



**Lowell D. Kern**  
Chair

**Jesse Bodine**  
District Manager

CITY OF NEW YORK  
**MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR**

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October 26, 2021

Diannae Ehler  
Director, Tunnels, Bridges, and Terminals  
Port Authority of New York & New Jersey  
4 World Trade Center, 150 Greenwich Street, 22<sup>nd</sup> Fl.  
New York, NY 10006

Jerry Lindenmeier  
General Manager of the Lincoln Tunnel  
Port Authority of New York & New Jersey  
4 World Trade Center, 150 Greenwich Street, 22<sup>nd</sup> Fl.  
New York, 10006

**Re: Lincoln Tunnel Closure for Gantry Installation**

Manhattan Community Board 4 (MCB4) thanks the Port Authority (PA) staff for presenting to the Transportation Committee their plans to mitigate traffic during the upcoming closures of one New Jersey-bound lane of the Lincoln Tunnel. This is necessary to accommodate the installation of the cashless toll gantries on the Dyer Plaza Ramp (DPR).

Twelve-hour closures will occur from 11:00pm on Friday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> until 11:00am on Saturday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> (with October 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> as a rain date) plus a 52-hour closure from Saturday, November 6<sup>th</sup> at 12:01 am until Monday, November 8<sup>th</sup> at 4:00am (with November 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> as a rain date).

To date, the Port Authority has worked only during day-time hours to limit the negative impact to the community. MCB4 has not received any noise complaints for this project.

The Port Authority is very concerned – as we are - about the disruption to the New Jersey-bound weekend traffic that queues on our streets. The traffic is very heavy at this time of year and post - COVID. We are pleased that PA has developed and will implement an extensive plan to detour the traffic, notably to Tenth Avenue, without overloading the north tube that serves Eleventh Avenue. Signage and personnel (NYPD and PA) will be deployed at most of the intersections. A hot line for noise complaints is provided (833) 446-6473. This is a very comprehensive plan.

We pointed out to the Port Authority some hyperlocal suggestions<sup>1</sup> and asked that they adjust their plans accordingly. They indicated their willingness to do so. We also asked that agents be tasked to prevent gridlock and give priority to the safety of pedestrians and cyclists.

- During the 12-hour closing, install a traffic agent at West 37<sup>th</sup> Street and Ninth Avenue from 11:00pm to 1:00am when theatergoers return home
- During the 52-hour closing:
  - o Detour the Ninth Avenue traffic to West 41<sup>st</sup> Street and the contra lane on Dyer Avenue
  - o Add an agent at West 38<sup>th</sup> Street and Ninth Avenue, where the traffic loops back from Tenth Avenue
  - o Add detour signage on the Northwest corner of West 37<sup>th</sup> Street at Ninth Avenue, to compensate for the blind spots caused by truck parking on West 37<sup>th</sup> Street, east of Ninth Avenue.

The Port Authority also reported that the project to screen the view of gantries is advancing and the actual planting of eight trees could take place during the second quarter of 2022. The overall gantry project started in April 2021 and should be completed by the fourth quarter of 2022.

Sincerely,



Lowell D. Kern  
Chair  
Manhattan Community Board 4



Christine Berthet  
Co-chair  
Transportation Planning Committee



Dale Corvino  
Co-chair  
Transportation Planning Committee

cc: Rick Cotton, Executive Director, PANYNJ  
Michael Lavery, PANYNJ

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<sup>1</sup> This letter is subject to ratification at the November 3<sup>rd</sup> Full Board meeting.