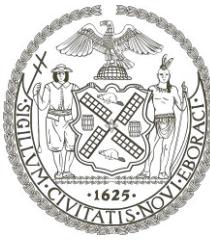


Valerie S. Mason
Chair

Ian McKnight
District Manager



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

January 28, 2026

Danielle Zuckerman
Borough Commissioner
Department of Transportation
59 Maiden Lane, 37th Floor
New York, NY 10038

RE: Third Avenue Capital Funding for Construction of Concrete Pedestrian Islands

Dear Borough Commissioner Zuckerman,

At the Full Board meeting of Community Board 8 Manhattan held on January 21, 2026, the board approved the following resolution by a vote of 33 in favor, 5 opposed, 0 abstentions, and 0 not voting for cause.

WHEREAS, the New York City Department of Transportation (NYC DOT) implemented a "Complete Street" redesign on Third Avenue between East 59th Street and East 96th Street in 2023, which included the installation of a parking-protected bike lane and offset bus lanes; and

WHEREAS, the current infrastructure for pedestrian refuge islands and bike lane separation relies primarily on thermoplastic paint and flexible plastic delineators; and

WHEREAS, flexible delineators are frequently damaged, flattened, or dislodged by motor vehicles, requiring constant maintenance and failing to provide physical protection for pedestrians and cyclists; and

WHEREAS, painted pedestrian islands, while visually delineating space, offer no physical barrier against turning vehicles and do not provide a raised, safe refuge for pedestrians—particularly seniors and those with mobility impairments—who require longer crossing times; and

WHEREAS, concrete pedestrian islands are a proven safety treatment that significantly shortens crossing distances, physically prevents vehicle encroachment, effectively "daylights" intersections to improve visibility, and serves as a permanent traffic calming measure; and

WHEREAS, Community Board 8 Manhattan has consistently advocated for permanent, high-quality safety infrastructure that prioritizes the most vulnerable road users over temporary materials;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Community Board 8 Manhattan requests that the

NYCDOT prioritize capital funding and construction to upgrade the temporary painted and plastic infrastructure on the Third Avenue protected bike lane (East 59th to East 96th Streets) to permanent concrete pedestrian islands and hardened protection;

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that these concrete upgrades should be designed to include appropriate drainage, greenery where feasible, and ADA-compliant ramps to ensure maximum accessibility and safety for all residents.

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 Zohran Mamdani, Mayor of the City of New York
Honorable Brad Hoylman-Sigal, 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 Julie Menin, NYC Council Member, 5th Council District
Honorable Virginia Maloney, NYC Council Member, 4th Council District
Honorable Elsie Encarnacion, NYC Council Member, 8th Council District