

June 11, 2004

RESOLUTION: JFK/ LIRR Access

**Whereas** the Lower Manhattan Development Corporation (LMDC) recently released the results of its Long Island and JFK Airport Access Study, recommending the construction of a \$6 Billion tunnel under the East River as the best way to provide service between Lower Manhattan and Long Island and JFK Airport.

**Whereas** the next step for the project will be the completion of an environmental impact statement (EIS) that will evaluate all options for providing this service.

**Whereas** the Civic Alliance has previously stated its opposition to using the immediately-available Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding for this long-term project, and the need for a real financing plan if the project moves forward.

**Whereas** the Civic Alliance supports the goal of expanding outer-borough, suburban and regional access to Lower Manhattan to enhance the business district's regional competitiveness, and asserts that major transportation investments to this end should also aim to expand the overall capacity of the transit system in New York City.

**Whereas** the Civic Alliance recognizes the importance of several priority transportation capital investments such as the Second Avenue Subway, East Side Access and Access to the Region's Core (ARC) projects.

**Whereas** the Civic Alliance recognizes that the preferred option recommended by the LMDC in their study would not disrupt existing subway service, and could allow for additional expansion of transit service to Brooklyn and Queens by connecting the service to the Second Avenue Subway and/or existing subway service, and provide tunnel capacity for other services under the East River.

**Whereas** the costs and benefits of the project cannot be fully evaluated until thorough transportation, economic and financial analyses are completed and the service is fully designed.

**Now therefore be it resolved** that the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) be the lead agency for the EIS to ensure integration with the existing subway and Long Island Rail Road system, and that the EIS should not be financed by MTA funds, but by a previous earmark of federal 9/11 transportation funds for this project.

**And be it further resolved** that the Draft EIS outline specific service plans and alignments for public consideration; address cost benefit and transportation demand analyses to evaluate the priority of this capital investment; discuss the availability of long-term financing; and include designs that best serve transportation needs while maximizing transit capacity to congested markets at a reasonably priced fare.

**And be it further resolved** that the Civic Alliance withhold judgment on whether to support the project based on the results of transportation demand, economic and financial analyses and the design and alignment of the proposed service.

This Resolution adopted June 11, 2004 by the voting members of the Civic Alliance.

VOTING RECORD:

VOTES IN FAVOR: 14

VOTES AGAINST: 0

ACTIVE ABSTENTIONS: 4

Organizations abstaining from vote:

American Institute of Architects, NY Chapter

American Planning Association, NY Chapter

Environmental Defense

University Settlement

Civic Alliance Voting Member Organizations, June 2004

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AFG Construction Management, Inc.

American Institute of Architects New York Chapter

American Planning Association New York Chapter

American Society of Public Administration New York Metro Chapter

Asian Americans for Equality (AAFE)

Coalition of 9/11 Families

Consortium for Worker's Education

CUNY Institute for Urban Systems

Environmental Advocates of New York

Environmental Defense

Family Association of TriBeCa East

Fine Arts Federation of New York

Fiscal Policy Institute

Municipal Art Society

New York League of Conservation Voters

NYPIRG Straphangers Campaign

Permanent Citizens Advisory Committee to the MTA

Pratt Institute Center for Community and Environmental Development

Puerto Rican Legal Defense and Education Fund

Rebuild Downtown Our Town

Regional Plan Association

ReHo

TIME/ To Improve Municipal Efficiency

Tri-State Transportation Campaign

University Settlement

Urban Agenda

Waterfront Park Coalition

Women's City Club of New York