

Valerie S. Mason
Chair

Will Brightbill
District Manager



505 Park Avenue, Suite 620
New York, N.Y. 10022-1106
(212) 758-4340
(212) 758-4616 (Fax)
www.cb8m.com – Website
info@cb8m.com – E-Mail

**The City of New York
Community Board 8 Manhattan**

March 28, 2025

Eric Adams
Mayor
The City of New York
City Hall
New York, NY 10007

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

RE: Queensboro Bridge Pedestrian Lane

Dear Mayor Adams and Commissioner Rodriguez,

Community Board 8 is writing to urge you to open the pedestrian path on the Queensboro Bridge without further delay. The current situation on the shared bike/pedestrian path on the Outer North Roadway is beyond dangerous for pedestrians and bike riders alike.

In January 2021, it was announced that NYCDOT was planning to convert the south outer roadway of the Queensboro Bridge into a dedicated pedestrian path and making the north outer roadway a dedicated 2-way bike path.

We have been advocating for a dedicated ADA accessible walkway since January 2021 when our Board passed a resolution asking for a dedicated path for pedestrians 34-4-1. In May of 2021, NYCDOT presented to us on the proposed project, forecasting a 2022 completion date.

In April 2024, NYCDOT again presented to us indicating a late summer 2024 opening date for the path, citing the necessity of completing repairs to the Upper Roadway bridge decks before implementation as well as completion of the pedestrian ramps, signal infrastructure, installation of the South protective fence, and pedestrian gates at the access points. We again passed a resolution supporting the plan 39-3.

It is now April 2025, and by all reports, this project appears to be complete and ready to open to the public (we even understand from news outlets that Council Member Julie Won was invited to a ribbon cutting ceremony on March 16, 2025).

Out of the blue, at the end of March, we heard that the opening was postponed.

Some news articles indicate that the Mayor's office is claiming there is no delay, and that the Mayor just needs to be briefed and others state that NYCDOT says there is still more construction work to do, and that they are without a "precise timeline." According to the Queens Eagle, NYCDOT Commissioner Rodriguez, couldn't give a clear answer on the new timeline - at one point saying "this year", and at another point saying "very soon."

There have been 19 crashes reported on the shared path since 2022, according to city officials (who knows how many have occurred that have gone unreported). I know that one day while I was walking across the bridge on a Sunday afternoon, I personally witnessed two crashes, and no one reported anything. Luckily, it was only the bikes that were seriously damaged not the people.

At our Board's April 3, 2025 Transportation Meeting, the NYC DOT representative could provide no update with respect to the project.

We are respectfully asking for immediate action to open the path with no further delay. And at the very least, we too, are a City Agency and should be kept in the loop; we should not have to rely on the Queens Eagle or StreetsBlog to find out what is happening or not happening with respect to this project.

Sincerely,

Valerie S. Mason

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cc: Honorable Kathy Hochul, Governor of New York
Honorable Jumaane Williams, Public Advocate of the City of New York
Honorable Mark Levine, Manhattan Borough President
Honorable Jerrold Nadler, 12th Congressional District Representative
Honorable Liz Krueger, NYS Senator, 28th Senatorial District
Honorable José M. Serrano, NYS Senator, 29th Senatorial District
Honorable Edward Gibbs, NYS Assembly Member 68th Assembly District
Honorable Alex Bores, NYS Assembly Member, 73rd Assembly District
Honorable Rebecca Seawright, NYS Assembly Member 76th Assembly District
Honorable Keith Powers, NYC Council Member, 4th Council District
Honorable Julie Menin, NYC Council Member, 5th Council District
Honorable Diana Ayala, NYC Council Member, 8th Council District
Randy Mastro, First Deputy Mayor of the City of New York
Sandy McKee, Chair, Community Board 6 Manhattan