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LINDA B. ROSENTHAL
Assemblymember 67th District

August 6, 2013

Janette Sadik-Khan
Commissioner
New York City Department of Transportation
55 Water Street, 9th Floor
New York, NY 10041

Dear Commissioner Sadik-Khan:

I am writing to request that the New York City Department of Transportation (DOT) install a photo speed violation monitoring system, or speed camera, in the school zone for Manhattan P.S. 199, located at 270 West 70th Street between West End and Amsterdam Avenues in my district.

As you know, following the State Legislature's passage of a law which I supported, permitting a limited number of additional speed cameras in school zones, DOT must now determine which areas are in need of these valuable speed limit enforcement tools and traffic controls. This West 70th Street corridor, in addition to containing a school zone, is a wide, flat street conducive to speeding and is frequently used by drivers traveling to the West Side Highway. The intersections at Amsterdam and West End Avenues are heavily traveled by pedestrians, who are endangered by the drivers who frequently race down the block to beat the yellow light and beat rush hour traffic.

Despite the implementation of elevated penalties for speeding in school zones, I have heard from countless constituents about the consistent speeding on this block. Speed cameras would provide the enforcement necessary to help protect the students of P.S. 199 and other pedestrians, especially seniors, who cross West 70th Street at Amsterdam or West End Avenues. Ensuring the safety of residents of my district is one of my top priorities as an elected official, and I urge DOT to secure the installation of a speed camera at this location as soon as possible. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Linda B. Rosenthal
Member of Assembly – 67 AD