

Chair, Committee on Governmental  
Operations, State & Federal Legislation

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**Lincoln Restler**  
COUNCIL MEMBER DISTRICT 33

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**March 4, 2025**

Ydanis Rodriguez, Commissioner  
New York City Department of Transportation  
55 Water Street  
New York, New York 10001

Dear Commissioner Rodriguez,

I would like to lend my support to pilot a 20 mph slow zone area across a portion or throughout Brooklyn Community District 1, which includes the neighborhoods of Greenpoint and Williamsburg.

As Chair of the Committee on Governmental Operations, State & Federal Legislation, I was proud to help lead the effort in the City Council to pass a home rule amendment paving the way for the passage of Sammy's Law. Named after Samuel Cohen Eckstein, a 12-year-old boy from Brooklyn who was tragically killed by a reckless driver in 2013, Sammy's Law has empowered the City of New York to lower speed limits from 25 mph to 20 mph to reduce crashes and save lives.

Data has shown that a one mile per hour increase in speed results in a nearly three percent increase in mortality. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, pedestrians have an 80 percent chance of surviving an impact with a car traveling at 20 miles per hour, but only a 10 percent chance of surviving an impact with a car traveling at 40 miles per hour. I support a 20mph speed limit citywide, which would allow New York City to take necessary steps toward realizing the promise of Vision Zero.

While NYC DOT announced that Sammy's Law would be implemented to have one Regional Slow Zone area in each borough, it has so far only been implemented in Manhattan (below Canal Street). I understand until we successfully pass Council legislation, NYC DOT will only be implementing slow zones in select areas. I hope that DOT will prioritize installation of new slow zones in areas where speeding is most prolific based on crash and vehicle speed data.

I encourage NYC DOT's consideration of CBI as a slow zone in the most dangerous areas of our community or across the Greenpoint and Northside community in District 33. Please let me know if you have any questions, or if there is any additional information I can provide.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lincoln Restler". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lincoln Restler  
Council Member  
District 33