



May 20, 2025

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

Dear Commissioner Rodriguez,

We are writing to strongly urge the Department of Transportation to prioritize the “super sidewalk” project along Ninth Avenue between West 34th and West 51st Streets. This critical safety improvement has already been delayed and must not be pushed back any further.

Last year, DOT informed Community Board 4 that the project would be implemented in 2025. The new projected date of 2026 is deeply disappointing, particularly given the urgent safety concerns in this high-traffic corridor.

As you know, super sidewalks—painted sidewalk extensions that provide additional space for pedestrians—have already been successfully installed further north on Ninth Avenue. These improvements have reduced sidewalk crowding, increased pedestrian visibility, and made the corridor safer and more accessible. There is no reason the same level of safety should not be extended further south.

The need is pressing. Over the past year, there have been 14 reported pedestrian injuries between West 34th and West 42nd Streets, including a serious incident at West 36th Street where a pedestrian was struck while crossing with the signal.

Ninth Avenue is a vital artery for the West Side—used daily by residents, workers, and visitors. The community has waited long enough for meaningful pedestrian safety improvements, and this project must move forward without further delay.

We appreciate your continued leadership and urge you to make the Ninth Avenue super sidewalk project a top priority in 2025. We stand ready to work with you to get this done.

Sincerely,



Erik Bottcher
Council Member, District 3



Jerrold Nadler
U.S. Representative, NY-12



Mark Levine
Manhattan Borough President



Brad Hoylman-Sigal
State Senator, District 47



Tony Simone
Assembly Member, District 75