



Donovan Richards
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Anatole Ashraf
Chairperson
Debra Markell Kleinert
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February 26, 2026

Nicole Garcia
Queens Borough Commissioner
NYC Department of Transportation
120-55 Queens Boulevard, Room 285
Kew Gardens, New York 11484

RE: **DOT - Request for a Safety Redesign of the Crossing at 39th Street and Queens Boulevard**

Dear Commissioner Garcia:

At the February 3rd, 2026, meeting of the Queens Community Board 2 Transportation Committee, a motion was made calling for a safety redesign of the crossing at 39th Street and Queens Blvd, particularly on the north side of the intersection:

WHEREAS there are significant concerns, particularly among older adults in our district, regarding the new location of a bus stop that requires them to cross 39th Street;

WHEREAS 39th Street is known for being a dangerous street with a high risk of serious injury crashes;

WHEREAS it may be difficult to relocate this bus stop; and

WHEREAS the bus stop and crossing here are nearest in proximity to Sunnyside Community Services, which offers services to many older adults and people with disabilities; now therefore be it

RESOLVED we are requesting DOT to implement traffic calming safety improvements for crossing 39th Street, including, but not limited to: an extended leading pedestrian interval, curb extensions, a pedestrian refuge island, a road diet, and speed humps or speed cushions.

All were in favor with none opposed and no abstentions.

Our committee had previously requested to the MTA and DOT to let the bus stop remain on the east side of the crossing, on Queens Blvd between 39th Street and 39th Place. That request still holds. But MTA and DOT are resolute in moving the bus stop west of 39th Street.

“Serving the Communities of Long Island City, Sunnyside, Woodside, and Maspeth”

This is a frightening crossing. With the intersection of truck routes; multiple lanes of traffic on Queens Blvd; turning vehicles; bikes and buses; and all at the nexus of bridges and expressways where drivers may be distracted and harried, the pedestrian is overlooked and vulnerable. Forcing bus riders to cross 39th Street to visit businesses and Sunnyside Community Services adds risk and undue burden to the most unprotected road users.

Seniors and people with disabilities may move at a slower pace and need more time for such a crossing. A safety redesign here has long been necessary, but with the moving of the bus stop, it is imperative. A shortened crossing with a longer walk period and stopped traffic will protect our neighbors and inspire confidence in their journeys. No one should feel unsafe on our sidewalks and crosswalks.

Sincerely,



Anatole Ashraf

Chairperson, Queens Community Board 2



Reilly Owens

Chair, Transportation Committee

Cc: Honorable Grace Meng, US Congress
Honorable Nydia M. Velazquez, US Congress
Honorable Michael Gianaris, NY State Senate
Honorable Kristen Gonzalez, NY State Senate
Honorable Steven Raga, NYS Assembly
Honorable Claire Valdez, NYS Assembly
Honorable Julie Won, NYC Council Member
Honorable Shekar Krishnan, NYC Council Member
Honorable Donovan Richards, Queens Borough President
Jason Banrey, NYC Department of Transportation
Joseph Patti, NYC Department of Transportation