



Donovan Richards
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Community Board No. 2

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Anatole Ashraf
Chairperson
Debra Markell Kleinert
District Manager

March 2, 2026

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

RE: **Passing of the 20 MPH Resolution (Sammy's Law)**

Dear Commissioner Garcia:

At the February 5th, 2026, meeting of Queens Community Board 2, a motion was made regarding Sammy's Law in Queens Community Board District 2:

WHEREAS there have been a traffic death and over a thousand injury crashes in our district in 2025;

WHEREAS we know reducing speeds lowers the risk of serious injury crashes;

WHEREAS we already have successful slow zones for Sunnyside; and

WHEREAS Sammy's Law allows for implementation of district-wide slow zones by NYC DOT; now therefore be it

RESOLVED we request the City of New York implement a slow zone of 20 miles-per-hour, including 15 miles-per-hour in school zones, on all streets with fewer than three lanes as applicable under Sammy's law in Queens Community Board District 2.

All were in favor with none opposed and one abstention. This resolution had already passed in the Transportation Committee two days earlier.

Since the passing of Sammy's Law in the New York State Legislature, its implementation has been slow and spotty, and it has not been applied at all in Queens District 2. Many advocates and neighbors worked hard to see New York City control its own speed limits, and Queens Community Board 2 was a partner in that work.

The data show that when a crash happens, slower speeds save lives by a large percentage. By reducing district-wide vehicle speeds to 20 miles-per-hour, the probability of dying in a crash is

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reduced to 8%, and the reduction in speeds will increase visibility and reaction times, preventing many crashes altogether.

In Sunnyside, many streets are already 20 mph slow zones, and these streets form neighborhoods that are more walkable, bikeable, and safely drivable than others. Automobile traffic flows regularly, but at the pace of neighborhoods, where families walk to school, seniors shop for produce, and students bike to museums.

As this is a district of neighborhoods, and all members of our community need safe streets, we request that this 20 mph speed limit extend to all streets in the district. Sammy's Law applies only to streets with fewer than three travel lanes, so major corridors like Queens Blvd. would not be affected, nor would bridges and expressways.

The facts are clear, the law is passed, and the residents of Queens District 2 want safe streets.

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