal in the future; and

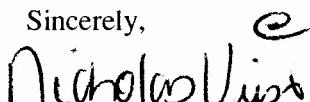
WHEREAS this street does not require extensive maintenance; and

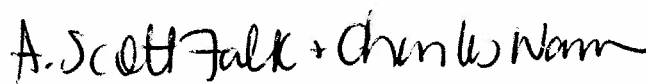
WHEREAS the East 91st Street bicycle route includes a bicycle path on this block;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that, in order to assure the permanent preservation of East 91st Street between Second and Third Avenues as public open space, Community Board 8 Manhattan urges our elected officials and the City of New York, particularly DOT and Parks, to seek the best way to permanently close this block to vehicular traffic, through de-mapping or via some other legal means that they determine; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Community Board 8 Manhattan requests that the East 91st Street bicycle path be retained, regardless of whether the street is de-mapped.

Sincerely,

  
Nicholas Viest  
Chair

  
A. Scott Falk and Charles Warren  
Co-Chairs, Transportation Committee

cc: Honorable Bill de Blasio, Mayor of the City of New York  
Honorable Gale Brewer, Manhattan Borough President  
Honorable Carolyn Maloney, 14<sup>th</sup> Congressional District Representative  
Honorable Liz Krueger, NYS Senator, 26<sup>th</sup> Senatorial District  
Honorable Dan Quart, NYS Assembly Member, 73<sup>rd</sup> Assembly District  
Honorable Ben Kallos, NYC Council Member, 5<sup>th</sup> Council District  
Honorable Daniel Garodnick, NYC Council Member, 4<sup>th</sup> Council District  
Margaret Forgione, Manhattan Borough Commissioner, NYC Department of Transportation  
William Castro, Manhattan Borough Commissioner, NYC Department of Parks and Recreation