



Community Board 12 - Manhattan Washington Heights & Inwood

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Eleazar Bueno, Chairperson
Ebenezer Smith, District Manager

December 21, 2022

Hon. Ydanis Rodriguez
Commissioner, Department of Transportation
55 Water Street, 9th Floor
New York, NY 10041

Re: Home Rule Automatic Speed Enforcement

Dear Hon. Ydanis Rodriguez:

At the General Meeting on Tuesday, December 20, 2022, Community Board 12, Manhattan, passed the following resolution with a vote of 28 in favor, 0 opposed, and 4 abstentions, 0 not voting, recommending that The New York City Council should promptly authorize the home rule for the City of New York, and Mayor Eric Adams should deliver a home rule request to the New York State legislature, to enable control of automated speed and red-light enforcement programs.

Whereas: Currently in New York City, Traffic Enforcement is done by the NYPD, while speed limits and automated traffic enforcement (speed and red-light cameras) are controlled by the New York State ("NYS") Legislature. To establish, expand or even maintain automated enforcement, New York City depends on lawmakers in Albany each time the program comes up for reauthorization; and

Whereas: Currently, Albany allows the City of New York to operate red-light cameras at 150 of 13,250 signalized intersections City-wide, and limits speed cameras to school zones. Each of these programs is considered a "demonstration Program" and must be re-authorized every two years. Only as of August 1, 2022, were New York City ("NYC") speed cameras authorized for 24/7 operation - previously, it was weekdays, 6:00 AM - 10:00 PM.

Whereas: Results from NYC's speed camera program found that, in the zones where cameras were installed, total crashes declined by 15%, total injuries by 17%, fatalities by 55%, and excessive speeding violations by 60%. In 2019, t-bone crashes causing injuries fell as much as 58% at red-light camera locations.

Whereas: In 2021, traffic fatalities increased to their highest level since 2014, and more red-light violations were recorded than in any year since 2014. In CB12M, there were 7 fatalities and 688 injuries in 2021, and this year through November there were 5 fatalities and 658 injuries. CB12M residents have complained about excessive speeding and people driving through red lights consistently; and

Whereas: Besides saving lives and reducing injuries, automated enforcement is "consistent, predictable and unbiased" yet New York City cannot use these proven tools to address traffic violence; therefore, be it

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Resolved: The New York City Council should promptly authorize the home rule for the City of New York, and Mayor Eric Adams should deliver a home rule request to the New York State legislature, to enable control of automated speed and red-light enforcement programs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'E. Bueno', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Eleazar Bueno
Chairperson

cc:

Hon. Eric Adams, Mayor
Hon. Mark Levine, Manhattan Borough President
Hon. Jumaane Williams, Public Advocate
Hon. Brad Lander, Comptroller
Hon. Adriano Espaillat, Congressman
Hon. Cordell Cleare, State Senator

Hon. Robert Jackson, State Senator
Hon. Alfred Taylor, Assembly Member
Hon. Manny De Los Santos, Assembly Member
Hon. Carmen De La Rosa, Council Member
Hon. Shaun Abreu, Council Member