

June 23, 2015

Dear Assembly Member Mosley
Dear Senator Dilan,

RE:

A6048 / A6048-B 2015 (by Assembly Member Mosley)

S4494 / S4494-B 2015 (by Senator Dilan)

The 1,500 members of CHEKPEDS, a collation of concerned citizens, businesses and institutions for pedestrian safety in Manhattan, respectfully asks you to take ample time to consider the merit of the referenced bills for the few versus the dangerous precedents they are setting for all. We ask your help in focusing Albany on solutions that work for everyone: installing Split Phase Signals along bus routes. Such an inexpensive design upgrade will allow bus drivers, passengers and pedestrians to share the streets safely.


The current law is working. While 8 bus drivers killed or injured pedestrians in the past, and thus were arrested, we are happy to report that in 2015, this number is zero. No bus driver has injured or killed a pedestrian. This is excellent news for bus drivers, for the families of the victims and for the MTA. More important it shows the law was effective in raising awareness, improving training and making everyone more cautious. This is a great success.

Will these bills reduce the occurrence of crashes? Or will they just spare a handful of careless bus drivers the embarrassment of being arrested because they injured or killed pedestrians who had the right of way? Shouldn't they be embarrassed publicly? Or is the life of a neighbor or family member who walks so unimportant that killing one should have no social or real consequences?

Should we pander to the few people who break the law? What kind of message is this sending to the hundreds of other bus drivers who do not injure or kill pedestrians? Worse, what message will it deliver to Taxi, livery and Uber drivers who are also concerned? And from now on should we give an appearance ticket to other persons suspected of criminal offenses instead of arresting them?

Redesigning the street is a proven approach that benefits all parties concerned. We urge you to work instead on a new bill that would require NYC DOT to install split phase signals on all bus routes to prevent further crashes, and save real lives

Respectfully,



C. Berthet, co-founder, M. Treat, co founder,

CHEKPEDS is a coalition of over 1,500 businesses, individuals, and institutions dedicated to pedestrian safety in Chelsea, Clinton and Hell's Kitchen, on the West side of Manhattan and the sponsor of the 9th Avenue Renaissance project. excom@chekpeds.com
Chelsea, Clinton/Hell's Kitchen Coalition for Pedestrian Safety | 348 west 38th Street, New York, NY 10018 | (646) 623 2689 |



CHEKPEDS

OUR MEMBERS • 9th Avenue Association • 43rd Street Block Association • 44SW • 44th Street Block Association • 45th Street Block Association • 46th Street Block Association • 47/48th Street Block Association • HK50/51 Block Association • 55th Street Block Association • 344-348 West 38th Street Tenants Corp. • Actors Temple Theater • American Home Hardware & More • Baryshnikov Arts Center • Basilica • Brazil Brazil • Chimichurri Grill • Clinton Housing Development Corp • Costa del Sol • Cupcake Café • Delphinium Home • Domus • Econolodge • Empire Tailors & Cleaners • Times Square • Galaxy Diner • Hartley House • Hell's Kitchen Neighborhood Association • Housing Conservation Coordinators • Hudson Crossing Tenants Association • International Foods • Manhattan Plaza • Metro Bicycle Stores • New Dramatists • Nice N Natural • Orion Condominium • Piccinini Brothers • Il Punto • PetsNYC.com Poseidon Bakery • Project FIND • R/GA • Revolution Rickshaws • Rockrose Development • Sea Breeze • Sunnyside Records • Smiley's • Sonja Wagner Gallery • Costa del Sol • St. Lukes Theater • Studio LLC • Tagine • Tartare • The Ritz • The Piano Factory • Thrift & New Shoppe • Trattoria Pesce Pasta • Urban Affiliates • Vintner Wine Market

www.chekpeds.com