Nicholas Viest Chair

Latha Thompson District Manager



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## The City of New York Manhattan Community Board 8

March 22, 2013

Margaret Forgione Manhattan Borough Commissioner NYC Department of Transportation 59 Maiden Lane, 35<sup>th</sup> Flr. New York, NY 10038

**Re:** Continued discussion-locations for Audible Pedestrian Crossing Signals.

Dear Commissioner Forgione:

At the March 20, 2013 Full Board meeting, Community Board 8M <u>APPROVED</u> the following resolution by a vote of 40 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention and 0 not voting for cause:

WHEREAS Accessible Pedestrian Signals are specifically designed to adjust to ambient sound and to be audible only to a distance of 12 feet,

WHEREAS each corner has its own resonance and vibration that fluctuates both day and night, whereby this ambient sound adjustment prevents excess noise pollution,

WHEREAS eleven members of the public testified in support of Accessible Pedestrian Signals at the January 15 Community Board 8M Full Board meeting,

WHEREAS the United States Census Bureau estimates that more than 7% of residents of Community Board 8M have disabilities, and nearly 24% of residents 65 years of age and older have disabilities (*Source: NYC Dept. of City Planning, Dec. 2012*),

WHEREAS those community members with disabilities, including the visually impaired and those traveling by wheelchairs, deserve the same safety assurances and independence as all members of our community,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 8 Manhattan strongly requests that NYC DOT without delay install additional Accessible Pedestrian Signals on the Upper East Side, with the most current technology, in consultation with constituent groups such as the PASS Coalition to choose locations for these signals; and that DOT report back to CB8M on the APS locations identified;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Community Board 8M urges the New York City Council to increase the number of APS required to be installed annually from the current mandate of 25 per year (per Local Law 21 of 2012).

Please advise this office of any action taken regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

Nicholas Viest Chair A. Scott Falk and Charles Warren Co-Chairs, Transportation Committee  cc: Hon. Michael Bloomberg, Mayor of the City of New York Hon. Scott M. Stringer, Manhattan Borough President Hon. Carolyn Maloney, United States Congress Member Hon. Liz Krueger, New York State Senator Hon. Dan Quart, New York State Assembly Member Hon. Micah Kellner, New York State Assembly Member Hon. Daniel Garodnick, New York City Council Member Hon. Jessica Lappin, New York City Council Member