



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

tel: 212-736-4536
www.nyc.gov/mcb4

October 26, 2021

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

Re: Bike Lane Improvements on 11th Avenue

Dear Borough Commissioner Pincar,

Manhattan Community Board 4 (MCB4) is pleased that the NYC Department of Transportation (DOT) will complete the protected bike lane connections from West 38th and West 39th Streets and Eleventh Avenue to the Hudson River Greenway. However, we have serious concerns for the safety of cyclists on a section of Eleventh Avenue.

There are also safety concerns north of West 42nd Street and on West 54th Street and we ask DOT to address them as soon as possible. The following recommendations were voted on during MCB4's October 6th Full Board meeting by a vote of 43 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstaining, and 0 present but not eligible to vote.

The revised design addresses previous MCB4 objections, including:

- Two-way bike lane protected by Jersey barriers
 - on the south side of West 40th Street between Eleventh and Twelfth Avenues
 - on the west curb of 39th to 40th Street on Eleventh Avenue
- One-way bike lane protected by flexible bollards on the west curb of Eleventh Avenue
 - From West 40th to West 41st Street
 - From West 38th to West 39th Street
 - Left turn lanes in each direction
 - Pedestrian safety improvements to be installed in 2022
- Shared lane markings
 - along west curb West 41st to West 42nd Street

We ask that you reconsider the shared lane markings and instead install a protected bike lane.

In addition, we have received numerous reports and videos of drivers using the Eleventh Avenue bike lane from West 51st to West 42nd Street to bypass traffic. They engage in this illegal activity at high speed, a menace for cyclists. It is urgent that installed protections make it difficult for drivers to enter the bike lane.

We have also received reports of auto dealerships systematically parking in the West 54th Street bike lane between Eleventh and Twelfth Avenues. Vertical bollards would help, similarly to those installed on West 39th Street.

We appreciate DOT's responsiveness to our concerns to-date and look for continuing efforts to increase street safety in our district.


Sincerely,



Lowell D. Kern
Chair
Manhattan Community Board 4



Christine Berthet
Co-chair
Transportation Planning Committee



Dale Corvino
Co-chair
Transportation Planning Committee