



CITY OF NEW YORK

**MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR**

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**CHRISTINE BERTHET**  
Chair

**ROBERT J. BENFATTO, JR., ESQ.**  
District Manager

March 7, 2014

Mr. Timothy Beaudette  
Inspector  
Midtown North Precinct  
306 West 54<sup>th</sup> Street  
New York, NY 10019

Mr. Edward Winski  
Inspector  
Midtown South Precinct  
357 West 35<sup>th</sup> Street  
New York, NY 10001

Mr. David Midler  
Captain  
10<sup>th</sup> Precinct  
230 West 20<sup>th</sup> Street  
New York, NY 10011

**Re: Enforcement Request *Vision Zero* - pedestrians and bicyclists**

Dear Inspector Beaudette, Inspector Winski and Captain Midler:

Manhattan Community Board 4 (CB4) looks forward to working with you in moving forward on the Mayor's *Vision Zero* Initiative. Several of the intersections with the highest pedestrian injuries and deaths in New York City are in Community District 4 (CD4). Enforcement remains the most crucial element of preventing these accidents from occurring.

As pointed out in the Mayor's *Vision Zero* report, 70 percent of pedestrian fatalities are from causes outside of the pedestrian's control, typically driver speeding or failure to yield. The success of *Vision Zero* will thus be dependent on the active involvement of NYPD to increase enforcement for vehicle violations such as improper turns, phoning/texting while driving, and speeding. We are pleased the Mayor's initiative includes providing NYPD with an increased number of speed guns. Similarly we are glad the Mayor has proposed increased training for officers on how to investigate and preserve crash site evidence and expanding the Collision Investigation Squad's jurisdiction to include crashes with critical injuries, a position this Community Board endorsed several years ago.

Aggressive enforcement efforts in such cities as Washington D.C. and London have shown that enforcement is the most powerful tool available to deter reckless driving. We encourage you to take leadership in this effort.

Given the extensive number of both enclosed and unenclosed bicycle lanes in CD4, we also recommend increased ticketing of unsafe bicyclists. While ultimately we believe increased bicycle use will lead to a safer (and healthier) street environment, we understand that the transition toward that goal requires bicyclists to respect traffic rules and regulations and to be respectful of the “pedestrian first” culture that defines the City of New York.

We note that *Vision Zero* calls for precinct level traffic plans that focus on enforcement at dangerous intersections and pedestrian safety. We hope you will work closely with CB4 and the Precinct Community Council, in identifying high risk intersections and creating effective *Vision Zero* precinct level plans.

We appreciate your consideration and partnership in realizing the important life saving potential of *Vision Zero*.

Sincerely,



Christine Berthet  
Chair



Jay Marcus  
Co-Chair, Transportation  
Planning Committee



Ernest Modarelli  
Co-Chair, Transportation  
Planning Committee