



CITY OF NEW YORK

MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR

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CHRISTINE BERTHET
Chair

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

July 28, 2014

Polly Trottenberg
Transportation Commissioner
NYC Department of Transportation
59 Maiden Lane, 37th Floor
New York, NY 10038

Re: DOT Overnight Street Re-pavement Concern

Dear Commissioner Trottenberg:

Manhattan Community Board 4 (CB4) requests immediate changes to the method by which the Department of Transportation performs street re-pavements. At the (CB4) Transportation Committee meeting which took place on June 19, 2014, the committee heard complaints from residents regarding the noise created by the DOT overnight repaving of 10th Avenue. CB4 is concerned with DOT's practice of repaving streets during overnight hours on week days when CB4 residents are sleeping. The noise goes on for several days and causes a serious Quality of Life disturbance for residents. We believe that the overnight re-pavement projects are done to accommodate vehicle traffic at the sacrifice of community residents.

CB4 therefore urgently requests that DOT does everything in its power to ensure that new construction does not disrupt residential communities more than absolutely necessary.

CB4 would like to request that DOT review this practice and make immediate changes that will strike a better balance between traffic concerns and residents quality of life. CB4 believes the construction could be done between the hours of 7pm and 2am on weekdays and during day hours on weekends. This change would allow residents to sleep during the re-pavement process and have little impact on the flow of traffic.

CB4 also makes this request because our Community District is inundated with construction projects which greatly disrupt our resident's quality of life. From the massive construction taking place over years on W. 54th Street between Eleventh and Twelfth Avenues, to the rezoning of Eleventh Avenue, to the proposed rezoning in Clinton's Special Clinton Urban Renewal Area (CURA) to the ongoing development at Hudson Yards, West Chelsea and its surrounding neighborhoods, and the Water Maine Project MCD4's residents have been exposed to years of quality of life abuses due to the construction noise and the issuance of After Hours Work Variances that have been previously granted, and is also facing a minimum of ten to fifteen more years of massive and constant new construction in the midst of its residential neighborhoods.

In the very least, we request that the DOT do a better job of notifying neighbors of when construction projects are going to be taking place, and provide them with ample time to make arrangements during the construction. We recommend this be done through email notifications that can be coordinated through the Community Board, and posting notices around the area where construction will take place.

We hope DOT will seriously consider our request and make these reasonable accommodations to improve the quality of life for MCD4's residents.

Sincerely,



Christine Berthet
Chair



Jay Marcus
Co-Chair, Transportation
Planning Committee



Ernest Modarelli
Co-Chair, Transportation
Planning Committee

CC: Manhattan Borough President, Gale A. Brewer
Councilmember Corey Johnson
NYS Senator Brad Hoylman
Assembly Member Richard Gottfried
Assembly Member Linda Rosenthal