

City of New York Parks & Recreation



Hearing before the New York City Council Committee on Zonings and Franchises

December 14, 2011

Testimony by Colleen Alderson, Director of Parklands

Good morning, I am Colleen Alderson the Director of Parklands for the City of New York Department of Parks and Recreation. I am here today to testify on behalf of the agency as a coapplicant with the Department of Transportation for the ULURP application and subsequent text amendment to change the City Map for the elimination, discontinuance and closing of portions of Broadway between West 94th Street and West 97th Street within Community District 7, Borough of Manhattan and the establishment of parkland in the areas on the Broadway Malls. The purpose of the application is facilitated by the reconstruction by the New York City Transit Authority (NYCT) of the West 96th Street Subway Station, which serves the numbers 1, 2 and 3 subway lines and is located in Manhattan's Upper West Side and this change to the City Map will officially recognize this reconstruction.

The area we are specifically referring to on Broadway is City-owned, 150 feet wide, improved and open to two-way traffic. Existing landscaped medians divide the north and south bound travel lanes of Broadway from West 59th Street at Columbus Circle to West 122nd Street where the subway tracks emerge from underground and are then elevated above Broadway. While under the jurisdiction of the Parks Department, the Broadway Malls that are located within the bed of the mapped street have not been previously mapped as parkland.

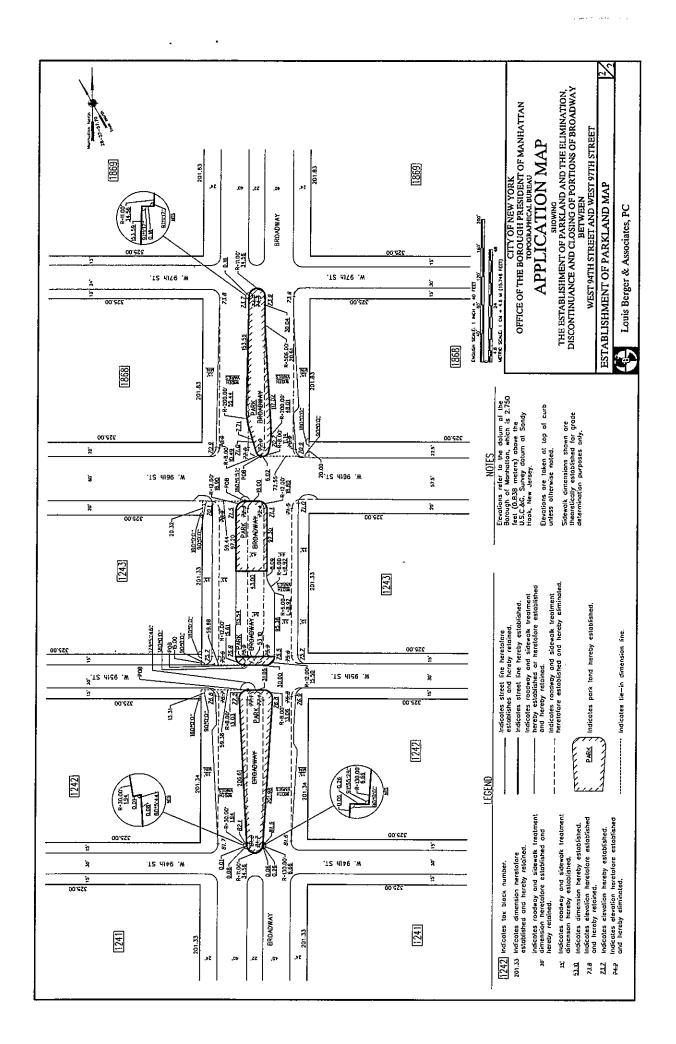
Recently, the New York City Transit Authority completed the construction of a new above-ground, one- story station house on a portion of a median just north of West 95th Street. In order to construct the new ADA compliant station house, the widths or portions of the three medians that this application encompasses have been increased from 22 feet to approximately 54 feet at their widest sections.

With the City Map change, Parks would acquire jurisdiction over the portions of streetbed that would be eliminated for the widening of the three medians and would not result in the loss of traffic lanes. DPR's newly acquired land from the widened medians, together with DPR's currently held land on the three existing medians would be established as parkland and eliminated as street on the City Map. State alienation authorization for the discontinued use of the portion of Broadway Malls to facilitate the 96th street Subway Station House Project was authorized July 26, 2006 as per Chapter 284 of the Laws of 2006. The portion of the median being improved with the NYCT's Station House will not be established as parkland, nor would it be eliminated as street. Merely, the roadways of Broadway between West 94th and West 97th

Streets which would be separated by mapped public parkland as a result of the proposed City Map change described and would each still be considered a wide street.

This application went through the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act and the City Environmental Quality Review and no negative environmental impacts were found. In addition, Community Board 7 and the Manhattan Borough President have issued favorable recommendations for the project.

I thank you for allowing me to come before you today to present our application and I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.



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CPC NO. 100122MMM, MAP ACC NO. 30240



December 12, 2011

Re:

Scarpina Bar & Grill 88 University Place New York, NY 10003

T: 212-645-4525 F: 212-645-1117

To Councilman Weprin & Mendez To Whom it May Concern;

This is to inform you that as per city Council request the proposed unenclosed sidewalk cafe at 88 University Place is hereby amended by reducing the distance to the curb by three (3) feet and reducing the seating by one (1) table and two (2) chairs, the amended plan enclosed. Shows six (6) tables and twelve (12) chairs and a distance of 11'-2" to the street curb.

Very truly yours, Scarpina Bar & Grill Shemsi Selimaj

Scarpina Bar & Grill 88 University Place, New York NY 10003 P:212-645-4525 F:212-645-1117

Schatzi Corp. d/b/a Wallse 342-344 West 11 Street New York, NY 10014 DCA#: 1257073

December 13, 2011

Councilmember Christine C. Quinn 224 West 30 Street – Suite 1206 New York, NY 10001

Dear Councilmember Quinn:

This letter serves as our agreement with the Chair, Councilmember Mark Weprin, and the encompassing members of the Subcommittee on Zoning and Franchises that we will commit to the following:

- 1. The existing lamppost located on the southeast corner of West 11 Street and Washington Street and the exterior fire escape of 344 West 11 Street will be indicated on the sidewalk café plans.
- 2. The size of the sidewalk café will be reduced from 8 tables and 16 seats to 7 tables and 14 seats, specifically removing the one table and two chairs that currently impede the safe deployment of the exterior fire escape at 344 West 11 Street. This will be done in accordance with the New York City Fire Department regulations.
- 3. All tables will be no larger than the approved 24" wide.
- 4. The seven planters, two umbrellas, and menu table currently in the sidewalk café zone will be removed as they have not been indicated on the approved plans.
- 5. All of the aforementioned changes will be reflected in revised plans submitted to the New York City Department of Consumer Affairs. If there are any questions please call my office. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kurt Guttenbrunner President (212.240.9557 x 12)

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