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THE COUNCIL  
OF  
THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
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COUNCIL MEMBER, 6<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT, MANHATTAN

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IMMIGRATION

July 17, 2025

Jessica Tisch  
Commissioner  
New York City Police Department  
1 Police Plaza  
New York, NY 10038

Dear Commissioner Tisch,

I write to share the results of a survey conducted by my office from June 25 to July 1, 2025 that catalogues the locations of ice cream trucks in Council District 6 along Central Park West from W. 59 to W. 96 Streets and all of Central Park South. My staff and interns inspected these locations on three separate dates, on both weekdays and weekends, and logged 31 unique responses.

The survey is in reaction to a stream of constituent complaints about ice cream trucks parked in bike lanes. Indeed, the survey found ice cream trucks parked directly in bike lanes and buffer zones 61% of the time. That forces customers to stand in the bike lane, putting them at risk of being hit by cyclists, and forces cyclists to either swerve around pedestrians or veer into traffic.

The survey also found ice cream trucks parked in crosswalks, bus stops, blocking fire hydrants, and in front of park entrances. The majority of vendors were not displaying appropriate price lists nor wearing their vending licenses, which are required by vending regulations.

I feel strongly that these ice cream trucks endanger pedestrians and cyclists, and I request that the NYPD do more to make them move. Many trucks identified in the survey are repeat violators. It is not enough for traffic enforcement agents to issue parking tickets; officers must regularly require vendors to drive away and not return.

Although I understand the attraction of ice cream trucks parking near the park on a hot day in order to attract customers, I look forward to finding alternate, safe parking sites for these vehicles.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Gale A. Brewer

cc: Vilda Vera Mayuga, Commissioner, Department of Consumer and Worker Protection  
Ydanis Rodriguez, Commissioner, New York City Department of Transportation