



JESSICA CHAIT
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CITY OF NEW YORK
MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR

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February 12, 2025

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

Re – Maintenance and Upgrade of Bike and Pedestrian Infrastructure in MCD4

Dear Commissioner Pincar,

Manhattan Community Board 4 (MCB4) by a vote of 44 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstaining, 0 present but not eligible at its February 5th Full Board meeting, requests that the DOT repairs and upgrades bike lanes and pedestrian areas in MCD4 as soon as feasible.

MCD4 has the oldest bike lanes in the city. Some of them were installed 15 years ago. Since then, normal wear and tear has caused many potholes. New design standards have emerged that are safer, like removing mixing zones, but some of our bike lanes have not been retrofitted with such features.

Members of the community have undertaken a thorough audit of our bike lanes and documented 197 conditions to be addressed and their locations. We hope this documentation will help you to give a high priority to these repairs. In fact, we just received your notification that the Sixth Avenue bike lane is being enhanced this year. All issues we have outlined in the survey should be addressed as part of the project.

The summary^[1] below shows that at 66 locations the paint is missing, the asphalt is damaged, or ponding occurs at corners. Vertical protections are insufficient at 55 locations where we documented frequent and dangerous encroachments. In 38 cases, mixing zones have not yet been replaced with offset crossings which are now the norm.

We have identified five obstructions that should be easy to remove and five signal timing and parking regulations that should be adjusted.

Finally, there are 28 segments, mostly on Midtown crosstown streets, where the bike lanes are extremely narrow and should be widened to be safer.

As such facilities become more common, we ask DOT to perform systematic periodic reviews of these spaces, just like it does today for roadways. As all of our district is part of the Congestion Relief Zone, it is even more critical to repair and upgrade our cycling and walking infrastructure to provide a safe alternative for commuters and residents.

The full documentation is linked below.^[2]

Thank you for addressing these issues.

Sincerely,



Jessica Chait
Chair
Manhattan Community Board 4



Christine Berthet
Co-Chair
Transportation Planning Committee



Jesse Greenwald
Co-Chair
Transportation Planning Committee

Enclosure

^[1] <https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/sg45utkm4og4eyn3ouy7q/mcb4-BL-audit1.xlsx?rlkey=bqztz9pg99kr0163yzvjsy5l&dl=0>

^[2] <https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/lvntrdryfrxnt8flv68/Bike-Lane-Census-and-DOT-Punch-List-MCB4.pdf?rlkey=ahpk1f3f6rw8y5e97rmpyhdu&dl=0>