



Community Board 12 - Manhattan Washington Heights & Inwood

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George Fernández Jr. - Chairman
Ebenezer Smith, District Manager

Sept. 30, 2015

Hon. Polly Trottenberg
Commissioner
NYC Dept. of Transportation
55 Water Street, 9th Floor
New York, NY 10041

Dear Commissioner Trottenberg:

At our General Meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 29, 2015, the Community Board 12 Manhattan passed the following resolution with a vote of (33)In Favor (1)Opposed, (0)Abstain supporting the safety improvements and bicycle lanes on St. Nicholas Avenue between W. 169th and W. 193rd Streets.

Whereas the existing conditions of St. Nicholas Avenue between W. 169th and W. 193rd Streets, with its 60' wide corridors with long crossings, no dedicated bike lanes, poor signal timing, no designated left turn lane, and has moderate traffic volume, creates a high crash corridor in which there were 20 people killed or severely injured in a 5-year period; and,

Whereas the St. Nicholas Avenue corridor is in the top 3% in Manhattan of the number of people killed or severely injured at certain intersections; and,

Whereas St. Nicholas Avenue has high pedestrian volumes, reaching 500 crossings even during non-peak hours; and

Whereas left turns and rear-end collisions comprise 39% of motor vehicle crashes along this corridor; and

Whereas there is a strong need to reduce pedestrian fatalities; and

Whereas the proposed design, such as:

Designated left turn lane, which will reduce left turn and rear end accidents;

One moving lane in each direction to reduce speeding and streamline traffic;

Wider parking lanes;

A designated bike lane on each side (i.e., both east and west sides) of St. Nicholas Avenue;

Painted medians which, with approval, can be converted into concrete pedestrian safety islands;

will mitigate the problems which plague the St. Nicholas Avenue corridor; and

Whereas the proposed configuration of:

Two 9' parking lanes;

Two 5' designated bike lanes;

Two 11' travel lanes, one in each direction (i.e., north and south);

10' painted medium / left-turn bay;

will reduce opportunities for speeding and reckless driving, improve left-turn intersections, expand the bicycle network, and enhance safety for all users of the street; and

Whereas the DOT is conducting a study to optimize signal progression along the corridor, which will decrease travel times and reduce congestion; and

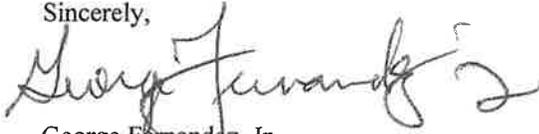
Whereas the DOT will report back to the community board their results of the face-to-face meetings they will have with individual business owners regarding their precise needs for loading zones so that loading zones can be placed strategically and accordingly throughout the St. Nicholas Avenue corridor; and

Whereas there is a serious double-parking problem along the St. Nicholas Avenue corridor, the DOT will also report back to Community Board 12, Manhattan with suggestions for a plan to resolve the double-parking situation along this corridor; and

Whereas the DOT will also report back to Community Board 12, Manhattan after one year's worth of data collection from the implementation of this project in order to discuss any additional enhancements or changes that may be implemented so as to improve the traffic and transportation experience of all users of the St. Nicholas Avenue corridor; now therefore, be it

Resolved that Community Board 12, Manhattan Supports the safety improvements and bicycle lanes on St. Nicholas Avenue between W. 169th and W. 193rd Streets.

Sincerely,



George Fernandez, Jr.
Chairman – CB12M

c: Hon. Bill de Blasio, Mayor
Hon. Letitia James, Public Advocate
Hon. Scott Stringer, Comptroller
Hon. Gale Brewer, Manhattan Borough President
Hon. Charles B. Rangel, Congressman
Hon. Mark Levine, Council Member
Hon. Adriano Espaillat, State Senator
Hon. Bill Perkins, State Senator
Hon. Herman D. Farrell, Jr., Assembly Member
Hon. Guillermo Linares, Assembly Member
Hon. Ydanis Rodriguez, Council Member
Margaret Forgione, Man. Boro Commissioner