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JOSEPH R. LENTOL
Assemblyman 50th District
Kings County
lentolj@assembly.state.ny.us

January 21, 2014

Commissioner Polly Trottenberg
NYC Department of Transportation
55 Water Street, 9th Floor
New York, NY 10041

Dear Commissioner Trottenberg:

I am writing you today regarding an issue that has plagued the 50th Assembly district for years – speeding. First off, I would like to congratulate you on your appointment, and to welcome you to an exciting time in the ever-growing and changing development of NYC's transportation network. Last week Mayor de Blasio announced his Vision Zero plan aimed at reducing pedestrian fatalities. Throughout my tenure in the Assembly I have always welcomed innovative solutions to solving transportation problems, and I certainly am enthusiastic about Mayor de Blasio's proposal.

I have reviewed these proposals in detail and I have a few suggestions that I would like to include. There are three main streets within my district that are notorious for speeders – McGuinness Boulevard, Kent Avenue, and Park Avenue. McGuinness Boulevard is a thoroughfare that connects Queens to those wishing to access the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway. This road is notorious for speeding and has had countless deaths over the years. I have also actively advocated for the utilization of speed and red light cameras on this roadway with little success. I encourage you to take a serious look at McGuinness Boulevard and make the necessary changes to protect drivers, cyclists and pedestrians. The second road, Kent Ave, serves as a main artery between South and North Williamsburg. It provides access to the waterfront and is heavily utilized by drivers because of the limited number of traffic control devices. I have recently been working with Brooklyn Borough Commissioner Palmieri to study the intersections along Kent Avenue, as there are two parks along this roadway that are used by thousands of individuals every week – many of which are children. Lastly, Park Avenue has served for many years as an alternative for those who would like to forego traffic issues on the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway, which runs right above the avenue. Speeding is an ongoing problem along Park Avenue, which led the Myrtle Avenue Revitalization Project to create an in-depth analysis and report examining the various solutions to slowing drivers down on this speedway. As you can see, there are various roadways within the

50th Assembly district that have created very dangerous situations, for not only cyclists and pedestrians, but also motorists.

As Mayor de Blasio proposed, he would like to expand the number of 20 mph zones across the city – I urge you to consider these three roadways when determining where to introduce these new speed zones.

Safety has always been a top priority of mine. Over the past few years I have spearheaded and sponsored legislation to utilize a pilot speed camera program here in NYC, which ultimately resulted in the pilot program in the school zones currently being instituted. Expanding the 20 mph zones to the three roadways I have mentioned – McGuinness Boulevard, Kent Avenue, and Park Avenue – will certainly make the 50th Assembly district a safer place for all.

If you have any further questions please feel free to give me or my staff member Edward Baker a call at (718) 383-7474.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joseph R. Lentol". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Joseph R. Lentol

cc: Commissioner Joseph Palmieri, Brooklyn Borough