



CITY OF NEW YORK

**MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR**

330 West 42<sup>nd</sup> Street, 26<sup>th</sup> floor New York, NY 10036  
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**DELORES RUBIN**  
Chair

**Jesse Bodine**  
District Manager

December 29, 2016

Luis Sanchez  
Acting Manhattan Borough Commissioner  
NYC Department of Transportation  
59 Maiden Lane, 37<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10038

**Re: M23 SBS**

Dear Commissioner Sanchez,

The Office of Manhattan Community board 4 (MCB4) writes in regard to the number of residents contacting the board's Transportation Committee regarding a recent significant increase in tour buses using West 24<sup>th</sup>, West 26<sup>th</sup>, and West 28<sup>th</sup> Street. As you know, Department of Transportation (DOT) requires Tour Bus drivers to travel along New York City truck routes except when local bus routes or other roads are needed to reach their destinations.

As your know, with the installation of the M23 SBS a majority of the left turns on West 23<sup>rd</sup> Street, a truck route, have been banned. As a result, tour buses coming from the High Line or Chelsea Piers are now using residential side streets from Tenth Avenue to Eighth Avenue to reach Eighth Avenue. As a result, the buses are creating congestion and are a major impediment to the local traffic on these narrow residential streets. In addition, there are safety concerns for the many schools along these blocks when children use the streets to enter and exit the schools. The volume of bus traffic is significant enough to be brought to the Transportation Committee's attention and raised in the last month's District Service Cabinet meeting.

MCB4 recognizes this is an unanticipated consequence of the M23 Select Bus Service plan. However the New York City Traffic Rules require bus operators to create detailed routing plans for their trips. MCB4 would ask DOT to request the current tour bus companies to submit updated routing plans to your offices for DOT's review and for DOT to work with these companies so to distribute the impact of these buses and not over burden any particular side street.

MCB4 would appreciate an appropriate member of the DOT's tour bus routing division to attend the next Transportation Committee to discuss the situation and the remedies with the community. Patricia Gouris, MCB4's Associate Planner will be in contact with your office shortly.

Thank you for your continued attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jesse Bodine".

Jesse R. Bodine  
District Manager  
Manhattan Community Board 4

CC: Colleen Chattergoon, NYC DOT