



CITY OF NEW YORK

MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR

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CHRISTINE BERTHET
Chair

Jesse Bodine
District Manager

June 10, 2015

Mr. Norberto Acevedo
Deputy Director, Office of Community Outreach and Notification
NYC Department of Design & Construction
30-30 Thompson Avenue
Long Island City, New York 11101

Re: Update 30th Street & 10th Avenue Water Main Trunk Installation

Dear Mr. Acevedo:

Manhattan Community Board 4 (CB4) appreciates the presentation by NYC Department of Design and Construction (DDC) with an update of the installation of the Trunk Water Mains for the NYC Water Tunnel #3 at W. 30th Street between Tenth Avenue and Route 9A, along Tenth Avenue from W. 30th Street to West 31st Streets and along Eleventh Avenue between West 29th and the rail yards. We understand the importance of this long-planned (begun in 1970) third water tunnel for the infrastructure and safe drinking water of New York City.

We also appreciate your continued outreach to the community and partnership with CB4 regarding the construction schedule and impacts of this project. The overall project which began in the Summer of 2012 and was scheduled to take approximately two and a half years, is approaching completion, and should be fully completed in approximately 6 months.

During the final phase of this project CB4 would like to restate our original requests made in a letter dated July 26, 2012:

- Ensure there is a traffic control agent at W. 30th and Tenth Avenue during the 4:00 p.m. to 7:00p.m. rush hour, as well as during their work hours;
- Work with DOT to devise warning signs further North on Eleventh Avenue and both North and South on Route 9A of the lane reductions on W. 30th Street and further south on Tenth Avenue of the lane reduction north of W. 30th Street;
- Work with DOT to reroute the bicycle lane currently on W. 30th Street between Tenth Avenue and Route 9A to W. 26th Street during at least first phase and, depending on the impact on West 30th Street, for future phases. DOT should provide adequate signage on the bicycle path along the Hudson River Park of this change, as well as signs at W. 30th Street and should provide notification through various bicyclist websites.

- It would be preferable to make two of the three traveling lanes between W. 30th and W. 31st toward the West side of Tenth Avenue (DDC has indicated the work hour will be in the middle of the block, with a flashing sign directing traffic to either side) to enable traffic seeking to pass the Tunnel entrance at W. 30th Street to flow more easily; and
- Provide advance notice of several days be provided before any water shut off that may be required in the area.
- The south side sidewalk of W. 30th Street should have adequate protection and lighting;
- The Community Liaison and Construction site manager's phone number should be widely disseminated, including posting on the Community Board website and in the lobby of the Ohm building.
- The Community Liaison should make a concerted effort to work with the residents, students and staff members at the Fashion Institute of Technology to ensure all parties receive notification concerning noise issues.

In addition to the original requests we would also like to request the following:

- Work with the DOT on making 11th Avenue two ways during the remainder of this project to provide a reasonable alternative to 10th Avenue for vehicles traveling north and those approaching the Lincoln Tunnel. This would greatly alleviate the congestion that the project currently causes on 10th Avenue.
- Work with DOT to place additional signage on 23rd Street and 25th Street warning drivers about the construction as they approach 10th Avenue and direct them to alternative routes.
- Extend the hours of the traffic agents to be present during all hours of construction.
- Provide CB4 with information on handicap pedestrian access during the project.

Again, we greatly appreciate the communication on this important project and look forward to its successful completion with as minimal community and traffic disruption as possible.

Sincerely,



Christine Berthet
Chair



Ernest Modarelli
Co-Chair, Transportation
Planning Committee



Jay Marcus
Co-Chair, Transportation
Planning Committee

cc

Margaret Forgione, Department of Transportation
Councilmember Corey Johnson