THE COUNCIL THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card
I intend to appear and speak on Int. No Res. No
in favor in opposition
Date: 3/23/11
(PLEASE PRINT)
Name: Sur Sur
Address: 249 W 22ND PL HICAGO 16 606/6
Name: JUNG (PLEASE PRINT) Address: 249 W 22ND PL HICAGO 12 606/6 I represent: Coach 88
Address:
Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms
THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK
Appearance Card
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☑ in favor ☐ in opposition
Date: 3/25/2011
(PLEASE PRINT)
Name: PENCER LAM
Address: 109 LAFAYETTE ST. SUTTE 301, NY NY 10013
I represent: LUNG WAH BOS
Address: 139 CANAC ST. NY NY
Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

THE COUNCIL THE CITY OF NEW YORK

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THE COUNCIL THE CITY OF NEW YORK

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THE COUNCIL THE CITY OF NEW YORK

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DAVID WOLOCH DEPUTY COMMISSIONER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

HEARING BEFORE THE CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON STATE & FEDERAL LEGISLATION MARCH 23, 2011

Good morning Chairwoman Foster and Members of the Committee. I am David Woloch, Deputy Commissioner for External Affairs at the Department of Transportation (DOT). Thank you for providing us with this opportunity to state the Administration's position regarding a Home Rule Message for S2977/A4578 - an intercity bus passenger service permit system.

We agree that the City should have the ability to require Interstate bus carriers to obtain permits from the City for specific bus stops. Currently, State Vehicle and Traffic Law precludes us from placing such a requirement on these operators — and many companies can now pick up and drop off without regulation, increasing congestion, endangering safety, and compromising quality of life in a number of City neighborhoods.

Accordingly, we have been in active discussions with the Assembly Speaker and Senator Squadron on modifications that are necessary to make their legislation feasible. As drafted, the City has a number of significant concerns with the current version. For example, the bill appears to require an assessment Citywide of all curb space that is available for bus loading before we can even create a program – an exercise that seems both unworkable and unnecessary. Each request from an operator must be assessed on its needs and the issues in that location for that particular community.

As discussions with the Legislature are ongoing and it is our understanding that Senator Golden is introducing a revised and improved alternative bill, we're not entirely clear why the Council has moved forward with a home rule vote today on this previous version, and therefore oppose this home



THE CITY OF NEW YORK MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD 3

59 East 4th Street - New York, NY 10003 Phone 212 533-5300 - Fax 212 533-3659 www.cb3manhattan.org - info@cbemanhattan.org

Dominic Pisciotta, Board Chair

Susan Stetzer, District Manager

March 23, 2011 City Council Hearing –Committee on State and Federal Legislation

Community Board 3, Manhattan has been very actively and aggressively advocating for regulation of intercity buses. These buses have been multiplying in the Chinatown and Lower East Side in Community Board 3—and have become the source of many complaints from the community.

One of the worst examples of a bus loading and unloading in an inappropriate area is the stop at Pike/Division/ and East Broadway. The situation became so intolerable for the residents of the area that they had to work with the DAs office to get a Trespass Affidavit to protect their residences.

The Community Board is not trying to eliminate these buses—they serve the community. But some are currently operating in a Wild West manner and need regulation. People complain about safety issues caused by blocking streets and sidewalks, pollution—especially from buses circling while waiting for spot to load and unload—unsafe and unlicensed buses and drivers. There are also instances of residences becoming waiting rooms.

Community Board 3 has been trying to work with the Mayor's office and DOT for years to figure out what state and federal legislation is needed to allow the City to regulate these buses. We particularly want to thank Lolita Jackson from CAU for trying for years to help us on this issue. We are very thankful that our state legislators, Senator Squadron and Speaker Silver are taking on this issue in the state legislature. It is terrible that recent tragedies have magnified the need for bus regulation. Community Board 3 supports this City Council legislation requesting New York State Legislature to pass bills introduced by Senator Squadron and Assembly Member Silver to amend the vehicle and traffic law in relation to establishing an intercity bus passenger service permit system/



THE CITY OF NEW YORK MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 3

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Dominic Pisciotta, Board Chair

Susan Stetzer, District Manager

March 10, 2011

Hon. Sheldon Silver, Speaker New York State Assembly 250 Broadway, Room 2307 New York, NY 10007

Hon. Daniel L. Squadron, Member New York State Senate 250 Broadway, Suite 2011 New York, NY 10003

Dear Speaker Silver and Senator Squadron:

At its February 2011 monthly meeting, Community Board #3 passed the following motion:

Community Board 3 appreciates that Speaker Silver and Senator Squadron have introduced legislation (S. 2977 and A. 4578) to address the growing intercity bus industry. Community Board 3 supports this proposal, which will help give clear guidance to legitimate intercity bus companies and improve the health, safety and welfare of the public and neighborhood residents. The proposal would authorize New York City to pass a local law to regulate intercity passenger bus service through a permit system.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

Dominic Pisciotta, Chair Community Board #3 David Crane, Chair

Transportation & Public Safety Committee

cc: Commissioner Janette Sadik-Khan, DOT

Jominic Pisciotte

Manhattan Borough Commissioner Margaret Forgione, DOT Lower Manhattan Borough Commissioner Luis Sanchez, DOT

Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer

Council Member Margaret Chin



THE CIT OF NEW YORK MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 3

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Dominic Pisciotta, Board Chair

Susan Stetzer, District Manager

March 30, 2010

Hon. Janette Sadik-Khan, Commissioner NYC Department of Transportation (DOT) 55 Water Street, 9th Floor New York, NY 10041

Dear Commissioner Sadik-Khan:

At its March 2010 monthly meeting, Community Board #3 passed the following resolution:

WHEREAS, intercity buses have created a large amount of congestion and pollution in lower Manhattan; and

WHEREAS, Community Board 3 (CB3) believes the city should create a centralized area for bus pick-up, drop-off, and layovers to deal with this problem; and

WHEREAS, CB3 does not wish to set a precedent by approving this bus stop; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that CB3 denies the request for a bus stop at any of these three locations – Pike Street west curb (East Broadway to Henry Street, farside), East Broadway south curb (Pike to Rutgers Streets, mid block), East Broadway north curb (Rutgers to Pike Streets, near side) – for the use of Double Happiness Travel, Inc. and New Everyday Bus Tour, Inc.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

Dominie Pisciotta

Dominic Pisciotta, Chair Community Board #3

David Crane, Chair

Transportation & Public Safety Committee

cc: Manhattan Borough Commissioner Margaret Forgione, DOT Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer Council Member Margaret Chin Teddy Gonzalez, Applicants' Representative



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Dominic Pisciotta, Board Chair

Susan Stetzer, District Manager

June 8, 2009

Hon. Janette Sadik-Khan, Commissioner NYC Department of Transportation (DOT) 40 Worth Street New York, New York 10013

Re:

Resolution asking DOT to remove intercity bus stop on Pike Street

between Division Street and East Broadway

Dear Commissioner Sadik-Khan:

At its May 2009 monthly meeting, Community Board #3 passed the following resolution:

WHEREAS, commercial bus lines Coach USA and Eastern Travel, et al, currently operate passenger drop off and pick up on the eastern sidewalk of Pike Street between Division Street and East Broadway; and

WHEREAS, the bus companies received a permit to do so for these activities by the NYC Department of Transportation to operate in front of 3 Pike Street; and

WHEREAS, there have been significant complaints and signed petitions from the residents and small businesses on that block and the immediate surrounding area regarding the impact from the bus operations, including but not limited to, the 1) blocking of the entire sidewalk by waiting passengers and luggage, 2) garbage strewn all over the residential entrances of buildings and small businesses, 3) disruption of the local northbound M15 bus service and transfers between the M9 and M22 on the corner of Pike and Division Streets by Coach USA and Eastern Travel buses idling along the entire length of the block, forcing M15 buses to stop and pick up their passengers in the middle traffic lane causing a dangerous situation, 4) air pollution from idling buses spewing fumes to the residential windows above the sidewalk, 5) noise complaints from buses honking and operators shouting well into the night at passengers to board the buses or hawking tickets; and

WHEREAS, tenants in the residential building on that sidewalk have called 911 on several occasions to remove commercial bus passengers trespassing into their private residential lobby, and using their lobby as a de facto bus station and blocking the hallways with luggage and garbage; and

WHEREAS, small businesses have seen disruption of their operations by passengers clogging their store entrances; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Community Board 3 (CB3)-Manhattan requests DOT to revoke the operating permit for Coach USA and Eastern Travel buses at this location; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that CB3 asks that DOT place these bus companies on probation and monitor their activities in the neighborhood, due to resident complaints of their lack of responsiveness to problems caused by their bus operations at Police Precinct Council meetings; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that CB3 asks DOT to consult with the Community Board prior to issuing permits for these activities.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

Dominic Pisciotta

Dominic Pisciotta, Chair Community Board #3 David Crane, Chair Transportation & Public Safety Committee

cc: Margaret Forgione, Manhattan Borough Commissioner, DOT
Lolita Jackson, CAU
Seventh Precinct
Public Advocate Betsy Gotbaum
Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer
Council Member Alan Gerson
NYS Assembly Member Sheldon Silver
Lois H. Tendler, MTA New York City Transit