

SANDY MCKEE  
CHAIR

JOHN KELLER, FIRST VICE CHAIR  
GABRIEL TURZO, SECOND VICE CHAIR



JESÚS PÉREZ  
DISTRICT MANAGER

LIVIA SHREDNICK, TREASURER  
BEATRICE DISMAN, ASST. TREASURER  
JUSTIN GOLDBERG, SECRETARY  
JERRY WEINSTEIN, ASST. SECRETARY

THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD SIX  
211 EAST 43RD STREET, SUITE 1404  
NEW YORK, NY 10017

April 22, 2025

Mayor Eric Adams  
City Hall  
New York, NY 10007

Commissioner Ydanis Rodriguez  
NYC Department of Transportation  
55 Water Street, 9th Floor  
New York, NY 10041

RE: Queensboro Bridge Pedestrian Path

Dear Mayor Adams and Commissioner Rodriguez,

Manhattan Community Board Six writes to express concern and frustration over the ongoing delay in opening the pedestrian path on the Ed Koch Queensboro Bridge.

As outlined in our resolutions dated April 3, 2024 and October 9, 2024, our board has repeatedly supported the NYC DOT's plan to convert the bridge's south outer roadway into a dedicated pedestrian path, citing safety concerns due to the dangerous crowding on the current narrow shared path.

In March 2024, DOT committed to opening the pedestrian path by summer 2024. That date has come and gone, and despite reports that construction appears complete and a ribbon-cutting was even planned, the project was abruptly delayed again. We are deeply concerned that neither our Board nor the public has been given a clear explanation or updated timeline.

We urge the City to open the pedestrian path expeditiously and to communicate transparently with community boards and the public about the status of this long-promised and urgently needed project.

Sincerely,

Sandy McKee  
Chair, Manhattan Community Board Six

Cc: Hon. Mark Levine, Manhattan Borough President  
Hon. Keith Powers, NYC Council Member, 4th Council District  
Hon. Julie Menin, NYC Council Member, 5th Council District  
Valerie S. Mason, Chair, Manhattan Community Board 8

Enclosures: April 3, 2024 and October 9, 2024 resolutions

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## VIA E-MAIL

April 4, 2024

Edward F. Pincar, Jr.  
Manhattan Borough Commissioner  
NYC Department of Transportation  
59 Maiden Lane, 37th Floor  
New York, NY 10038

### **Supporting the NYC Department of Transportation's plan to convert the south lane of the lower level of the Ed Koch Queensboro Bridge to pedestrian only**

At the April 3, 2024 Full Board meeting of Manhattan Community Board Six, the Board adopted the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, Manhattan Community Board Six is committed to a safe and sustainable environment for all road users in our community;

**WHEREAS**, cycling over the Queensboro Bridge has increased from 1,102,599 in 2013 to 1,980,289 in 2023<sup>1</sup>;

**WHEREAS**, the current condition on the Queensboro Bridge for all pedestrians, cyclists, and users of electric micromobility is a shared space which narrows at points down to 9 feet and 8 inches,<sup>2</sup> leading to severe crowding, conflicts, and dangerous crashes;

**WHEREAS**, the recommended width of a bidirectional cycle track without pedestrians is 12 feet with a minimum in constrained areas of 8 feet<sup>3</sup>;

**WHEREAS**, the pedestrianization of the lower level south lane of the Queensboro Bridge would lead to a safe passage for pedestrians between Queens and Manhattan with the added benefit of enjoying iconic views of the New York City skyline;

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<sup>1</sup> NYC Department of Transportation bicycle counter.

<sup>2</sup> As measured by CB6 Transportation Committee Vice Chair Barak Friedman.

<sup>3</sup> National Association of City Transportation Officials.

**WHEREAS**, there are now 9 lanes on the Queensboro Bridge devoted to moving car traffic;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that Manhattan Community Board Six supports the New York City Department of Transportation's proposal to convert the south lane of the lower level of the Queensboro Bridge to pedestrian only while keeping the north lane dedicated to cycling and electric micromobility which would still leave 8 lanes dedicated to car traffic;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Manhattan Community Board Six requests the Department of Transportation implement the pedestrianization of the lower level south lane of the bridge as soon as possible given the current dangerous crowding and conflicts;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Manhattan Community Board Six requests the Department of Transportation repaint the lower level north lane of the bridge so that the eastbound and westbound cycling lanes are equal;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Manhattan Community Board Six requests the following additional improvements:

- Observation slots in the fencing;
- Appropriate signage at First Avenue and East 59<sup>th</sup> Street to warn vehicles that the roadway west of First Avenue is no longer an approach to the 59<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge;
- Additional signage that will help segregate cyclists from pedestrians so that they no longer mix as they cross the bridge;
- Inclusion of a sheltered delivery worker rest area accessible from 59<sup>th</sup> Street;
- Creation of an additional loading zone area on Second Avenue and 59<sup>th</sup> Street in lieu of additional parking.

**VOTE: 32 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstention 1 Not Entitled**

Best regards,



Jesús Pérez  
District Manager

Cc: Hon. Mark Levine, Manhattan Borough President  
Hon. Julie Menin, Council Member  
Hon. Keith Powers, Council Member  
Colleen Chattergoon, Senior Borough Planner, NYC Department of Transportation  
Jason Froimowitz, Chair, CB6 Transportation Committee

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**VIA E-MAIL**

October 15, 2024

Edward F. Pincar, Jr.  
Manhattan Borough Commissioner  
NYC Department of Transportation  
59 Maiden Lane, 37th Floor  
New York, NY 10038

**Resolution calling on the NYC Department of Transportation to open the Queensboro Bridge pedestrian path without delay and without regard to delays of construction on the upper level roadway**

At the October 9, 2024 Full Board meeting of Manhattan Community Board Six, the Board adopted the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, Manhattan Community Board Six is committed to a safe and sustainable environment for all road users in our community;

**WHEREAS**, the Ed Koch Queensboro Bridge serves as a vital connection between Queens and Manhattan for thousands of pedestrians and cyclists every day;

**WHEREAS**, the existing shared-use path on the north outer roadway is dangerously overcrowded, with space constraints leading to frequent conflicts between pedestrians, cyclists, and users of micromobility devices;

**WHEREAS**, the NYC Department of Transportation (DOT) presented a plan to Manhattan Community Board Six in March 2024 to convert the south outer roadway of the Queensboro Bridge to a pedestrian-only path by Summer 2024;

**WHEREAS**, NYC DOT aimed to align the opening of the pedestrian path with completion of construction on the bridge's upper roadway in order to mitigate impact to motorist wait times;

**WHEREAS**, Manhattan Community Board Six passed a detailed [resolution](#) with specific feedback supporting the conversion of the south outer roadway to a pedestrian-only path on April 3, 2024;

**WHEREAS**, in September 2024 NYC DOT notified Manhattan Community Board 6 that the opening of the pedestrian path would be delayed until the winter of 2024 due to construction delays on the bridge's upper roadway;

**WHEREAS**, expeditiously opening the pedestrian path is necessary to ensuring the safety of pedestrians, cyclists and micromobility users, which must take priority over the convenience of drivers;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that Manhattan Community Board Six urges the NYC Department of Transportation to prioritize the safety of pedestrians and cyclists and open the pedestrian path on the Queensboro Bridge south outer roadway without further delay, regardless of the status of the upper roadway construction;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Manhattan Community Board Six requests that the NYC Department of Transportation provide a clear and updated timeline for the pedestrian path's opening and communicate this timeline to the public.

**VOTE: 34 In Favor 0 Opposed 3 Abstention 0 Not Entitled**

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jesus', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jesús Pérez  
District Manager

Cc: Hon. Mark Levine, Manhattan Borough President  
Hon. Keith Powers, Council Member  
Hon. Julie Menin, Council Member  
Jason Froimowitz, Chair, CB6 Transportation Committee