



CITY OF NEW YORK

MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR

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COREY JOHNSON
Chair

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

February 6, 2013

Ms. Margaret Forgione
Manhattan Borough Commissioner
NYC Department of Transportation
59 Maiden Lane, 35th Floor
New York, NY 10038

Re: W. 14th/ 15th Street pedestrian safety

Dear Commissioner Forgione:

Manhattan Community Board4 (CB4) requests that the New York City Department of Transportation (DOT) install speed bumps on W. 15th Street and high visibility pedestrian crossings on W. 14th Street to improve the safety of pedestrians, seniors and school children between Sixth and Eighth Avenues.

Rushing trucks and cars routinely use W. 15th Street between Sixth and Eighth Avenues as an alternate route to the west side highway. It is a very residential Street with a faculty residence at 120 W. 15th (NYU), a church at 144 W. 15th Street (Church of the Latter Day Saints), a school at 145 W. 15th Street (the Puerto Rican Family Institute), and a church/school at 216 W. 15th Street (The Nazareth Nursery).

There have been 5 injuries on these two blocks in the last 10 years, numbers comparable to the W. 16th and W. 17th Street blocks, where speed bumps - installed three years ago - have been very effective at calming the traffic.

- We request that speed bumps be installed on W. 15th Street, two on each of the blocks between Sixth and Eighth Avenues.

On 14th Street, after the resurfacing was completed in 2011, high visibility crossings have not yet been restored for half of the crossings from Sixth to Eighth Avenues. While all four high visibility crossings were restored at Sixth Avenue and W. 14th Street, none were restored at Seventh Avenue and W. 14th, and only two were restored at Eighth Avenue and W. 14th Street.

On the W. 14th Street blocks between Sixth and Eighth Avenues one can find the YMCA, the Salvation Army, the social services offices of Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, a convent, and the Tepeyac Association. The intersection of Eighth Avenue and W. 14th Street has experienced two fatalities and 63 injuries. The intersection of Seventh Avenue and W. 14th Street has experienced 55 injuries, while 22 crashes took place at midblock and resulted in injuries in the last 10 years.

- We request that high visibility crossing be installed along W. 14th Street, at the north and south crossings of Eighth Avenue, and at all the crossings of Seventh Avenue.

We appreciate your help in this matter of safety.

Sincerely,



Corey Johnson
Chair



Christine Berthet
Co-Chair
Transportation Planning Committee



Jay Marcus
Co-Chair
Transportation Planning Committee