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JUDICIARY

December 20, 2013

Ms. Nicole Dooskin
Hudson River Park Trust
Pier 40, 2nd Floor
353 West Street
New York, NY 10014

Dear Ms. Dooskin:

In light of the Hudson River Park Trust's recent RFP for several of the park's public boathouses and boat launches, I am writing to encourage the Trust to maintain free public kayaking programs at Pier 26 and Pier 96.

As you know, in New York City our parks and waterfronts often present the only opportunity for our children (and many adults) to engage with nature and to nurture an interest in healthy outdoor activities. Providing free public kayaking programs in the Hudson River Park ensures that this on-water sports activity is available for all New Yorkers and visitors regardless of economic status.

I understand the Downtown Boathouse, which has long provided free public kayaking programs in Hudson River Park and elsewhere in the city, has submitted a bid for Pier 26, and a new – but related – group, Manhattan Community Boathouse, has submitted a bid for such programming at Pier 96.

The leaders of both organizations have extensive experience providing free on-water recreational programming in New York City. The public kayaking programs these organizations seek to continue at these piers clearly fulfill one of the Trust's stated goals, to "provide free or low-cost recreational opportunities for New York City residents." I urge the Trust to preserve free recreational access to the Hudson River from these piers, and to look favorably on these proposals.

Thank you for your time and consideration. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (212) 633-8052.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brad Hoylman".

Brad Hoylman
New York State Senator
27th District

