



CITY OF NEW YORK

MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR

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CHRISTINE BERTHET
Chair

JESSE BODINE
District Manager

December 10, 2014

Tobi Bergman, Chair
Manhattan Community Board #2
3 Washington Square Village, 1A
New York, NY 10012

Vikki Barbero, Chair
Manhattan Community Board #5
450 7th Avenue, Suite 2109
New York, NY 10123

Dear Chairs Bergman and Barbero:

Manhattan Community Board 4 would like to request a Tri-Community Board discussion and plan around Complete Streets for 6th and 7th Avenues. Complete Streets is an increasingly growing concept of planning streets with and about their users – pedestrians, vehicles and cyclists. We would like to see an effort, led by Community Boards, to bring together area block associations, BIDS, and pedestrian, and disability, senior and bicyclist advocates to create “Complete Street” plans for these avenues - that will improve pedestrian, bicyclist, and vehicular experience and safety.

Many of these elements included in Complete Streets have been implemented at various places during the last few years – in CB4 we have seen expanded sidewalks, enclosed bicycle lanes, pedestrian refuge areas, Leading Pedestrian Intervals, improved landscaping, raised crosswalks, speed bumps, and bulb outs. Most of these improvements have resulted in decreased accidents and fatalities and improved pedestrian, bicyclist and vehicle driver experiences. With these experiences under our belt, it will be an exciting effort to focus these tools – and the tools learned by our CB2 and CB5 partners - on shared and adjacent roadways of 6th and 7th Avenues – both of which border Community Districts 4 and 5 in various places and are shared further south with Community District 2.

We believe a joint Community Board effort will enable increased learning from our various efforts to date, and increased diverse perspectives to ensure a fuller balance of views and ideas, and increased political clout to effectuate recommended changes. We also request that DOT assist to facilitate these discussions and provide necessary staffing and research to enable informed decisions.

Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to joining together in this exciting effort.

Sincerely,

Christine Berthet
Chair

Jay Marcus
Co-Chair, Transportation
Planning Committee

Ernest Modarelli
Co-Chair, Transportation
Planning Committee

cc: NYC Department of Transportation