



Burt Lazarin
Chair

Jesse R. Bodine
District Manager

CITY OF NEW YORK
MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR
330 West 42nd Street, 26th floor New York, NY 10036
tel: 212-736-4536 fax: 212-947-9512
www.nyc.gov/mcb4

October 17, 2018

Ed Pincar, Jr.
Manhattan Borough Commissioner
NYC Department of Transportation
59 Maiden Lane, 37th Floor
New York, NY 10037

Re: Tenth Avenue Bicycle Lane (West 52nd Street to West 72nd Street)

Dear Commissioner Pincar,

Manhattan Community Board 4 (MCB4) supports wholeheartedly the NYC Department of Transportation's (DOT) plan to install a parking-protected bicycle lane on Tenth Avenue from West 52nd Street continuing north to West 60th Street in Community District 4 (CD4) and then up to West 72nd Street and Amsterdam Avenue in CD7 to connect with the existing Amsterdam Avenue bike lane. At MCB4's October 3rd Full Board Meeting, the Board voted with 37 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstaining and 0 present but not eligible to vote on the DOT's Tenth Avenue bike lane plans. It is part of NYC DOT's effort to create an expanded network of protected bicycle lanes to enhance safety for all street users and achieve the goals of the Mayor's Vision Zero initiative.

We are particularly grateful to the DOT for their responsiveness to our concerns outlined in our June 2018 letter. The plan now includes the following:

- Signal timing adjustments to conform to the 25mph legal speed limit during the day or night will be installed on Tenth Avenue this fall. We hope the treatment will be applied to the whole length of the Avenue to address speeding complaints we have received around a school in the low 40s
- DOT will examine potential locations to install additional split-phase signals or other intersection improvements following release of an intersection study in Fall 2018/Winter 2019
- Two to four raised concrete pedestrian refuge areas with tree pits will be installed in 2019 based on safety data and constructability. Eventually it is DOT's plan to install raised concrete on all pedestrian refuges

- In 2019, DOT will evaluate potential extension of protected bike lane and pedestrian safety improvements to the south

Three major schools are located along this segment of Tenth Avenue: P.S. 111 at West 53rd Street (410 students), School of Environmental Studies at West 55th Street (1,300 students) and John Jay College of Criminal Justice Campus at West 58th Street (15,000 students). Mount Sinai West Hospital is located on Tenth Avenue between West 58th and West 59th Street (3,000 staff and 1,073 patient trips per day).

At the MCB4 Transportation Committee meeting, many residents asked that the bike lane be expanded to reach all the way to 14th Street, as many parts of the Avenue are quite dangerous for cyclists. We have already supported the request for a bike lane from 34th to 42nd Streets, and we support this request for an extension, as such an installation would go a long way to calm the traffic around schools below 42nd Street.

Tenth Avenue is a dangerous environment for cyclists: many residents do characterize the Avenue as a speedway; in fact according to DOT statistics, 79% of vehicles speed on the corridor. In the last five years there were 114 injuries and one cyclist fatality on this corridor in CD4. These enhancements will be very valuable to the City's and this Board's efforts to achieve zero fatality and minimize traffic injuries in our district.

Sincerely,



Burt Lazarin,
Chair
Manhattan Community
Board 4



Christine, Berthet,
Co-Chair
Transportation Planning
Committee



Dale Corvino,
Co-Chair
Transportation Planning
Committee

Cc: Hon. Brad Hoylman, New York State Senate
Hon. Richard N. Gottfried, New York State Assembly
Hon. Linda Rosenthal, New York State Assembly
Hon. Corey Johnson, Speaker, NYC Council
Hon. Gale A. Brewer, Manhattan Borough President