



CITY OF NEW YORK

**MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR**

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**JEAN-DANIEL NOLAND**  
Chair

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

October 23, 2007

Department of Transportation  
Commissioner Janette Sadik-Kahn  
40 Worth Street  
New York, NY 10013

**Re: Traffic Calming Measures on West 17<sup>th</sup> Street between Ninth and Tenth Avenues**

Dear Commissioner Sadik-Khan,

The Transportation Planning Committee of Community Board 4 is writing you regarding the tragic death of Prince "Kumo" Harris Jr., an eight year old boy who was struck by a moving vehicle on West 17<sup>th</sup> Street between Ninth and Tenth Avenues on Friday October 5, 2007, to request the expedited installation of speed bumps on West 17<sup>th</sup> Street, between Ninth and Tenth Avenues. We further request that the Department of Transportation review the situation, and work closely with the community towards the installation of additional traffic calming measures, and the use of neck-downs to slow traffic.

West 17<sup>th</sup> Street between Ninth and Tenth Avenues is home to seniors and children living in the densely populated Robert Fulton Houses. On the block are a school, the Museum School, and a senior center. Three playgrounds are within close proximity. It is therefore a street intensively used by pedestrians. Drivers have been known to speed down this street, creating very dangerous situations, because it is one of the few streets downtown that provides an unobstructed, straight way to the West Side Highway from as far as First Avenue on the East Side.

In order to secure the expedited installation of speed bumps on 17<sup>th</sup> Street between Ninth and Tenth Avenues, we are sending you this letter before the Full Board meeting November 7, 2007, on which date the Board will be asked to ratify this letter.

We urge you to undertake immediate action, so no other parent has to endure pain like the parents of Prince "Kumo" Harris have endured.

Thank you for making our neighborhood a safer place to live, play and to go school.

Sincerely,



Jean-Daniel Noland  
Chair  
Manhattan Community  
Board No. 4



Jay Marcus  
Co-Chair  
Transportation Planning  
Committee



Christine Berthet  
Co-Chair  
Transportation Planning  
Committee

C.c.

Fulton Houses Tenants Association  
Fulton Youth of the Future  
Hudson Guild  
Manhattan Borough President Scott M. Stringer  
Senator Thomas Duane  
Assembly member Richard Gottfried  
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