



*Donovan Richards*  
*Queens Borough President*

## Community Board No. 2

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*Anatole Ashraf*  
*Chairperson*  
*Debra Markell Kleinert*  
*District Manager*

May 7, 2025

Honorable Mayor Adams  
Mayor of the City of New York  
City Hall, New York 10007

Ydanis Rodriguez  
Commissioner  
NYC Department of Transportation  
55 Water Street, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10041

RE: Queensboro Bridge South Outer Roadway

Dear Mayor Adams and Commissioner Rodriguez:

Queens Community Board 2 is writing to implore you to finally and urgently open the Queensboro Bridge South Outer Roadway Pedestrian Path.

As another beautiful New York City spring has begun, the citizens of our great city are out in droves and are once again, more than ever, packed dangerously closely together on the shared pedestrian and cyclist path of the Queensboro Bridge.

The shared pathway packs cyclists and pedestrians in a single eleven-foot-wide space, too narrow to fit two cyclists and two pedestrians shoulder-to-shoulder at any point. With the boom of electrified micromobility, many bikes and scooters travel at the speed limit of 20 mph or higher, and with so little space, they must weave in and out of bike and pedestrian traffic. None are safe and all are on edge. The pavement becomes stained with blood as the warm months pass.

New Yorkers and those visiting New York must be guaranteed safety most of all while traveling, but the city government should also provide comfort and ease. Perhaps even as importantly, the city should provide us with delight, as it does in our most popular public spaces.

Opening the South Outer Roadway for pedestrians provides all of these for cyclists and pedestrians alike, as the two modes will be separated and given room to move and to meet their growing numbers. When the paths are safe, even more people will use them, traveling between our Community Board in Queens and those in Manhattan, connecting neighborhoods and bolstering our culture and commerce.

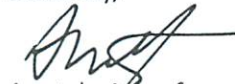
*"Serving the Communities of Long Island City, Sunnyside, Woodside, and Maspeth"*

When more people travel by walking and micromobility, fewer will depend on cars and there will be less need for the current nine lanes of car traffic on the bridge. And with the impending OneLIC plan in our district and thousands of additional residents expected in the next decade or so, solutions are needed as subways and roadways are at capacity.

The pathway work is noted to be finished. We have passed resolutions on several occasions on the need for the separated pathways and in approval of the DOT plan. We have heard our community members as the opening has faced months-long delays. We have questioned DOT at every one of our meetings about when the pathway will open, and lately the answer has been frustrating and bewildering.

The need is great, the work is finished, and the opportunity exists to quickly and with great fanfare get stuff done.

Sincerely,



Anatole Ashraf  
Chairperson,  
Queens Community Board 2



Reilly Owens  
Chair, Transportation Committee,  
Queens, Community Board 2



Debra Markell Kleinert  
District Manager,  
Community Board 2

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 Jessica Ramos, NY State Senate  
Honorable Claire Valdez, NYS Assembly  
Honorable Jessica Gonzalez-Rojas, NYS Assembly  
Honorable Zohran Mamdani, NYS Assembly  
Honorable Steven Raga, NYS Assembly  
Honorable Robert Holden, NYC Council Member  
Honorable Shekar Krishnan, NYC Council Member  
Honorable Julie Won, NYC Council Member  
Honorable Donovan Richards, Queens Borough President  
Nicole Garcia, NYC Department of Transportation  
Jason Banrey, Department of Transportation  
Joseph Patti, NYC Department of Transportation  
Anatole Ashraf, Chair, Community Board 2