

**JEFFREY LEFRANCOIS**  
Chair

**JESSE R. BODINE**  
District Manager

CITY OF NEW YORK

**MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR**

424 West 33<sup>rd</sup> Street, Suite #580  
New York, NY 10001

tel: 212-736-4536  
[www.nyc.gov/mcb4](http://www.nyc.gov/mcb4)

January 13, 2023

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

**Re: West 22<sup>nd</sup> Street - Shared Street Study**

Dear Borough Commissioner Pincar,

At its Full Board meeting on January 4, 2023, by a vote of 32 in favor, 6 opposed, 1 abstaining, and 5 present but not eligible, Manhattan Community Board 4 (MCB4) voted to support the goals of the West 22<sup>nd</sup> Street Open Street (Seventh / Eighth Avenue) Community Workshop Report to implement a “shared street” on this block. We urge the Department of Transportation (DOT) to initiate a study for this proposal and its direct impact on traffic on neighboring eastbound streets as soon as possible, including how differing use options would impact the safety on pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists.

Also known as a “pedestrian-priority” street, a *shared street* is a roadway designed for slow travel speeds where pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists all share the ‘right of way.’ Vehicles are advised to drive at 5mph. Slow speeds are encouraged through traffic calming, signage, and use of distinctive materials, furnishings, plantings, and other visual cues in the roadway that caution drivers. Street users generally negotiate the right-of-way cooperatively rather than relying on traffic controls, allowing the entire street to effectively function as a public space. Shared streets can be designed and managed in a variety of different ways to balance the needs of all users while enhancing the safety, aesthetics, and overall experience of the street.

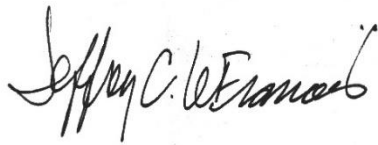
The goals of the proposed “shared street” design are to make the street safer, slow down the traffic, reduce congestion and idling, expand sidewalks, and add greenery without precluding vehicular access to the garage or to local business and residents (without barricade). For example, option B in the report accomplishes these goals with interim materials that do not require capital investments and without the use of a barricade.

Such a solution should be equitable for all street users and would replace the current Open Street program which has been in place since 2020.

MCB4 is also interested in a presentation of the Shared Street program and its roll out in the City.

We look forward to DOT presenting their findings to the Community Board.

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. Tony Simone, NYS Assembly Member  
Hon. Mark Levine, Manhattan Borough President  
Hon. Erik Bottcher, NYC Council Member  
West 22nd Street BA/Between 7th & 8th Aves.