



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Brian Kavanagh

Letter to DOT Requesting a Sixth Avenue Bike Lane

BRIAN KAVANAGH May 1, 2024

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April 29, 2024

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

Dear Commissioner Rodriguez:

Thank you for our partnership over the past two years in making our streets safer for pedestrians and cyclists. Our efforts to widen sidewalks, provide protected bike lanes, and further separate pedestrians and cyclists from vehicular traffic will save lives. The Tenth Avenue protected bike lane has been a significant improvement for the residents of Hell's Kitchen and dedicated cyclists citywide.

Although we have made significant progress in our City's bike infrastructure there are still significant gaps in the network. One such gap exists on Sixth Avenue from Canal Street to Ruth Wittenberg Triangle, just south of the Jefferson Market Library, at Greenwich Avenue/West 8th Street. Riders are currently navigating almost twenty blocks of unprotected and heavily trafficked roadway. The Department of Transportation should prioritize a new bike lane at this location, which has been a long standing request of the community.

In 2014, Community Board 2 passed a resolution for a Fifth and Sixth Avenue feasibility study. In July of 2017, CB2 passed a resolution for a protected bike lane extending south from Greenwich Ave/West 8th Street to Canal Street, and in 2020, they passed a resolution asking for a temporary connection of the Sixth Avenue bike lane during the pandemic. Additionally, CB2 included this request in their Expense Budget Priorities in FY2021 and FY2023. On April 19th, CB2 adopted a resolution calling for a protected bike lane on Sixth Avenue from Bleecker to Greenwich Ave/West 8th Street, specifically to connect Sixth Avenue to an important crosstown stretch at Bleecker Street in order to improve overall cyclist and pedestrian safety.

Thank you again for your partnership. We look forward to working together to assure pedestrians and cyclists a safe passage through the West Village for years to come, as we further our shared goals of safer streets.

Sincerely,

Erik Bottcher
Council Member, District 3

Brian Kavanagh
State Senator, District 27

Dan Goldman
Congressman, District 10

Mark Levine
Manhattan Borough President

Deborah Glick
Assemblymember, District 66

Chris Marte
Council Member, District 1

