



CITY OF NEW YORK

MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR

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JEAN-DANIEL NOLAND
Chair

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

Borough Commissioner Margaret Forgione
NYC Department of Transportation
59 Maiden Lane, 35th Floor
New York, NY 10038

Re: Follow up actions on the Eighth and Ninth Avenues re bike lanes

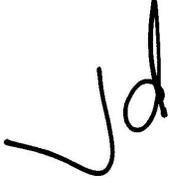
Dear Commissioner Forgione:

Manhattan Community Board 4 heard from the community on a number of outstanding issues related to the bike lanes from 14th Street up to 23rd Street on 8th Avenue and up to 31st Street on 9th Avenue. We are asking that the following actions be given priority to alleviate the remaining problems:

- We need much stronger and continuous enforcement of bike rules and request that a bicycle-mounted police officer be assigned to enforce all traffic rules, for all users, on both lanes.
 - Many bicyclists continue to use the bike lane in an improper way: driving against the flow, which startles pedestrians, or running red lights, which slows down the left turn movement of cars.
- The new “no left turn” sign on 23rd Street going west at the intersection with 9th Avenue is not visible. We request the installation of two additional larger signs: one located next to the traffic light suspended to the southeast arm and one on the northeast corner of 9th Avenue and 23rd Street, before the pedestrian crossing.
- We also request stepped up enforcement of the “no left turn” by the police or the traffic task force.
 - The new “no left turn” on 23rd street going west is not well respected. Vehicles turn illegally rushing to avoid the incoming traffic, and they put at risk pedestrians who are crossing 9th Avenue on the south side. This is particularly concerning as it seems the volume of tour buses using this route increased since the opening of the high line.
- CB4's request for parking changes dated November 21 2008, (attached) has not been completed. These were adjustments left over from the 9th avenue installation. WE continue to request that these changes be implemented as the current parking rules are not business friendly.
- We request that DOT provide us with the distribution of traffic light timing between the various users at the intersection of 23rd Street and 9th Avenue, as well as the volume of cars and the number of accidents, injuries and deaths at the approaches to the intersections in the area bounded by Seventh to Eleventh Avenues and 19th to 25th Streets. If possible, data should be segregated before and after the installation of the “No left turn” sign.
- Some pedestrians have complained of tripping in the dark on the Eight Avenue medians. This may be due to the construction or DOT may want consider reflective strips on the

edges. Crosswalk cuts in the medians should coincide with the outer boundaries of the striped crosswalks

Thank you in advance.
Sincerely,



Jean-Daniel Noland
Chair
Manhattan
Community Board 4



Christine Berthet
Co-Chair
Transportation Planning
Committee



Jay Marcus
Co-Chair
Transportation Planning
Committee