

JEFFREY LEFRANCOIS
Chair

JESSE R. BODINE
District Manager

CITY OF NEW YORK
MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR

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September 13, 2022

Captain Robert Gault
Commanding Officer
10th Precinct
230 W. 20th Street
New York, NY 10011

Inspector Robert W. O'Hare
Commanding Officer
Midtown South Precinct
357 W. 35th Street
New York, NY 10001

Deputy Inspector Angel L. Figueroa Jr.
Commanding Officer
13th Precinct
230 E. 21st Street
New York, NY 10010

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

Deputy Inspector John L. O'Connell
Commanding Officer
Midtown North Precinct
306 W. 54th Street
New York, NY 10019

Re: Eighth Avenue Pedestrian Cyclist Fatality

Dear Commanding Officers and Borough Commissioner Pincar,

Manhattan Community Board 4 (MCB4) is saddened to learn that a pedestrian was recently killed in a hit and run crash with a cyclist on Eighth Avenue at West 21st Street. Although the information is incomplete, it appears the pedestrian was in the pedestrian crossing. The NYPD opened an investigation and is seeking information.

Every fatality¹ is heartbreaking because it could be avoided. But the observations of cyclists' behavior in our district make us fear injuries will increase: cyclists are now routinely using sidewalks even when a bike lane is present, and riding the wrong way is now the norm. With so

¹ We are well aware that fatalities caused by cyclists are rare compared to those caused by vehicles. In the last 12 months, they were 1 citywide pedestrian fatality due to crash with cyclists, 2 with scooters, and 129 with vehicles - Source: Open Data/Crashmapper

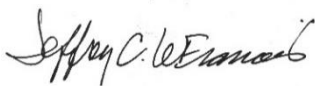
many families and seniors, these illegal practices that exploded during COVID need to be curtailed.

At its September 7th Full Board meeting, by a vote of 46 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstaining, and 0 present but not eligible, MCB4 asks the Department of Transportation (DOT) to use its toolkit to educate cyclists at problematic locations in our district. Infrastructure must continue to be upgraded faster and more systematically to protect in priority the most vulnerable street users.

We are also asking NYPD to increase its enforcement of no cycling on the sidewalk, and no cycling the wrong way. We expect this enforcement to be doled out equitably to all cyclists who break the law. Indeed, this enforcement should not be exclusive to cyclists, but apply also to all drivers who do not heed the law and illegally block bike lanes and sidewalks.

With business returning and school reopening, it is critical that sidewalk space be dedicated to pedestrians -as is the law- and rules of the road be adhered to.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey LeFrancois
Chair
Manhattan Community
Board 4



Christine Berthet
Co-chair
Transportation Planning
Committee



Dale Corvino
Co-chair
Transportation Planning
Committee

Cc: Hon. Brad Hoylman, NYS Senator
Hon. Linda Rosenthal, NYS Assembly Member
Hon. Richard Gottfried, NYS Assembly Member
Hon. Erik Bottcher, NYC Council Member
Hon. Mark Levine, Manhattan Borough President
NYPD Traffic