

March 19, 2009

To: Community Board #2 Manhattan
From: Zella Jones

Proposed Alternate/Substitute Resolution for: **Application for a revocable consent for sidewalk stoop/steps, poster kiosks, LED up-lights and disabled ramps, Public Theater, 425 Lafayette St. – *To be Introduced by Carter Booth.***

The following alternate or substitute resolution recognizes the close 6 to 5 vote in a joint Sidewalks, Public Access, Public Facilities and Traffic & Transportation Committee Meeting in which the above captioned application for Sidewalk additions was heard.

It recognizes 111 petition signatures (attached) and more than 10 letters (some of which are attached) from Associations, Co-Op Boards, Individuals and Business Entities in the affected communities, sent to the Community Board and to the Committee Chairs on this matter.

It also recognizes the specifications the Full Board voted upon in November 2008 on this same application by a wide majority (32-6), and proposes that:

1. **The billboards be denied, on precedent –**

The 6, 7' 7" x 3' billboards and the precedent for that much advertising mid-sidewalk. Does not exist in this neighborhood, nor do any of the other for-profit or nonprofit theatres in the neighborhood have that privilege.

2. **The stoop, DENIED UNLESS, it is redesigned to a 12' foot depth, with no restrictions on width/length.**

In essence this would eliminate the 5 steps on the west side, which are 5' wide (1' each) and preserve an 8' pedestrian right of way on the current sidewalk.

A 12' X 75' main stoop with longer handicapped access ramps on both sides still provides a "Grande Entrance" and a significant presence at the front of the building, still quite suitable for the gathering place the applicant envisions.

What The Public Theatre would get:

1. The exterior staircase that increases the interior lobby space as desired.
2. The cantilevered canopy, since it only covered the area at the top of the steps, anyway, with the lights and Public Theatre etched into it at the front (already approved at landmarks)
3. Five large hanging banners from poles at the second story for additional advertising. All other landmarked buildings get only one. – (already approved at landmarks)
4. A stoop measuring . 112'3" X 12' (*which includes the handicapped ramps*) – with 4'2" steps, on the north and south, still highly suitable for people to sit upon or hang out on, stretching across more than half of the 220.8' length of the building.
5. Extra lighting at curbside **and** on the steps
6. More Highlight lighting on the building (already approved at landmarks)