

October 2, 2003

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

**Re: Curb Ramp Detectable Warnings**

Dear Commissioner Forgione:

During the Transportation Planning Committee of Manhattan Community Board No. 4's August meeting, Andrew Hallerman announced the schedule of upcoming street resurfacing in our community.

As always, Mr. Hallerman was very helpful providing information and inviting the Board's input. The Committee noted the large number of street-miles to be resurfaced. In regard to the instances where street resurfacing will also include construction of new curb ramps or reconstruction of existing ones, the Board would like to reemphasize the importance of the federal regulation requiring that curb ramps receive "detectable warning strips". These strips provide visual and tactual information to all pedestrians who ordinarily depend on the presence of full-height curbing to distinguish between safe pedestrian areas and street lanes. They also serve to alert all pedestrians about sudden changes in the plane of the sidewalk.

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We thank you for your attention to this matter. If for some reason NYC DOT does not interpret the federal standards in the same way that we do, we hope that your staff with contact the District Office so that we can further discuss a matter that is very important for pedestrian safety in our community.

**Deleted:** Please encourage your personnel to consult with out District Office as these detectable warning strips are installed in compliance with

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Sincerely,



Walter Mankoff  
Chair

cc: Elected Officials