



CITY OF NEW YORK
MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR

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JESSICA CHAIT
Chair

JESSE R. BODINE
District Manager

May 15, 2024

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

Evan Sweet
Director of Neighborhood Planning & Operations
Meatpacking District Management Association
32 Gansevoort Street, 5th Fl.
New York, NY 10014

Re: Ninth Avenue Congestion

Dear Commissioner Pincar & Mr. Sweet,

Manhattan Community Board 4 (MCB4), at the May 1 Full Board Meeting voted, by a vote of 38 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstention, and 1 present but not eligible, to request that the DOT resolve the traffic congestion on Ninth Avenue between West 13th and West 16th Street.

The community complained and MCB4 observed that traffic gets constantly backed up in the area surrounding the intersection of West 15th Street and Ninth Avenue. The congestion is not only a nuisance to nearby residents, but it also creates significant delays and negatively impacts bus reliability for the thousands of riders who use the M11 bus.

The heavy vehicular traffic — due to the success of the Meatpacking district as a tourist destination — is compounded by very high pedestrian traffic coming and going to Chelsea

Market and the Apple Store on the west side of the avenue, which conflicts with turning cars, as well as heavy truck traffic using West 15th Street as a truck route to the West Side Highway.

The Board requests that the DOT study this area and implement proven solutions to address the issue. These may include:

- Provide an exclusive split phase signal to vehicles turning right at West 15th Street;
- Install a neck down on both western corners of West 15th Street to allow a larger platoon of pedestrians to wait for the green light;
- Reduce the amount of green signal time on West 15th Street as vehicles approach Ninth Avenue in order to avoid gridlock in the intersection;
- Reducing the amount of green signal timing on Ninth Avenue from West 20th to West 13th Streets to avoid unnecessary accumulations; and
- Increase the amount of bus layover space on West 13th Street to reduce the occurrence of bus double parking.

Moreover, the Board requests that the Meatpacking District work with the owner or operator of Chelsea Market to develop a traffic management plan, which may include employing dedicated individuals to promote orderly pickups and drop offs in front of the building to avoid double and triple parking.

Sincerely,



Jessica Chait
Chair
Manhattan Community Board 4



Christine Berthet
Co-Chair
Transportation Planning Committee



Jesse Greenwald
Co-Chair
Transportation Planning Committee

CC: Bus Division of MTA
NYPD