May 27, 2020

Hon. Bill de Blasio
Mayor, City of New York
City Hall
New York, NY 10007

RE: Social Distance Ambassadors

Dear Mayor de Blasio:

I write on behalf of the Hudson River Park Trust Advisory Council. The Advisory Council’s mission is to provide advice and make recommendations to the Board of the Hudson River Park Trust. The Advisory Council is comprised of local park, environmental, civic, community, labor and business organizations as well as the elected officials representing the Hudson River Park and the communities that border it.

Hudson River Park provides critical open space for New Yorkers, which has become more important during the COVID-19 outbreak. Concerns about the practice of social distancing and following the public health recommendations as well as the Governor’s Executive Orders in Hudson River Park are a top priority for the Advisory Council. Education has played a key role in getting more New Yorkers to wear masks. When the time comes that the city hires and dispatches teams of Social Distancing Ambassadors, the Council requests that Hudson River Park be included in the area where ambassadors are dispatched.

New Yorkers are making tremendous sacrifices right now. It’s not always easy to wear a mask and stay six feet from passersby on narrow sidewalks, let alone from cyclists on the Greenway or fellow park-goers in Hudson River Park, especially as the weather warms and these spaces become increasingly populated. The Ambassador Program is a great way to remind Park and Greenway users to follow these crucial steps.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey LeFrancois
Chair, Hudson River Park Trust Advisory Council

Cc:
Hudson River Park Trust
Community Boards 1, 2, and 4
Local Elected Officials