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**THE COUNCIL
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January 15, 2014

Margaret Forgione
Department of Transportation
Manhattan Borough Commissioner
59 Maiden Lane, 39 fl
New York, NY 10038

Dear Commissioner,

We are writing in regards to two tragic pedestrian fatalities that took place within blocks and hours of each other Friday night, January 10, 2014.

The 24th Precinct is conducting a thorough investigation and is communicating their findings to you. We also understand that the Community Board 7 Transportation Committee met and is sending you a list of short-term recommendations.

We are in agreement with the Community Board 7 "short-term" recommendations for West 97th Street and Broadway, and are asking for a few actions that we are hoping DOT can take immediately.

West 97th and West End Avenue

1. The pedestrian lead-time (LPI) crossing West End Avenue needs to increase to 10-12 seconds (as long as possible).
2. Adjust traffic signal timing so that when the signal is green at westbound 97th Street (from Broadway) it is red at West End Avenue. This will require most vehicles to stop before proceeding through the intersection at 97th Street and West End Avenue.

3. Add “Yield to Pedestrians” signs on 97th Street just prior to West End Avenue.

We are hopeful that these measures can be implemented as quickly as possible and look forward to working with your office to do so. If you plan on doing a site visit, please alert our offices—we would like to join you.

As for the recommendations at West 96th Street and Broadway, we look forward to further discussing the more complex details at CB7’s next Transportation Committee meeting.

Many thanks,
Helen and Mark


Helen Rosenthal


Mark Levine

cc:

Inspector Nancy Barry, 24th Precinct

Gabriel Schnake-Mahl, Asst. Dir. of Intergovernmental Affairs, Mayor’s Office
NYC

Hon. Melissa Mark-Viverito, Speaker of the New York City Council

Elizabeth Caputo, Chair: Community Board 7