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THE CITY OF NEW YORK
MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD SIX
P.O. BOX 1672
NEW YORK, NY 10159-1672

VIA E-MAIL

April 17, 2018

Luis Sanchez
Manhattan Borough Commissioner
New York City Department of Transportation
59 Maiden Lane, 37th Floor
New York, NY 10038

Resolution in support of NYC DOT Proposal For Protected Bicycle Lanes on East 26th Street and East 29th Street in Manhattan Community District Six

At the February 14, 2018 Full Board meeting of Manhattan Community Board Six, the Board adopted the following resolution:

WHEREAS, in 2017, the safest year on record for traffic fatalities, cyclist deaths increased, including five along Midtown streets lacking protected lanes; and in response, the NYC Department of Transportation (NYC DOT), as part of their Vision Zero Plan, presented to Manhattan Community Board Six (CB6) a proposal to add protected and curbside bicycle lanes to East 26th Street and East 29th Street as part of an initiative to create a crosstown corridor (eastbound and westbound) in Manhattan;

WHEREAS, NYC DOT selected these streets for the project, in the area roughly between 23rd Street and 34th Street, as the most appropriate for their continuous routing and their curb-to-curb width on most of the blocks;

WHEREAS, on East 26th Street from Lexington Avenue to Third Avenue and on East 29th Street from First Avenue to Third Avenue, the design includes a parking lane to the outside of the 5' bicycle lane, and an additional "buffer zone" between the two, in order to add physical separation between moving automobiles and bicycles, preserve parking access on these blocks, and avoid situations where bicyclists are struck by parked car occupants who open their doors into the path of bicycles;

WHEREAS, on East 26th Street between Third Avenue and First Avenue, the curbside bicycle lane will have no adjoining parking lane or physical protection due to the width of these blocks;

this segment between Third and Second Avenues will have a 4' buffer between the general travel lane and the curbside bicycle lane, while the segment between Second and First Avenues will not have a buffer;

WHEREAS, East 29th Street between Third Avenue and Lexington Avenue, due to the block width, will also be designed with a curbside bicycle lane and 4' buffer adjoining the general travel lane;

WHEREAS, CB6 supports the Vision Zero initiatives to provide safe streets for all users, and CB6 is aware that the position of our district (situated between Greater Midtown and the area encompassing Downtown Manhattan and Northern Brooklyn) requires accommodating significant bicycle through-traffic between other neighborhoods as well as bicycle traffic among our own neighborhoods;

WHEREAS, CB6 supports protected bicycle lanes as a solution to increasing cyclist safety while also increasing the safety of all road users;

WHEREAS, CB6 recognizes that some curbside street parking for automobiles will be removed from the "protected" lanes to accommodate turn lanes and sightlines at corners; CB6 also recognizes that the "buffered" bicycle lane design is replacing the parking on certain street segments altogether;

WHEREAS, CB6 heard feedback from the community that there are residents with physical disabilities living along East 26th Street between Second and First Avenues who use on street parking; the Committee asked NYC DOT to address the issue and work to mitigate and locate parking that would be accessible in the surrounding area;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Manhattan Community Board Six supports NYC DOT's proposal to add crosstown bicycle lanes on East 26th Street and East 29th Street in Manhattan Community District Six.

VOTE: 28 in Favor 4 Opposed 3 Abstentions 0 Not Entitled

Best regards,



Jesús Pérez
District Manager

**Cc: Hon. Gale A. Brewer, Manhattan Borough President
Hon. Carlina Rivera, Council Member
Sandra McKee, Chair, CB6 Transportation Committee
Colleen Chattergoon, Department of Transportation**