



October 13, 2020

Honorable Bill de Blasio
Mayor
City of New York
City Hall
New York, New York 10007

Dear Mayor de Blasio,

We write in support of the proposal to convert the South Outer Roadway of the Queensboro Bridge into an ADA-compliant pedestrian-only path and request that your Administration allocate the necessary funds in the near term to the Department of Transportation to make the project a reality.

As you know, we have long been in support of this important initiative. In the last decade bicycling volumes over the bridge have doubled while vehicle volumes have dropped nearly 10%. Now, thanks to the COVID-19-induced bike boom, the shared and dangerous North Outer Roadway has reached a tipping point.

In order to better assess the project's technical and fiscal feasibility, on October 5th we toured the South and North Outer Roadways with representatives from the Department of Transportation, and all agreed on the project's importance.

We know all too well the impact COVID-19 has had on our city's budget, especially capital allocations. However, the pandemic has also magnified the urgency to address the unsafe condition of the North Outer Roadway of the Queensboro Bridge thanks in large part to the mass increase in bicycle riding. Given the immediate risk to both bicyclists and pedestrians, we urge you to work with us to undertake and complete this important endeavor as soon as possible.

Thank you for your attention to this public safety issue.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Gale A. Brewer in cursive.

Gale A. Brewer
Manhattan Borough President

Handwritten signature of Jimmy Van Bramer in cursive.

Jimmy Van Bramer
Council Member

Handwritten signature of Senator Michael Gianaris in cursive.

Senator Michael Gianaris
Deputy Majority Leader



Jessica Ramos
State Senator



Ben Kallos
Council Member



Costa Constantinides
Council Member

cc: Polly Trottenberg, Commissioner, NYC DOT
Danny Harris, Executive Director, Transportation Alternatives
Will Brightbill, District Manager, Manhattan Community Board 8
Debra Kleinert, District Manager, Queens Community Board 2