



**Lowell D. Kern**  
Chair

**Jesse Bodine**  
District Manager

CITY OF NEW YORK

**MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR**

424 West West 33 Street, Suite #580  
New York, NY 10001  
Mailing Address  
P.O. Box 2622  
New York, NY 10108  
tel: 212-736-4536

July 1, 2021

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

**Re: Fatality on 25<sup>th</sup> Street & Eighth Avenue**

Dear Commissioner Pincar,

Manhattan Community Board 4 (MCB4) requests the Department of Transportation's (DOT) urgent attention to make the Eighth Avenue intersection with West 25<sup>th</sup> Street safe. Last week, Jose Calo, a senior citizen, was killed there while he was crossing the west side of Eighth Avenue, in the pedestrian crossing with the light. The driver was turning left and crashed into Mr. Calo. Jose Calo was a beloved, hard-working immigrant, a reflection of our district's important social history.

This intersection is adjacent to the Penn South residential complex, home to many seniors. In the last five years, two cyclists and one pedestrian have been injured at this intersection.

This fatality was entirely avoidable. MCB4 and residents of Penn South had long asked for a fully protected crossing there, but DOT installed only 10 seconds of red arrow, which is woefully insufficient in a location where there are so many seniors. This is a dangerous condition, since drivers are led to believe that they have priority during the no-arrow phase. The same situation is true at West 29<sup>th</sup> Street, for which we have made the same request.

We implore you to urgently upgrade this intersection and that of West 29<sup>th</sup> Street by changing the signals to fully protected ones<sup>1</sup>.

Sincerely,

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<sup>1</sup> This letter passed unanimously at MCB4's June 26<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee meeting and is subject to ratification at the July 28<sup>th</sup> Full Board meeting.



Lowell D. Kern  
Chair  
Manhattan Community Board 4



Christine Berthet  
Co-chair  
Transportation Planning Committee



Dale Corvino  
Co-chair  
Transportation Planning Committee

CC: Hon. Brad Hoylman, NYS Senate  
Hon. Richard Gottfried, NYS Assembly  
Hon. Corey Johnson, Speaker, NYC Council  
Hon. Gale Brewer, Manhattan Borough President  
Penn South Board of Directors