



Eleazar Beno, Chairperson
Ebenezer Smith, District Manager

Community Board 12 - Manhattan Washington Heights & Inwood

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February 27, 2020

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

Re: Resolution regarding DOT Street Improvements on St. Nicholas Avenue, W. 168th - W. 170th Streets & McKenna Square.

Dear Commissioner, Trottenberg:

At the General Meeting on Tuesday, February 25, 2020, with a vote of 38 in favor, 1 opposed, 0 abstentions, Community Board 12 Manhattan, passed a resolution supporting DoT's proposed changes to streets, bike lanes and pedestrian crossings with the objective to clarify traffic flow, provide safer pedestrian crossings, maintain or improve bike network connections, and create approximately 20+ parking spots.

Whereas: As part of the DoT's Vision Zero efforts, and building on prior work and community feedback over several years, on October 7, 2019, DoT presented to the CB12M Traffic & Transportation Committee a series of proposed improvements to the area between W. 165th St. – W. 170th St. around Broadway, St. Nicholas Ave. and Audubon Avenues; and

Whereas: The current DoT proposal builds in 2017 traffic and safety plans for area between W 168th & W 170th at Broadway / St. Nicholas Ave.; on 2018 discussions on angled parking as part of Haven Plaza pedestrian plaza discussion, and on community requests for safety improvements at McKenna Square; and

Whereas: In addition to various interruptions to bike lanes, current conditions include a) very little southbound vehicular traffic between W. 166th and W. 168th Streets, b) lack of crosswalk at a preferred pedestrian crossing (called a "pedestrian desire line") just north of W 169th at triangle formed by Broadway and St. Nicholas, c) a six-legged intersection at W 165th St and St Nicholas / Audubon Avenue and McKenna Square, which forces pedestrians to cross multiple long crossings to stay on St Nicholas and d) pedestrian space of McKenna Square ends short of Amsterdam Ave.; and

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Re: Supporting the Proposed DOT Street Improvements on St. Nicholas Avenue, W. 168th - W. 170th Streets & McKenna Square.

February 27, 2020

Page 2

Whereas: DoT proposes a series of modifications to streets and crosswalks which includes: a) changing St Nicholas to one way northbound between W. 166th and W. 168th St. and creating 17+ spaces of angled parking and shortening crosswalks across St Nicholas in those two blocks; b) adding a conventional southbound bike lane on Broadway between W. 168th & W 170th; c) adding a crosswalk from the tip of the triangle formed by St Nicholas and Broadway north of W 169th Street; d) extending eastern tip of McKenna Square to Amsterdam Ave, thereby breaking up the 68' W. 165th crossing at Amsterdam (which adds 3 parking spots), e) providing a direct path for pedestrians to remain on St Nicholas through the 6-legged W. 165th St. intersection, f) adding 5 parking spots on Audubon between W 165th and W 166th, and g) making certain upgrades to existing bike lanes; now, therefore, be it

Resolved: Community Board 12, Manhattan supports NYC DoT's proposed changes to streets, bike lanes and pedestrian crossings with the objective to clarify traffic flow, provide safer pedestrian crossings, maintain or improve bike network connections, and create approximately 20+ parking spots.

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 Rodriguez, Council Member
Hon. Mark Levine, Council Member