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THE COUNCIL
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THE CITY OF NEW YORK
YDANIS RODRIGUEZ
COUNCIL MEMBER, 10TH DISTRICT, MANHATTAN

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PLANNING DISPOSITION & CONCESSION

March 13, 2014

Hon. Andrew Cuomo
Governor, New York State
The Executive Chamber
Capitol
Albany, NY 12224

The Honorable Dean Skelos
Legislative Office Building, Room 909
Albany, NY 12247

The Honorable Sheldon Silver
Legislative Office Building, Room 932
Albany, NY 12248

The Honorable Jeff Klein
Legislative Office Building, Room 913
Albany, NY 12247

Dear Leader Skelos and Speaker Silver,

As elected representatives of the City of New York, we write to you to urge you to support the broad expansion of New York's speed camera program.

Last year the Legislature authorized a small pilot program, which would allow the City to use speed cameras at up to twenty locations for five years, during school hours. As you are aware however, there are 2,500 public and private schools in New York City. In order to prevent crashes, avert injuries, and save lives, we ask that you support the rapid expansion of the program.

The need is immense. Speeding is the number one cause of fatal crashes in New York City. One in four traffic deaths in New York City are caused by drivers who choose to speed; more deaths are attributable to speeding than to distracted drivers and drunk drivers *combined*. In 2012 alone, 73 people were killed and 4,600 people were injured as the result of speed-related crashes in the five boroughs.

We support the Mayor's Vision Zero program, because each of us represents one of the most pedestrian dense areas of the state. We cannot protect our constituents with only twenty cameras for 8.3 million residents. We need widespread, consistent, predictable enforcement of the speed limit; accordingly, we need a robust speed camera program.

The research shows that speed enforcement cameras reduce injuries and fatalities by 40-45%.¹ Our constituents deserve the same safety that speed cameras provide to Washington D.C., Chicago, and the 135 other cities and towns which utilize speed cameras.

Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to working with you to make New York State's roads safe for all New Yorkers.

Sincerely,



Ydanis Rodriguez
Council Member-10th District
Chair, Committee on Transportation



Margaret Chin
Council Member- 1st District



James Vacca
Council Member, 13th District



Stephen Levin
Council Member, 33rd District



Costa Constantinides
Council Member- 22nd District



Mark Weprin
Council Member- 23rd District



Antonio Reynoso
Council Member-34th District

¹ Wilson, C., Willis, C., Hendrikz, J.K., & Bellany, N., Speed Enforcement Detection Devices for Preventing Road Traffic Injuries, The Cochrane Database.