



CITY OF NEW YORK

MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR

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COREY JOHNSON
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ROBERT J. BENFATTO, JR., ESQ.
District Manager

February 11, 2013

Ms. Margaret Forgione
Manhattan Borough Commissioner
NYC Department of Transportation
59 Maiden Lane, 35th Floor
New York, NY 10038

Re: Fatality at W. 41st Street and Ninth Avenue

Dear Commissioner Forgione:

While we are grateful for the huge progresses made in the neighborhood, we are saddened that another horrific hit and run took place on the morning of February 5, 2013 at the intersection of Ninth Avenue and W. 41st Street. Bystanders indicated that the victim died after being hit by one of the many large trucks making the (west) right turn from Ninth Avenue onto W. 41st Street.

This issue is not new - there have been 46 injuries and 2 fatalities in recent years at this corner. The time has come to tackle this issue with urgency. With the recent relocation of The Big Apple supermarket from the W. 42nd/41st Streets block to further south and a thriving and growing commercial strip south of W. 41st Street, a large population of residents and senior shoppers regularly crosses W. 41st Street. Manhattan Plaza, home to 3500 residents mostly seniors is located just one block north of the intersection.

As part of the Hell's Kitchen traffic study, there were discussions of barring the right turn at non-peak hours. We had also requested a split phase since there is already a dedicated turn lane.

The property located between W. 42nd and W. 41st Streets is being redeveloped as a hotel. They will probably ask for a construction lane. We request that right turns be barred for the duration of the construction and a split phase then installed permanently at this intersection.

As a long-term solution, the Hell's Kitchen study had recommended the relocation of the W. 42nd Street southbound turn onto Ninth Avenue to a new contra lane on Dyer Avenue. This fatality is a stark reminder this part of the study still needs to be completed to provide a permanent solution.

We look to your help in making this crossing safe. The status quo is simply not acceptable. We cannot continue to lose our neighbors as they get killed and maimed as they cross the street with the walk signal.

Thank you for your concerns with this community's safety. We hope to hear from you shortly.



Corey Johnson
Chair



Christine Berthet
Co-Chair
Transportation Planning Committee



Jay Marcus
Co-Chair
Transportation Planning Committee

cc: Steve Napolitano, PANYNJ
NYC Council Speaker Christine Quinn
Chief James Tuller, NYPD, Transportation Division
Deputy Inspector Elisa Cokkinos, 10th Precinct
NYS Senator Brad Hoylman
NYS Assemblyman Richard Gottfried
Congressman Jerrold Nadler
Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer