



January 19, 2015

Re: Relocation and space limitation of Naplavka farmer's market in Prague

To whom it may concern:

The New York based Project for Public Spaces (PPS) is the central hub of the global Placemaking movement, connecting people to ideas, expertise, and partners who share a passion for creating vital places all around the world. Our Public Market program fosters the role of public markets in reconnecting local economies and communities and supports the pivotal role markets play in supporting public health and local food systems. PPS works with communities to help develop a clear vision for its public market – existing or new and identify achievable goals. We test and refine your vision through a rigorous feasibility assessment analyzing consumer demand and assessing the capacity of existing and new vendors to meet this demand.

Farmers markets need a good location and public space in order to thrive economically and socially. We have worked in the Czech Republic on several projects with Nadace Partnerství and other organizations over the past 20 years. Our last visit in Prague in 2010 was primarily focused on technical assistance with regard to the development of farmers markets. We were happy to see the progress that some Prague markets have achieved and were happy to be able to assist at the beginning of the farmers market “boom” in Prague and in other Czech cities. We would be happy to provide more expertise and knowledge to current market managers in Prague and to the City of Prague and its organizations in the future.

Based on our international experience in markets, we understand that they must be functional for the vendors or they may not participate. We are concerned for many reasons about the relocation of the Naplavka farmers market. We agree with the recommendation to make about one- third of the market space accessible to sellers with vans mostly providing goods that need cooling (such as fish, dairy products, poultry etc.). An entire ban of these vans can be harmful for the market and its customers. Also it is very undesirable to have vendors only on one side of the customer aisle and the providers of fresh fruits and vegetables, herbs and other products require at least 3m in length for their stall and more than 0,5m distance from each stand. Markets are community spaces, so having more public space is always something we recommend as well.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Stephen Davies". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Stephen Davies
Executive Vice President