



DELORES RUBIN
Chair

JESSE R. BODINE
District Manager

CITY OF NEW YORK

MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR

330 West 42nd Street, 26th floor New York, NY 10036
tel: 212-736-4536 fax: 212-947-9512
www.nyc.gov/mcb4

August 9, 2017

To Polly Trottenberg
Commissioner
Department of Transportation
55 Water Street
New York, NY 10041

Re: Unsafe Bicycling Conditions at Columbus Circle

Dear Commissioner Trottenberg,

Manhattan Community Board 4, in view of the hazardous conditions for cyclists in Columbus Circle, calls upon the Department of Transportation to install a protected path for cyclists through Columbus Circle that would ensure their safe passage (1) north from the end of the Eighth Avenue bicycle lane to the Central Park West bicycle lane and (2) south from Broadway to the bicycle lane on Broadway south of the Circle.

Such path would clearly separate cyclists from vehicles, with physical barriers to prevent the unsafe encroachment of cyclists and vehicles. In designing this protected path, the DOT should be mindful of the safety of pedestrians through the Circle.

The DOT should also ensure that there is no interruption in the protected path and that the Eighth Avenue protected bike path is extended from West 56th Street to Columbus Circle. We suggest that DOT explore various solutions like detours of bicyclists and/or vehicles to separate them.

The treatment of the West 57th Street and Eighth Avenue intersection should provide additional safety for pedestrians and bicyclists alike, since it is one of the priority intersections identified in the Vision Zero pedestrian safety plan.

Sincerely,



Delores Rubin
Chair
Manhattan Community
Board 4



Christine Berthet
Co-Chair
Transportation Planning
Committee



Yoni Bokser
Co-Chair
Transportation Planning
Committee

Cc: Hon. Jerry Nadler, U.S. Congress
Hon. Brad Hoylman, New York State Senate
Hon. Linda Rosenthal, New York State Assembly
Hon. Richard Gottfried, New York State Assembly
Hon. Helen Rosenthal, City Council
Hon. Corey Johnson, City Council
Hon. Gale A. Brewer, Manhattan Borough President