

Valerie S. Mason
Chair

Will Brightbill
District Manager



505 Park Avenue, Suite 620
New York, N.Y. 10022-1106
(212) 758-4340
(212) 758-4616 (Fax)
www.cb8m.com – Website
info@cb8m.com – E-Mail

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

April 20, 2024

Edward F. Pincar
Manhattan Borough Commissioner
Department of Transportation
59 Maiden Lane, 37th Floor
New York, NY 10038

RE: Queensboro Bridge South Outer Roadway Conversion

Dear Commissioner Pincar,

At the Full Board meeting of Community Board 8 Manhattan held on April 19, 2024, the board approved the following resolution by a vote of 39 in favor, 2 opposed, 1 abstention and 0 not voting for cause.

WHEREAS; NYCDOT is proposing the conversion of the South Outer Roadway of the Queensboro Bridge to a pedestrian pathway; and

WHEREAS; Community Board 8 passed a resolution in January 2020 asking NYCDOT to conduct a study to determine the feasibility of converting the South Outer Roadway to a dedicated pedestrian pathway to allow bikes and pedestrians to be separated; and

WHEREAS; the current pedestrian route across the Queensboro Bridge is via a shared bike/pedestrian pathway on the North Outer Roadway that is extremely dangerous for pedestrians due to the high speeds of bikes as they descend towards the exits; and

WHEREAS; the 8,000 average daily vehicles using the South Outer Roadway is less than the combined bike and pedestrian traffic on the Bridge; and

WHEREAS; the impacts on congestion resulting from the closure of the South Outer Roadway to vehicles are expected to be minimal; and

WHEREAS; NYCDOT is proposing a series of changes to 59th Street to ensure safe pedestrian access to the South Outer Roadway while maintaining required vehicular access to existing parking garages and NYCDOT maintenance facilities; and

WHEREAS; NYCDOT is conducting further study to determine the feasibility of a midblock crosswalk on 59th Street adjacent to the proposed entrance to the South Outer Roadway pedestrian pathway; and

WHEREAS; ensuring that all access points are fully accessible and safe for all users is essential;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Community Board 8 Manhattan supports the plan, as presented by NYCDOT, to convert the South Outer Roadway of the Queensboro Bridge from a vehicular use to a dedicated pedestrian pathway;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Community Board 8 Manhattan requests that NYCDOT include a midblock crosswalk on 59th Street that is fully accessible and has traffic control in place.

Please advise our office of any action taken on this matter.

Sincerely,

Valerie S. Mason

Valerie S. Mason
Chair

Craig Lader and Charles Warren

Craig Lader and Charles Warren
Co-Chairs, Transportation Committee

cc: Honorable Kathy Hochul, Governor of New York
Honorable Eric Adams, Mayor of the City of New York
Honorable Mark Levine, Manhattan Borough President
Honorable Jerrold Nadler, 12th Congressional District Representative
Honorable Liz Krueger, NYS Senator, 28th Senatorial District
Honorable José M. Serrano, NYS Senator, 29th Senatorial District
Honorable Edward Gibbs, NYS Assembly Member 68th Assembly District
Honorable Alex Bores, NYS Assembly Member, 73rd Assembly District
Honorable Rebecca Seawright, NYS Assembly Member 76th Assembly District
Honorable Keith Powers, NYC Council Member, 4th Council District
Honorable Julie Menin, NYC Council Member, 5th Council District
Honorable Diana Ayala, NYC Council Member, 8th Council District