



CITY OF NEW YORK

**MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR**

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**COREY JOHNSON**  
Chair

**ROBERT J. BENFATTO, JR., ESQ.**  
District Manager

December 7, 2011

Margaret Forgione  
Manhattan Borough Commissioner  
New York City Department of Transportation  
55 Water Street, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, New York 10041

**RE: 59<sup>th</sup> Street (bet. 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup>) One-Way Signage**

Dear Commissioner Forgione:

Manhattan Community Board 4 (CB4), supports John Jay College's request to convert 59<sup>th</sup> Street between 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> Avenues from a two-way street to a one way street with the traffic flowing westward, with the provisions described below.

59<sup>th</sup> Street is a one-way street with one moving lanes and two curbside lanes, going westward from 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> Avenues - except for the block between 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> Avenues. However, this block was converted to one-way in March 2010, when the construction commenced for the college western extension, between 58<sup>th</sup> and 59<sup>th</sup> Streets from midblock to 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue. The temporary configuration has worked well and the college wishes to see it made permanent.

The campus has 17, 000 students, faculty and personnel. The main entrance to the campus will now be located midblock on the south side of 59<sup>th</sup> Street. CB4 is concerned that, once the oversized construction equipment is removed from the curb lanes, drivers will be inclined to speed up. With the safety of pedestrians in mind CB4 requests the Department of Transportation to:

- Install a midblock signalized pedestrian crossing
- Ensure that the two curb lanes are dedicated to parking/loading and do not remain open to traffic.

The side street has a fairly narrow sidewalk that cannot accommodate the volume of students and bike racks. CB4 recommends that the DOT consider installing bike corrals and bike share stations in the curb lane in sufficient quantity to service the bike commuters.

John Jay College has reached out to adjacent businesses and Roosevelt Hospital and has received written support to this proposal from the hospital and other businesses

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,



Corey Johnson  
Chair  
Manhattan Community Board 4

Christine Berthet  
Co-Chair  
Transportation Planning Committee



Jay Marcus  
Co-Chair  
Transportation Planning Committee

CC: John Jay College of Criminal Justice  
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