



## Community Board 12 - Manhattan Washington Heights & Inwood

530 West 166<sup>th</sup> St. 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, NY 10032

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Eleazar Bueno, Chairperson  
Ebenezer Smith, District Manager

April 29, 2021

Hon. Margaret Forgione  
Acting Commissioner  
NYC Department of Transportation  
55 Water Street, 9th Floor  
New York, NY 10041

Hon. Mitchell J. Silver  
Commissioner  
NYC Department of Parks & Recreation  
830 Fifth Avenue  
New York, NY 10065

Re: Requesting a pilot of Henry Hudson Parkway / Greenway and consideration of permanent Manhattan – Bronx Greenway connection

Dear Commissioner Forgione and Commissioner Silver:

At the General Meeting on Tuesday, April 27, 2021, with a vote of 35 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions, 1 no voting, Community Board 12 Manhattan, passed a resolution requesting New York City DOT and Department of Parks & Recreation investigate a temporary solution, described below, to the problem of bike access during the Greenway closure as a pilot during the Greenway repair project, between W 180<sup>th</sup> and Dyckman Street; and requesting New York City DOT and New York State Department of Transportation, review the HHP Greenway concept from W 180<sup>th</sup> – Henry Hudson Bridge as a permanent enhancement to the Greenway connection as part of the Empire State Trail.

- Whereas: A bike and pedestrian path currently runs along the West Side of Manhattan, and north of the George Washington Bridge (GBW), runs adjacent to the Henry Hudson Parkway (HHP) as far as Dyckman (the Greenway); and,
- Whereas: The Greenway on the west side is part of the Empire State Trail, which extends through New York State to the border with Canada; and,
- Whereas: The section of the Greenway roughly north of W 181<sup>st</sup> Street has one dramatically narrow section and is also in need of critical repairs to the retaining wall. NYC Parks will be closing this section of the Greenway to make necessary repairs later in 2021; and,
- Whereas: There are no north/south protected bike lanes in CB12, and few north-south bike routes north of W 190<sup>th</sup> Street, making this the only option for travel between the GBW and Dyckman without sharing the space with vehicles; consequently, NYC Parks is working with NYC DOT to identify an alternative route for cyclists during the construction period; and,
- Whereas: Bronx / Manhattan bicycle connections are few, and considered sub-par. The Henry Hudson Bridge is quite difficult to access via Inwood Hill Park (and includes a challenging up and down a staircase to cross a bridge over Amtrak tracks). Poor conditions for cyclists on Broadway make the Broadway Bridge a poor option for all but the most intrepid bikers.
- Whereas: The Henry Hudson Parkway (HHP) is a New York State DOT highway that runs through Fort Washington Park, Fort Tryon Park, and Inwood Hill Park. It is maintained along with New York City DOT and New York City Parks. The Henry Hudson Bridge is operated by MTA Bridges and Tunnels; and,

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- Whereas: A CB12 resident conceived of a temporary solution to the problem of bike access during the Greenway closure, that would - much like the bike path on the Harlem River Driveway - utilize the left-hand lane of the Henry Hudson Parkway to allow cyclists to travel from roughly W 180<sup>th</sup> to Dyckman Street. This concept could be implemented primarily with jersey barriers, and as such, should be both a relatively low-cost solution, and one that would be fairly quick to implement; and,
- Whereas: The HHP was originally a four-lane road, and what data is available indicates that the current levels of vehicle traffic are comfortably served by two lanes.
- Whereas: The HHP Greenway proposal could address both a near term need during Greenway closure from 181<sup>st</sup> to Dyckman, as well as address the problems associated with current Manhattan / Bronx connections at the Henry Hudson and Broadway bridges; and so be it,
- Resolved: Community Board 12, Manhattan requests New York City DOT and Department of Parks & Recreation investigate this concept as a pilot during the Greenway repair project, between W 180<sup>th</sup> and Dyckman Street; and be it further,
- Resolved: Community Board 12, Manhattan requests New York City DOT and New York State Department of Transportation, review the HHP Greenway concept from W 180<sup>th</sup> – Henry Hudson Bridge as a permanent enhancement to the Greenway connection as part of the Empire State Trail.

Sincerely,



Eleazar Bueno  
Chairperson

cc: Hon. Edward F. Pincar Jr. Manhattan Borough  
Commissioner  
Hon. Bill de Blasio, Mayor  
Hon. Jumaane Williams Public Advocate  
Hon. Scott M. Stringer, Comptroller  
Hon. Gale Brewer, Borough President  
Hon. Adriano Espaillat, Congressman

Hon. Robert Jackson, State Senator  
Hon. Brian Benjamin, State Senator  
Hon. Al Taylor, Assembly Member  
Hon. Carmen De La Rosa, Assembly Member  
Hon. Ydanis Rodríguez, Council Member  
Hon. Mark Levine, Council Member