



CITY OF NEW YORK

**MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR**

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**CHRISTINE BERTHET**

Chair

**Jesse Bodine**

District Manager

June 10, 2015

Anne Roest  
Commissioner  
Citywide Chief Information Officer  
Department of Technology & Telecommunications  
255 Greenwich, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10007

Martin Rebholz  
Manhattan Borough Commissioner  
Department of Buildings  
Manhattan Borough Office  
280 Broadway, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10007

**Re: Storm Enclosure Complaint Option on 311**

Dear Ms. Roest, and Mr. Rebholz,

Manhattan Community Board 4 (CB4) requests the option to report storm enclosures which violate New York City building code be added to the 311 system. **New York City Building Code Title 27 Subchapter 4 Article 9 “Permissible Projections Beyond Street Lines” section C states “Storm enclosures. -Storm enclosures projecting not more than eighteen inches beyond the street line may be permitted during the period between November fifteenth and the following April fifteenth. Such enclosures shall be removed at the end of this period.”** CB4 recommends the complaint option on the 311 system include the following:

- The option to make a complaint against these structures should be added to the 311 system and the 311 smartphone app.
- We recommend that the complaints be directed to the New York City Department of Buildings.

- We request that the term “storm enclosure” have a description indicating that they are the temporary vestibules erected outside of restaurants typically during winter months.
- Furthermore, we would like the option to file a complaint about storm vestibules erected outside of the permissible dates, November 15 to April 15.

Manhattan Community District 4 has many commercial establishments along 8th and 9th Avenues that construct storm enclosures which violate the building code. These storm enclosures are particularly troublesome to our community district because of narrow sidewalks and high pedestrian traffic, yet there is no formal complaint structure to report these sidewalk obstructions. CB4 appreciates your partnership on this matter and we hope you will make this complaint option available on 311 as soon as possible.

Sincerely,



Christine Berthet  
Chair



Ernest Modarelli  
Co-Chair, Transportation  
Planning Committee



Jay Marcus  
Co-Chair, Transportation  
Planning Committee

cc

Department of Sanitation  
Mayor's office of Community Affairs  
Councilmember Corey Johnson  
Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer  
Department of Consumer Affairs Commissioner Julie Menin