

Valerie S. Mason
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**The City of New York
Community Board 8 Manhattan**

February 3, 2025

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

Susan M. Donoghue
Commissioner
Department of Parks & Recreation
830 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY, 10065

Elizabeth W. Smith
President & CEO
Central Park Conservancy
717 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10022

RE: Central Park Drives

Dear Commissioner Pincar, Commissioner Donoghue, and President Smith,

At the Full Board meeting of Community Board 8 Manhattan held on January 15, 2025, the board approved the following resolution by a vote of 35 in favor, 6 opposed, 0 abstentions, and 0 not voting for cause.

WHEREAS; the Central Park Conservancy has made a number of recommendations to make improvements in the roadways in the Park; and

WHEREAS; the Central Park Drive is in need of a redesign to improve safety for people on foot, on bikes, and other modes of transportation; and

WHEREAS; pedestrians find crossing the Drives particularly challenging in the current configuration; and

WHEREAS; the proposed improvements and approach are intended to benefit safety and mobility for all users of the roadways; and

WHEREAS; Community Board 8 will review the Medium-Term and Long-Term proposals from the Central Park Conservancy at a later date when the Conservancy has further developed and studied those plans; and

WHEREAS; the presence of e-bikes and e-scooters in Central Park is viewed by many as a serious safety issue; and

WHEREAS; Community Board 8 has previously passed a resolution objecting to the use of the Park by e-bikes and e-scooters in connection with a DOT pilot program scheduled to end in May 2025; and

WHEREAS; the proposals presented by the Central Park Conservancy in relation to improving safety and slowing down bikes are agnostic towards the legality of e-bikes in Central Park in the long-term;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Community Board 8 approves as presented by the Central Park Conservancy the Near-Term recommendations of the Central Park Drives Safety and Circulation Study; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Community Board 8 reiterates its position in opposition to the presence of e-bikes and e-scooters in Central Park as presented in its prior resolution.

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

Sincerely,

Valerie S. Mason Craig Lader and Charles Warren

Valerie S. Mason
Chair

Craig Lader and Charles Warren
Co-Chairs, Transportation Committee

Felice Farber and Judith Schneider

Felice Farber and Judith Schneider
Co-Chairs, Parks and Waterfront 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