



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

COREY JOHNSON
Chair

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

July 26, 2012

Ms. Margaret Forgione
Manhattan Borough Commissioner
New York City Department of Transportation
59 Maiden Lane, 37th Floor
New York, New York 10038

Re: Ninth and Tenth Avenues Crossings at W. 43rd Street

Dear Commissioner Forgione:

Manhattan Community Board 4 (MCB4) requests that the New York City Department of Transportation (DOT) accelerate the implementation of the Hell's Kitchen Traffic study recommendations that pertain to the intersections of W. 43rd Street and Ninth and Tenth Avenues. Last year, MCB4's Committee for Housing Health and Human Services undertook a Seniors Needs Survey to better understand and serve the needs of this growing segment of our population.

From the hundreds of responses it collected, it became apparent that traffic is a major hazard and source of concern for seniors, in particular in the area surrounding Manhattan Plaza, a large Naturally Occurring Retirement Community and affordable apartments complex located between W. 42nd and W. 43rd Streets, Ninth and Tenth Avenue where approximately 3,500 residents live. The DOT has nearly completed a study of traffic and pedestrian safety in this area and has made recommendations for the intersection of W. 43rd Street and Ninth Avenue. We respectfully request that the DOT expedite the implementation of this recommendation, possibly to coincide with other signals change to occur as part of the bike lane installation:

- Install a split phase signal on W. 43rd Street to eliminate conflicts between westbound cars turning south onto Ninth Avenue and pedestrians crossing the south crosswalk of Ninth Avenue.
- In addition we request the installation of pedestrian countdowns for both north and south crossings of Ninth and Tenth Avenues at the intersections with 43rd Street.

Holy Cross is currently one of the most dangerous schools to walk to in New York City; the children of Holy Cross School located on W. 43rd Street between Eighth and Ninth Avenues will equally benefit from these measures. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Corey Johnson
Chair

Christine Berthet
Co-Chair
Transportation Planning Committee

Jay Marcus
Co-Chair
Transportation Planning Committee

Cc: MCB4 elected officials