



## COMMUNITY BOARD ELEVEN

BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN

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Nilsa Orama

Chair

Angel D. Mescaín

District Manager

February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021

Irfan Ahmed

Senior Programs and Policy Manager

Mayor's Fund to Advance New York City

253 Broadway, 6th Floor

New York, NY 10007

**Re: New York City Soccer Initiative Soccer Pitch at Cherry Tree Park Proposal Opposition**

Dear Mr. Ahmed,

On January 7<sup>th</sup>, New York City Soccer Initiative (NYCSI) presented a proposal to create a soccer pitch at Cherry Tree Park, located on Third Avenue between East 99<sup>th</sup> and East 100<sup>th</sup> streets, to our Environment, Open Space, & Parks Committee. The Board voted in opposition of the soccer pitch proposal at Cherry Tree Park.

While CB11 has been enthusiastic to support soccer pitches at other sites in our district, we do not believe Cherry Tree Park is best suited for a soccer pitch. The proposal would replace one of three basketball courts regularly used by youth in our district. Park users have long requested upgrades to the basketball courts at Cherry Tree Park, and therefore are opposed to the construction of a new soccer pitch without accompanying investment and improvement of the park's existing conditions. The community board supports the position of park users.

The board is extremely pleased with the New York City Soccer Initiative's interest and investment in East Harlem. We look forward to working with NYCSI in the future.

If you have any further questions, please contact Carly Wine, our Assistant District Manager, at 212-831-8929.

Sincerely,

Nilsa Orama

Chair  
Community Board 11

cc: Hon. Brian Benjamin, New York State Senate (via email)  
Hon. Robert Rodriguez, New York State Assembly (via email)  
Hon. Diana Ayala, New York City Council (via email)  
Hon. Gale A. Brewer, Manhattan Borough President (via email)  
Commissioner Mitchel J. Silver, NYC Department of Parks & Recreation (via email)  
Borough Commissioner William T. Castro, NYC Department of Parks & Recreation (via email)  
Steve Simon, NYC Department of Parks & Recreation (via email)  
Jessica Elliott, Community Board 11  
Judith Febbraro, Community Board 11