Nicholas Viest Chair

Latha Thompson District Manager



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The City of New York Manhattan Community Board 8

June 19, 2014

Bill De Blasio Mayor of the City of New York City Hall New York, NY 10007 Thomas F. Prendergast Chairman, Chief Executive Officer MTA/NYC Transit 2 Broadway New York, NY 10004

Re: Urge the MTA & NYC to implement side guards on the fleet of trucks, buses and vehicles over 10,000 pounds

Dear Mayor De Blasio and Chairman Prendergast:

At the June 18, 2014 Full Board meeting, the board passed the following resolution of **approval** by a vote of 40 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions and 0 not voting for cause:

WHEREAS collisions involving large vehicles such as tractor-trailers are three times as likely to result in pedestrian fatalities than collisions involving only passenger vehicles; and

WHEREAS current federal regulations require rear-impact guards for the wheels of trailers and semitrailer trucks in order to reduce the number of deaths and serious injuries occurring when passenger vehicles crash into the back end of a truck, but there are no national or local requirements for side guards to protect pedestrians and bicyclists from falling under the sides of trucks and being caught under the wheels; and

WHEREAS side underride guards are required on certain motor vehicles, trailers, and semi-trailers in Japan and in some European Union countries; and

WHEREAS several U.S. cities equip their buses with wheel guards, but not New York City; and

WHEREAS New York City's Vision Zero website states, "The fundamental message of Vision Zero is that death and injury on city streets is not acceptable";

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Community Board 8 Manhattan calls upon the Metropolitan Transportation Authority to equip its buses, trucks, and similar large vehicles weighing more than 10,000 pounds with side underride guards; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Community Board 8 Manhattan calls upon New York City to require all city agencies and city contractors to equip buses, trucks, and similar large vehicles weighing more than 10,000 pounds with side underride guards.

Sincerely,

Nicholas Viest Chair A. Scott Falk and Charles Warren Co-Chairs, Transportation Committee

cc: Honorable Gale Brewer, Manhattan Borough President
Honorable Carolyn Maloney, 14th Congressional District Representative
Honorable Liz Krueger, NYS Senator, 26th Senatorial District
Honorable Dan Quart, NYS Assembly Member, 73rd Assembly District
Honorable Ben Kallos, NYC Council Member, 5th Council District
Honorable Daniel Garodnick, NYC Council Member, 4th Council District