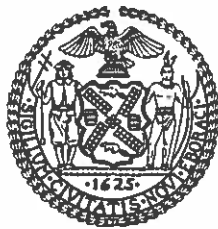


**Alida Camp**  
Chair

**Will Brightbill**  
District Manager



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**The City of New York**  
**Community Board 8 Manhattan**

September 14, 2018

Edward Pincar  
Manhattan Borough Commissioner  
NYC Department of Transportation  
59 Maiden Lane, 35<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10038

**RE: DOT proposed Second Avenue Parking Protected/Curbside Buffered Bike Lane from 68<sup>th</sup> Street to 59<sup>th</sup> Street**

Dear Commissioner Pincar:

At the Full Board meeting of Community Board 8 Manhattan held on September 12, 2018, the board approved the following resolution by a vote of 39 in favor, 5 opposed, 0 abstentions, and 0 not voting for cause:

**WHEREAS** Manhattan's Second Avenue has a protected bike lane or bike path between 96<sup>th</sup> Street and 68<sup>th</sup> Street; and then again from 59<sup>th</sup> street to the Queens Midtown Tunnel;

**WHEREAS** there is currently no protected bike lane on Second Avenue between 68<sup>th</sup> Street and 59<sup>th</sup> Street, creating a gap in one of the largest contiguous bike lanes in New York City;

**WHEREAS** there is no pedestrian or bike crossing on the east side of Second Avenue from 60<sup>th</sup> Street to 59<sup>th</sup> Street;

**WHEREAS** southbound bicyclists are currently forced to merge with left-turning vehicles at the Queensboro Bridge;

**WHEREAS** Second Avenue between 68<sup>th</sup> Street and 59<sup>th</sup> Street is a high traffic volume area and a Vision Zero Priority Corridor, with 363 total injuries between 2012-2016, including 9 pedestrians, 1 bicyclist, and 16 motor vehicle occupants killed or seriously injured;

**WHEREAS** the New York City Department of Transportation ("DOT") has proposed a protected bike lane between 68<sup>th</sup> and 60<sup>th</sup> Streets that will be adjacent to a moving lane during the "peak period" weekday hours of 7am-10am and 3pm-8pm, and adjacent to a lane for loading/unloading and parking during off-peak hours;

**WHEREAS** DOT has also proposed several safety measures for Second Avenue at 60<sup>th</sup> Street, 59<sup>th</sup> Street, and the Queensboro Bridge, including five new pedestrian and bicycle crosswalks, two new pedestrian islands at 59<sup>th</sup> Street (one of which will be shared with bicyclists), and a new tip extension and cut through at 59<sup>th</sup> Street;

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**WHEREAS** the proposal enables bicyclists and pedestrians to move south along the east side of Second Avenue in three phases, with signals at each phase;

**WHEREAS** the proposal's first phase would feature a southbound bike/pedestrian crossing that would be added to allow crossing of 60<sup>th</sup> Street and the Queensboro Bridge exit, while vehicular traffic on Second Avenue has the green light;

**WHEREAS** the proposal's second phase, during which time eastbound traffic on 59th Street has the green light cycle, would allow bikes and pedestrians to continue their southbound movement by crossing onto the new bicyclist/pedestrian island;

**WHEREAS** the proposal's third phase would permit bikes and pedestrians to continue southbound on Second Avenue and to the existing sidewalk and bike lane during the southbound green cycle for Second Avenue, while left turns from Second Avenue onto 59th Street will be prohibited, thereby avoiding turning conflicts;

**WHEREAS** the new island at the intersection of Second Avenue and 59th Street would separate the two eastern southbound traffic lanes used to enter the Queensboro Bridge from the remaining southbound lanes, and would consist of bollards to provide extra protection from oncoming vehicles, flexible posts in between the bike lane and the pedestrian walkway, and a curvature of the bike lane and a raised ramp to help slow cyclists down as they enter the island;

**WHEREAS** the bike lanes at this complex intersection would be clearly demarcated, and separated from the pedestrian crosswalks and pathways;

**WHEREAS** this proposal will enable pedestrians to walk continuously along the east side of Second Avenue;

**WHEREAS** this proposal will enhance safety for bicyclists and pedestrians who follow the newly designed paths, and for occupants of motor vehicles that follow the newly organized lanes;

**WHEREAS** on October 21, 2009, Community Board 8 expressed support for DOT's initiative to create protected bike lanes by a vote of 38 in favor to 1 opposed;

**WHEREAS** the Transportation Committee of Community Board 6 (Manhattan), which represents the affected area south of 59th Street, evaluated and voted in favor of DOT's proposal on September 4, 2018;

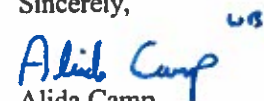
**BE IT RESOLVED** that Community Board 8 supports the proposal presented by DOT on September 5, 2018, and urges DOT to implement the proposal by the end of 2018;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Community Board 8 requests that any pedestrian signal installed between 60th and 59th streets, including all crossings at the Queensboro Bridge entrance related to this project, be equipped with countdown clocks;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Community Board 8 requests that DOT provide monthly updates on the status of this project; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Community Board 8 requests that DOT, the New York Police Department, and other relevant agencies carefully monitor the newly designed stretch of Second Avenue, from 68th Street past the Queensboro Bridge, monitor and enforce traffic laws, and provide monthly reports Community Board 8 on safety and traffic law compliance statistics for a period of two years from the date of implementation of this proposal and quarterly thereafter.

Sincerely,

  
Alida Camp  
Chair

  
Craig Lader and Charles Warren  
Co-Chairs, Transportation Committee

cc: Honorable Bill de Blasio, Mayor of the City of New York  
Honorable Carolyn Maloney, 14<sup>th</sup> Congressional District Representative  
Honorable Gale Brewer, Manhattan Borough President  
Honorable Liz Krueger, NYS Senator, 28<sup>th</sup> Senatorial District  
Honorable Dan Quart, NYS Assembly Member, 73<sup>rd</sup> Assembly District  
Honorable Rebecca Seawright, NYS Assembly Member 76<sup>th</sup> Assembly District  
Honorable Ben Kallos, NYC Council Member, 5<sup>th</sup> Council District  
Honorable Keith Powers, NYC Council Member, 4<sup>th</sup> Council District