



**Community Board 12 - Manhattan  
Washington Heights & Inwood**

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

October 1, 2018

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

**Re: Resolution in support of converting W. 219<sup>th</sup> & W. 220<sup>th</sup> Streets to One-Way to improve  
Pedestrian Safety and Traffic Flow near PS/IS 278 & PS 18.**

Dear Commissioner Trottenberg:

At the General Meeting, Tuesday, September 25, 2018 Community Board 12 Manhattan, passed the following resolution with a vote of 36 in favor, 1 opposed, 0 abstention, requesting that the Department of Transportation promptly evaluate and implement the modified and enhanced proposal to convert W. 219<sup>th</sup> Street between Broadway and Ninth Avenue from a Two-Way Street to a One-Way (Westbound) Street and to convert W. 220<sup>th</sup> Street between Broadway and Ninth Avenue from Two-Way Street to One-Way (eastbound).

Whereas: PS/IS 278 and PS 18 are located on W. 219<sup>th</sup> & W. 220<sup>th</sup> Streets, respectively, between Broadway and Ninth Avenue, in an M-1 industrial zone whose former use for warehouses and loading docks is reflected in a grid plan atypical of commercial and residential Manhattan streets which rely on one-way streets; and

Whereas the two schools have a combined enrollment of almost 1,000 K-8 students, most of whom walk but many of whom are driven either by bus or by private or for-hire vehicles; and

Whereas: arrival/drop-off and departure/pick-up are staggered, but create a tremendous volume of pedestrian and vehicular traffic, with buses and double-parked cars on both blocks, and vehicles attempting a variety of unsafe maneuvers, including U- and 3-point (or 5- or 7-point) turns, backing up, and driving on the sidewalk, to avoid a variety of obstacles in the roadway, creating an unsafe environment; and

Whereas: vehicles entering the Broadway Bridge Wash and Lube, a business whose dual entrances are on the south side of W. 220<sup>th</sup> St, use the curbside lane (eastbound) to queue, creating

additional congestion hampering two-way traffic driving past that business to PS18 located further east on that block; and

Whereas: there is a signal at Broadway & W. 220<sup>th</sup> St., an intersection with few pedestrians, but no signal at Broadway/W. 219<sup>th</sup> St.; an intersection with many pedestrians, making left turns to and from Broadway there needlessly difficult and dangerous; and

Whereas: parents and neighbors of the school presented to the Community Board 12, Manhattan Traffic & Transportation Committee a proposal to change two two-way streets to one-way streets (one in each direction) so that traffic may flow smoothly around the block, and their proposal included strong letters of support from the principals of both schools, and compelling visual aids; and

Whereas: representatives of the Broadway Bridge Wash and Lube, which employs approximately 50 neighborhood residents many of whom were present, also made a presentation with visual aids giving their additional proposal to improve traffic flow, suggesting that during school hours parking be eliminated on both sides of the western end of the street for a distance only slightly beyond their frontage, thus freeing the left-hand lane for through traffic, and both of the aforementioned streets should have a speed limit of no more than 15mph;

Whereas: the proposal would include only a small loss of street parking, and should include making parking at the eastern end of the block available to teachers at the schools during school hours, and after school hours the parking should revert to normal street parking regulations; now, therefore, be it

Resolved: Community Board 12, Manhattan requests that the Department of Transportation promptly evaluate and implement the modified and enhanced proposal to:

- convert W. 219<sup>th</sup> Street between Broadway and Ninth Avenue from a two-way street to a one-way (westbound) street;
- convert W. 220<sup>th</sup> Street between Broadway and Ninth Avenue from a two-way street to a one-way (eastbound) street;
- Restrict parking on north curb of West 220<sup>th</sup> Street across from the frontage of the Broadway Bridge Wash and Lube. Community Board 12 Manhattan requests that the parking restriction be limited to 7AM-4PM (school days);
- Restrict single parking spot on W. 220<sup>th</sup> Street at southeast corner with Broadway to No Parking 6AM-7PM (all days).
- Mark defined on-street parking lanes on W. 220<sup>th</sup> Street and W. 219<sup>th</sup> Street.
- Close median opening at W. 219<sup>th</sup> Street & Broadway to ban left turns from W. 219<sup>th</sup> Street;
- Restripe the southbound lanes of Broadway at W. 220<sup>th</sup> Street to provide 3 lanes, including a dedicated left-turn only lane.

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Be it further

Resolved: That due to the unique constrained geography of the immediate area, monitoring the functioning of the changes should be done from W. 218<sup>th</sup> Street to the northern end of the island on Broadway, 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue and the intervening cross streets. Parking restriction changes should be included in the monitoring and adjusted over time as-needed.

Sincerely,



Shahabuddeen A. Ally, Esq.

Chairperson

cc: Edward Pincar, DOT Manhattan Borough Commissioner  
Hon. Bill de Blasio, Mayor  
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. Al Taylor, Assembly Member  
Hon. Carmen De La Rosa, Assembly Member  
Hon. Ydanis Rodriguez, Council Member  
Hon. Mark Levine, Council Member

