James G. Clynes Chairman

Latha Thompson District Manager



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## The City of New York Manhattan Community Board 8

November 2, 2015

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

Re: Proposed pedestrian safety improvements for 63rd St & Third Ave; 66th St & Third Ave; 72nd St. & Third Ave; and 66th St. & Second Ave, including the following elements:

- a. Enlarge concrete islands at both 66th & Second Ave and 66th & Third Ave
- b. Install left-turn lanes on Third Ave at approaches to 63rd, 66th, & 72nd Sts
- c. Install neckdowns on the northwest corners of Third Ave & 63rd and Third Ave & 66th (pending Second Ave Subway construction work)

Dear Commissioner Forgione:

At the October 21, 2015 Full Board meeting, the board passed the following resolution to **approve** by a vote of 42 in favor, 1 opposed and 3 abstain:

WHEREAS Second and Third Avenues are Vision Zero priority areas; and

WHEREAS vehicles turning left from Third Avenue have injured pedestrians at 63rd Street and 66th Street; and

WHEREAS City Councilmember Dan Garodnick requested expanded concrete medians on 66th Street at both Second and Third Avenues; and

WHEREAS NYC DOT proposes several pedestrian safety improvements on Third Avenue, and at the intersections of 66th Street at Second and Third Avenues, including:

- Standardizing the width of all travel and parking lanes on Third Avenue to 10' wide (instead of the current 8' parking lane on the west side and 12' parking lane/bus stop lane on the east side of the avenue).
- Adding left-turn lanes on Third Avenue approaching 63rd, 66th, and 72nd Streets.
- Adding a right-turn bay on Third Avenue onto East 66th St. (for traffic turning east).
- Adding a pedestrian neckdown on the NW corner of 63rd & Third, pending completion of Second Avenue Subway construction at that location.
- Adding pedestrian neckdowns on the NW & NE corners of 66th & Third Avenue.
- Expanding the existing concrete medians on the east side of 66th & Third, and the west side of 66th & Second to reduce crossing distances and to reduce conflicts with turning vehicles; and

WHEREAS Community Board 8 Manhattan has previously listed E. 72nd Street & Third Avenue as a priority intersection for safety improvements; and

WHEREAS the proposed changes clarify traffic movements, calm traffic, reduce crossing distances, and add pedestrian space;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Community Board 8 Manhattan approves DOT's proposed safety improvements on Third Avenue as well as on East 66<sup>th</sup> Street at both 3<sup>rd</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenues, as presented; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Community Board 8 Manhattan urges DOT to add a pedestrian neckdown on the northwest corner of 72nd Street and Third Avenue.

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

Sincerely,

James G. Clynes Chairman A. Scott Falk and Charles Warren Co-Chairs, Transportation Committee

cc: Hon. Bill de Blasio, Mayor of the City of New York
Hon. Gale Brewer, Manhattan Borough President
Hon. Carolyn Maloney, 12<sup>th</sup> Congressional District Representative
Hon. Liz Krueger, NYS Senator, 28<sup>th</sup> Senatorial District
Hon. Dan Quart, 73<sup>rd</sup> Assembly District
Hon. Rebecca Seawright, 76<sup>th</sup> District
Hon. Ben Kallos, NYC Council Member, 5<sup>th</sup> Council District
Hon. Daniel Garodnick, NYC Council Member, 4<sup>th</sup> Council District