

October 2, 2003

Hon. Margaret Forgiione
Manhattan Borough Commissioner
New York City Department of Transportation
40 Worth Street
New York, NY 10013

Deleted: ¶
¶
¶
¶
¶

Re: Accessible Pedestrian Signals

Dear Commissioner Forgiione:

Several times in recent years this Community Board has identified to your department specific intersections that are in most of need of pedestrian signals that communicate "WALK/DON'T WALK" information non-visually. [These signals are vital to the safety of pedestrians with visual impairments. We eagerly anticipate some type of action on these requests. If for some the installation of these signals is not possible, we hope that you will inform the Board why. To date, the Board office has not received a](#) response to any of these communications concerning an important pedestrian safety issue.

Deleted: We have yet to witness any action on these requests, or even

The latest generation of devices, now called "Accessible Pedestrian Signals", presents WALK-cycle information audibly and with a vibrating arrow. The devices are modest in cost, are easily installed on existing ped-heads, and are unobtrusive and unambiguous, emitting a sound that is noticeable only very close to the unit.

[We are most concerned that these](#) safety devices [are installed in a timely manner](#) at the intersections we previously identified (Columbus Circle, 23rd and Seventh Avenue, and 23rd and Avenue of the Americas), as well as other locations. We are aware, for example, of the request from a 55th Street resident for APS's at Eight Avenue and 55th Street.

Deleted: We urge immediate consideration of these

Deleted: crucial

[We thank you for your consideration of this important matter.](#)

Sincerely,



Walter Mankoff
Chair

cc: Elected Officials