



CITY OF NEW YORK

MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR

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CHRISTINE BERTHET
Chair

ROBERT J. BENFATTO, JR., ESQ.
District Manager

December 9, 2013

Madelyn Wils
Hudson River Park Trust
Pier 40 at W. Houston St.
New York City, NY 10014

Re: RFP for Hudson River Park Boathouse Operators at Piers 26, 66, 84 & 96

Dear Ms. Wils:

Manhattan Community Board 4 (MCB4) is pleased that the Hudson River Park Trust has issued Requests for Proposals for the four Boathouses in the Park. Three of the Boathouses are in MCB4, which are Pier 66 at West 26th Street, Pier 84 at West 44th Street and Pier 96 at West 56th Street. Considering the reconstruction of Pier 26, which is not in our district, we agree it makes sense to review and possibly refresh the usage for all four locations.

MCB4 supports the stated goals of the RFP for the four Boathouses in Hudson River Park:

- Provide the public with consistent, safe and affordable access to the Hudson River;
- Satisfy the boating interests of a wide range of users and encourage safe boating on the Hudson River by potential new users through instructional programs;
- Ensure that safe and reliable equipment and facilities are provided to adequately support the boating programs at each Facility; and
- Ensure that the Facility structures are maintained in good condition under the operating standards established by the Trust; and
- Provide a balance of low-cost or no-cost access to Permittees operating without profit, as well as access by private, for-profit Permittees who can meet public demand as well as provide financial support for Park operations.

In particular, the provision of free or low cost boating activities would be preferred.

As our district is boarded by the Hudson River, access to the waterfront and the River itself adds to the quality of life for those that work and visit our district as well as MCB4 residents. This is why we are especially pleased the RFP stipulates that each of the four Boathouses must function as a public boat launch site during the hours of operation of the facility occupying the Boathouse. We agree that a mix of diverse boating activities including the potential for up to 40 foot sailboats at Pier 66 coupled with public access to launch on the Hudson River makes Hudson River Park an attractive destination for visitors. It certainly lends itself to being an active part of our district.

MCB4 looks forward to receiving updates from the Trust on the progress of this set of RFPs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Christine Berthet", is displayed on a light gray rectangular background.

Christine Berthet
Chair

[signed 12/9/2013]

Maarten de Kadt
Co-Chair, Waterfront, Parks
& Environment Committee

[signed 12/9/2013]

Delores Rubin
Co-Chair, Waterfront, Parks
& Environment Committee