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June 2, 2014

Margaret Forgione
Manhattan Borough Commissioner
New York City Department of Transportation
55 Water Street
New York, NY 10041

Dear Commissioner Forgione:

I write to express my appreciation to the Department of Transportation (DOT) for the creation of the West Village Slow Zone, and to encourage the department to expand the eastern boundary of the zone one block east to 6th Avenue as proposed by PS 41 Principal Kelly Shannon and supported by Manhattan Community Board 2 (CB2).

The proposed additional area between 6th and 7th Avenues and West Houston and West 11th Streets encompasses many schools and institutions that serve youth and senior citizens. As CB2 noted in its May 23, 2014 resolution, the expansion of the slow zone would "provide safe access to the many school children and other vulnerable populations who walk through this area, which is fraught with hazardous traffic conditions."

Just last year, Principal Shannon witnessed a taxi strike a 2-year-old and the child's caregiver immediately in front of PS 41, which would be included in the expanded zone. This accident, while not fatal, was serious and required medical attention for its victims. This is certainly just one of many examples where New Yorkers' lives have been put in danger, and at times been lost, due to fast and reckless driving in this area's quiet, largely residential streets.

Extending the eastern boundary from 7th Avenue South to 6th Avenue would create a zone which encompasses less than .2 square miles, which would still be smaller than many other slow zones across the city. I hope you will agree that this modest expansion is justified and an important step toward realizing Mayor de Blasio's Vision Zero goal.



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Thank you for considering my request, and for your dedication to the safety of all New Yorkers. Should you have any questions, please contact me at 212-633-8052.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brad Hoylman". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Brad Hoylman
New York State Senate
27th District

cc: Manhattan Community Board 2
Principal Kelly Shannon, P.S. 41
Shino Tanikawa, Community Education Council D2
P.S. 41 PTA