Resolution Calling on the NYC Department of Transportation to Open the Queensboro Bridge Pedestrian Path Without Delay and Without Regard to Delays of Construction on the Upper Level Roadway

WHEREAS, Manhattan Community Board Six is committed to a safe and sustainable environment for all road users in our community;

WHEREAS, the Ed Koch Queensboro Bridge serves as a vital connection between Queens and Manhattan for thousands of pedestrians and cyclists every day;

WHEREAS, the existing shared-use path on the north outer roadway is dangerously overcrowded, with space constraints leading to frequent conflicts between pedestrians, cyclists, and users of micromobility devices;

WHEREAS, the NYC Department of Transportation (DOT) presented a plan to Manhattan Community Board Six in March 2024 to convert the south outer roadway of the Queensboro Bridge to a pedestrian-only path by Summer 2024;

WHEREAS, NYC DOT aimed to align the opening of the the pedestrian path with completion of construction on the bridge's upper roadway in order to mitigate impact to motorist wait times;

WHEREAS, Manhattan Community Board Six passed a detailed <u>resolution</u> with specific feedback supporting the conversion of the south outer roadway to a pedestrian-only path on April 3, 2024;

WHEREAS, in September 2024 NYC DOT notified Manhattan Community Board 6 that the opening of the pedestrian path would be delayed until the winter of 2024 due to construction delays on the bridge's upper roadway;

WHEREAS, expeditiously opening the pedestrian path is necessary to ensuring the safety of pedestrians, cyclists and micromobility users, which must take priority over the convenience of drivers;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Manhattan Community Board Six urges the NYC Department of Transportation to prioritize the safety of pedestrians and cyclists and open the pedestrian path on the Queensboro Bridge south outer roadway without further delay, regardless of the status of the upper roadway construction;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Manhattan Community Board Six requests that the Department of Transportation provide a clear and updated timeline for the pedestrian path's opening and communicate this timeline to the public