



THE COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

MARK D. LEVINE

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January 13, 2014

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

Commissioner Trottenberg:

We wish you congratulations on the appointment to your new position; given your exceptional previous experience and record of accomplishment, we have every confidence that you will be successful in your mission to implement Mayor de Blasio's "Zero Vision" agenda and build a safer New York.

DOT's proposal to redesign a segment of Morningside Avenue to reduce persistent dangerous speeding along the route is a critical step to correcting Upper Manhattan's pedestrian safety. We affirm our enthusiastic support for your agency's plan. The shocking 100+ accidents that have occurred within the proposal's area from 2007-2011 prove current conditions are unacceptable. We would like the DOT to err on the side of the residents who have placed a priority on safety.

There has been overwhelming public support for this common sense proposal, including from the North Star Neighborhood Association. Over the last year, community boards 9 and 10 have expressed concerns regarding design and utility of the traffic lanes, which have been addressed by the DOT. Community boards 9 and 10 have held at least eight meetings about this matter, including three committee meetings, four general meetings and one joint community board meeting on the topic. Community board 9 has expressed their support for this project.

We thank you for the substantial number of opportunities for public comment that have been held on this proposal, and the design changes that have been made as a result of broad community consensus. With our community demanding an end to preventable accidents and fatalities, we are ready to support the implementation of this popular plan. Please do hesitate to contact our offices if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

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Adriano Espaillat
State Senator

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Levine". The signature is cursive and somewhat stylized.

Mark Levine
Council Member