



Community Board 12 - Manhattan Washington Heights & Inwood

530 West 166th St. 6th Floor, New York, NY 10032

Phone: (212) 568-8500, Fax: (212) 740-8197

Website: www.nyc.gov/mcb12

Shahabuddeen A. Ally, Esq., Chairperson
Ebenezer Smith, District Manager

April 26, 2018

Hon. Polly Trottenberg
Commissioner
NYC Department of Transportation
55 Water Street
New York, NY 10041

Re: Regarding the Dyckman Street Bike Lanes.

Dear Commissioner Trottenberg:

At the General Meeting, Tuesday, April 24, 2018 Community Board 12 Manhattan, passed the following resolution with a vote of 29 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention, calling upon DOT to immediately rectify the Dyckman Street Bike Lane situation.

Whereas: the NYC Department of Transportation (DOT) is in the process of introducing traffic calming measures throughout New York City as part of its Vision Zero initiative to improve pedestrian, cyclist, and motorist safety; and

Whereas: design elements to foster these safety efforts include such elements as protected and unprotected bikes lanes, pedestrian islands, dedicated bus lanes, restrictive traffic crossing lanes; and

Whereas: Community Board 12, Manhattan (CB12M) has discussed congestion and traffic safety issues on Dyckman Street, including the need for a bike lane, for at least a decade (see resolutions from November, 2008 and November, 2009), and DOT has made many presentations to CB12M's Traffic & Transportation Committee (T&T) as well as to the full Board regarding a bike lane on Dyckman St., including in March, 2017; and

Whereas: CB12M evaluated a two-part resolution regarding a protected bike lane on and other changes to Dyckman St., and passed the portion supporting such changes EAST of Nagle Avenue, but did not support changes proposed for WEST of Nagle Ave., reaffirming its prior position that DOT should hold a comprehensive workshop on the needs of Dyckman Street from Broadway to Nagle Ave.; and

Whereas: a stakeholders meeting was held in April, 2017, followed by a T&T meeting which resulted in CB12M's approval of the bike lane and other changes *on the condition that there would be a "normalization of the intersection at Dyckman Street and Broadway" that would not result in major traffic congestion*; and

Whereas: two protected bike lanes were installed on Dyckman Street in the summer and fall of 2017 and while they have been used with some success by cyclists, the worsened congestion, exacerbated conflicts with crosstown bus lines (M100, BxM1), and decreased parking pose an inconvenience to many residents and multiple negative impacts to local business operations; and

Whereas: many elected officials have called on DOT to remove the bike lanes for the above-stated reasons, and the City's Police and Fire Departments (NYPD and FDNY) have stated that congestion and lack of space to yield to emergency vehicles pose a direct and imminent public safety hazard; now, therefore, be it

Resolved: CB12M calls upon DOT immediately to rectify the situation to remove the public safety hazard and mitigate traffic while meeting the need for a crosstown bike passageway; and be it further


Resolved: CB12M will hold and demands that DOT representatives attend

- a joint meeting of the Business Development, Traffic & Transportation, Licensing, and Public Safety Committees to discuss the current situation and present possible solutions, and
- a public hearing at which stakeholders may hear and present feedback on a new plan; and be it further

Resolved: CB12M calls upon DOT to return to the community to evaluate the results of the implementation of the new plan, including direct outreach to local businesses, organizations, elected officials, and agencies, particularly FDNY, NYPD, and the New York City Housing Authority, and to take corrective action with an eye toward improving public safety without inconveniencing the public or disadvantaging local businesses; and be it further

Resolved: CB12M calls upon NYPD to enforce traffic rules and regulations to ensure smooth flow of traffic as well as the safety of all motorists, passengers, cyclists, and pedestrians.

Sincerely,



Shahabuddeen A. Ally, Esq.
Chairperson

cc: Hon. Rebecca Zack, Assistant Commissioner NYC DOT
Hon. Bill de Blasio, Mayor
Hon. Gale Brewer, Manhattan Borough President
Hon. Letitia James, Public Advocate
Hon. Scott M. Stringer, Comptroller
Hon. Adriano Espaillat, Congressman

Hon. Brian Benjamin, State Senator
Hon. Marisol Alcantara, State Senator
Hon. Alfred Taylor, Assembly Member
Hon. Carmen De La Rosa, Assembly Member
Hon. Ydanis Rodriguez, Council Member
Hon. Mark Levine, Council Member