



CITY OF NEW YORK

MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR

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JEAN-DANIEL NOLAND
Chair

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

June 12, 2009

Commissioner Janette Sadik-Khan
NYC Department of Transportation
40 Worth Street, Room 940
New York, NY 10013

Commissioner Ray Kelly
New York Police Department
One Police Plaza
New York, NY 10038

Re: Red Light Cameras in CD4

Dear Commissioners Sadik-Kahn and Kelly:

In light of New York State's recent decision to increase the number of red light cameras in New York city, Manhattan Community Board 4 (CB4) that you consider placing cameras at dangerous locations in our District.

Our district of Chelsea and Hell' Kitchen on the West side of Manhattan hosts the Lincoln Tunnel and Route US1 Exits. Drivers often enter our local streets at highway speed. Such a behavior results in a high number of pedestrian fatalities and injuries, while there are not enough local resources to enforce the speeding limits.

Each of the following intersections saw more than 60 pedestrian or bicycle crashes in the period from 1995 to 2005¹. Together, these intersections account for 16 fatalities and 856 injuries over the period.

On 57th Street, at the crossings with 8th and 9th Avenues, in three directions²;

On 42nd Street, at the crossings with 8th and 9th Avenues, in three directions;

On 34th Street, at the crossing with 8th Avenue, in three directions;

On 23rd Street, at the crossings with 6th, 7th and 8th Avenues, in three directions;

On 14th Street, at the crossing with 8th and 6th Avenues, in three directions.

¹ New York State crash data as represented on the Crashstats.org web site

² East, West and, depending on the Avenue, North or South

We also recommend that the camera boxes be made more conspicuous as a preventive reminder to drivers.

Evidence shows that the cameras decrease illegal events by 40 % within three months from activation³ and thus increase pedestrian/bicycle safety. We would like our district to share some of these benefits.

We appreciate your ongoing efforts to make our streets safer.

Sincerely,



Jean-Daniel Noland
Chair
Manhattan
Community Board 4



Christine Berthet
Co-Chair
Transportation Planning
Committee



Jay Marcus
Co-Chair
Transportation Planning
Committee

c.c.

Speaker Christine Quinn
Borough President Scott Stringer
Assembly member Richard Gottfried
Senator Thomas Duane
Council member Gale Brewer

³ Chicago Tribune, April 08, 2009: According to RedSpeed employees, most intersections see about a 40 percent decline in red-light violations within three months of a camera's activation at that location. When this happens—and revenue decreases—cities often relocate the cameras

