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**THE COUNCIL
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December 19, 2014

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

Dear Commissioner Trottenberg,

We applaud the recent reduction of the speed limit within New York City to 25 MPH. We are concerned, however, that this reduction has not been applied to a portion of Riverside Drive from 103rd to 165th streets.

The street is lined with residential buildings on the east side and playgrounds, tot lots, and parkland on the west side. With its connections to the George Washington Bridge, northern New York roads, and the I-95 into the City, there is a constant stream of car and bike traffic on this stretch of Riverside Drive. Residents must brave this traffic as they cross the street to use the park, often with children in tow.

We know that a pedestrian has dramatically better odds of surviving a collision with a car going 25 MPH than one going 30 MPH. Residents who cross this stretch of Riverside Drive deserve the safety of a lower speed limit. Street safety must be the paramount concern when considering the speed limit for this residential corridor, and we urge you to reconsider your decision to allow this area to remain at 30 MPH. We ask that you

immediately reduce the speed limit to 25 MPH for the safety of the residents and the consistency of traffic policy in the area.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



Helen Rosenthal
City Council, 6th District



Mark Levine
City Council, 7th District