



CITY OF NEW YORK

MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD No. 4

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WALTER MANKOFF
Chair

ANTHONY M. BORELLI
District Manager

January 12, 2005

Manhattan Borough Commissioner Margaret Forgiione
NYC Department of Transportation
40 Worth Street
New York, NY 10007

Re: Traffic flow on Ninth Avenue, 14th - 16th Streets

Dear Commissioner Forgiione,

Manhattan Community Board No. 4 would like to request that all lanes of Ninth Avenue between 14th Street and 16th Street go southbound. We feel this will greatly improve the safety of the intersection and make it a more pedestrian friendly environment.

Currently, with the northbound lane from 14th Street to 16th Street, there is traffic from five directions (east and westbound on 14th Street, southbound on Ninth Avenue and Hudson and northbound on Ninth Avenue) for pedestrians to observe before crossing. This causes confusion for pedestrians. During the last few years, as ground floor commercial uses have increased on West 14th Street and the streets to the south, this has become a highly used pedestrian area.

This change is supported by the Chelsea-Village Partnership and the 200 and 300 West 15th Street Block Associations.

When this was proposed a few years ago, there was objection from both the MTA and the Homestead Restaurant. Based on the MTA changing a bus route, they no longer object to this change. The Homestead Restaurant continues to be concerned about the impact this will have on the ability of cars to drop off passengers in front of their restaurant, particularly cars coming north. While we are sympathetic to their concerns, we feel the issues of pedestrian safety and traffic efficiency take priority.

As always, we greatly appreciate your assistance and look forward to discussing this with you further.

Sincerely yours,

Walter Mankoff
Chair
Manhattan Community Board No. 4

Jay Marcus
Chair
Transportation Planning Committee

Name

Date

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