



CITY OF NEW YORK

**MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR**

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**JEAN-DANIEL NOLAND**  
Chair

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

December 19, 2007

Department of Transportation  
Commissioner Janette Sadik-Kahn  
40 Worth Street  
New York, NY 10013

**Re: West 17<sup>th</sup> Street – Speed bump**

Dear Commissioner:

Manhattan Community Board 4 wishes to thank Interim Deputy Commissioner Keith Bray for his efforts on our community’s behalf in obtaining one speed bump on West 17th Street, in order to correct the dangerous situation that contributed to a child’s death in October 2007.

However, it appears that DOT departments do not intend to proceed with the speed bump installation at this time, because the technically, such a long block warrants two speed bumps, and Con Edison is working in the portion of the street where the second speed bump should be located.

Community Board 4 is pleased to report that Con Edison has already completed its work. We request that you expedite the installation of the first speed bump at this time on West 17<sup>th</sup> Street.

How can we rationalize to the grieving families that the installation of the first speed bump - a measure that can save children’s lives - will be delayed for one year, because of problems with the installation of a second – arguably unnecessary - speed bump?

If cost considerations are involved, installing only one speed bump to protect the playgrounds would minimize the cost. If no exception to the two speed bumps rule can be made – and we find this hard to believe – the cost of doing a two-steps installation will still favorably compare with a child’s live.

Community Board 4 requests that you approve the installation of a first speed bump on West 17<sup>th</sup> street as soon as possible to prevent another tragedy.

Sincerely,

Jean-Daniel Noland  
Chair  
Manhattan Community  
Board No. 4

Jay Marcus  
Co-Chair  
Transportation Planning  
Committee

Christine Berthet  
Co-Chair  
Transportation Planning  
Committee

Elected  
Keith Bray, DOT  
Fulton House Tenants Association