



CITY OF NEW YORK

MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR

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JOHN WEIS
Chair

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

January 11, 2010

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

Re: Safety Requirements - North 36th Street, 9th to Dyer Avenue

Dear Commissioner Forgione:

Manhattan Community Board 4 (CB4) is delighted that the City, in coordination with the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey (PANYNJ) has agreed to use the Green Streets Program to green the sidewalk, parking lane and traffic island - also known as the "canoe"- on the north side of West 36th Street, between 9th and Dyer Avenues. As part of this effort, we understand that a plan to address pedestrian safety requirements will be implemented.

In particular as it relates to pedestrian safety, CB4 requests that the Department of Transportation (DOT) provide a pedestrian access to the island for pedestrian traveling southward on the west side of 9th Avenue.

Hundreds of new residences have been built in this area and families with children are moving in. Pedestrian traffic is on the rise. With an enhanced and greener facility, we expect more pedestrians to be attracted to this location.

A safe crossing method must be designed to avoid the current situation of people walking in the middle of the traffic or crossing well into the ramp where there is no visibility.

We are grateful for this first step in greening Hell's Kitchen south, an area entirely devoid of green facilities.

Sincerely,



John Weis
Chair
Manhattan Community Board No. 4



Christine Berthet
Co-Chair
Transportation Planning Committee



Jay Marcus
Co-Chair
Transportation Planning Committee

CC: Anthony Borelli
Kate Seely Kirk
Seth Berliner