

MOLLY HOLLISTER
CHAIR

CLAUDE L. WINFIELD, FIRST VICE CHAIR
AHSIA BADI, SECOND VICE CHAIR



JESÚS PÉREZ
DISTRICT MANAGER

BRIAN VAN NIEUWENHOVEN, TREASURER
BEATRICE DISMAN, ASST. TREASURER
KATHY THOMPSON, SECRETARY
AMELIA ACOSTA, ASST. SECRETARY

THE CITY OF NEW YORK
MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD SIX
211 EAST 43RD STREET, SUITE 1404
NEW YORK, NY 10017

VIA E-MAIL

April 5, 2019

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

Resolution in support of NYC DOT's proposal for crosstown-protected bicycle lanes on 52nd Street and 55th Street in Manhattan Community District Six

At the March 13, 2019 Full Board meeting of Manhattan Community Board Six, the Board adopted the following resolution:

WHEREAS, at the March 4, 2019 meeting of the Transportation committee of Manhattan Community Board Six (CB6), the New York City Department of Transportation (NYC DOT) presented a plan to add protected curbside bicycle lanes to East 52nd and 55th Streets;

WHEREAS, this plan is part of an initiative to create a crosstown corridor (eastbound and westbound) in Midtown Manhattan, in the area roughly between East 45th and 59th Streets;

WHEREAS, NYC DOT selected these two streets for the project as the most appropriate, because:

- They offer a continuous route from the East River to the Hudson River
- Their curb-to-curb width on most blocks is 34 feet, the minimum necessary for successful protected bicycle lanes
- They have existing connections to the Hudson River Greenway
- They are approximately one and one half miles north of existing protected crosstown bicycle lanes on East 26th and 29th Streets installed in summer 2018;

WHEREAS, NYC DOT has monitored the protected crosstown bicycle lanes on East 26th and 29th Streets and used that data to implement design improvements for crosstown protected bicycle lanes, as detailed below;

WHEREAS, on East 55th Street from First Avenue to Third Avenue, the existing unprotected bicycle lane will be relocated to be adjacent to the curb; this four-foot-wide lane

will be separated from vehicular traffic by a three-foot-wide buffer zone and a parking lane that maintains existing parking spaces, except at the newly redesigned intersections;

WHEREAS, on East 52th Street from Third Avenue to First Avenue, the parking and/or loading lane on the south side of the street will be replaced with a five-foot-wide bicycle lane and a buffer zone delineated with flexible barriers that will physically separate vehicular traffic and bicycles;

WHEREAS, on both East 52nd and 55th Streets, two or three parking spaces at each corner intersection will be removed and the bicycle and vehicular lanes will be separated by “quick curb,” which will improve visibility between cyclists and moving vehicles and lower crash dangers while avoiding traffic congestion caused by vehicles making left hand turns;

WHEREAS, improved curb management will shape modified regulations for Loading Zones and No Standing Zones:

- Varied loading times (one to three hours) on each block will better reflect existing usage while encouraging higher potential turnover and mitigating double parking
- Signed locations will allow pick-ups and drop-offs, maintain emergency access, and provide hotel/commercial floating loading zones and theatre loading zones;

WHEREAS, CB6 has long supported protected bicycle lanes, which are statistically proven to increase safety for all street users, including pedestrians and motorists as part of Vision Zero;

WHEREAS, CB6 is deeply concerned with the well-being of cyclists traveling within and through our district;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that CB6 supports NYC DOT’s proposal to add protected bicycle lanes on East 52nd Street and East 55th Street in Manhattan Community District 6.

VOTE: 36 in Favor 2 Opposed 2 Abstention 0 Not Entitled

Best regards,



Jesús Pérez
District Manager

Cc: Hon. Gale Brewer, Manhattan Borough President
Hon. Keith Powers, Council Member
Hon. Ben Kallos, Council Member
Edward F. Pincar, Jr., Manhattan Borough Commissioner, New York City DOT
Colleen Chattergoon, New York City DOT
Sandra McKee, Chair, CB6 Transportation Committee