

**Park West Village Tenants' Association
P.O. Box 20339, Park West Finance Station
New York, N.Y. 10025-0339**

September 20, 2017

Megan J. Brennan
Postmaster General and Chief Executive Officer
475 L'Enfant Plaza SW
Washington, D.C. 20260

Re: Unexplained and Problematic Relocation of Collection Box

Dear Postmaster General Brennan,

I write on behalf of the Park West Village Community located at 784 Columbus Avenue, 788 Columbus Ave and 792 Columbus Ave. These three buildings were constructed in 1959. Each building contains 290 apartments totaling almost 900 residents.

There has existed since 1959, in front of 788 Columbus Avenue, a blue collection mailbox. There had never been any problems with the mailbox in terms of regular, daily collection by postal employees. Residents awoke, on Saturday, September 9, 2017, to discover that the blue collection mailbox had disappeared. There had been no notification that the mailbox was going to be moved. As of the writing of this letter there still has been no notification of the mailboxes movement and its present location.

I communicated with the Consumer Affairs Department located at 421 Eighth Avenue, New York, NY 10199-9631 on Monday, September 11, 2017. The Consumer Affairs Representative explained that the Collections Department was not provided with any justification or reason for moving the mailbox. The representative provided the new location of the mailbox as 808 Columbus Avenue. I shared with the representative that there was no notice that this action was to occur. I further shared that advance notification would have provided the residents with an opportunity to share the following:

- Approximately 50 percent of the residents are elderly whose mobility is aided by canes, walkers and wheelchairs.
- To access the mailbox now located in front of 808 Columbus Ave the elderly residents, **many disabled, would have to walk a half block with canes, walkers and wheelchairs** through a wind tunnel with speeds that already challenge young, healthy residents. This would jeopardize their safety and pose a dangerous condition for them. This is during the mild weather months of spring, summer and fall. The winter months with the wet snow will pose additional dangerous conditions. This location is prohibitive for the elderly and creates a barrier for them to access the mailbox.

The new location in front of 808 Columbus Avenue poses another issue. The placement in front of 788 Columbus Avenue was secure as this location is in a cul de sac. I am told by the proprietor of the Whole Foods Liquor Store that teens are seen regularly attempting to place instruments into the mailbox in an attempt to extract mail from the mailbox.

The rationale for moving the mailbox to its current location is not clear. Postal employees accessed the mailbox without difficulty. The current location only benefits residents of 808 Columbus Avenue, a luxury rental building.

In closing, it is the residents request that the blue collection mailbox be returned to its prior location at 788 Columbus Avenue or another collection box be installed.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and I await your speedy reply as inclement weather will be shortly approaching.

Best Regards,

Patricia O. Loftman, President
Park West Village Tenants' Association