Anthony Viola,
Chairperson

Kiana Diaz,
District Manager

Traffic & Transportation | Public Safety Committee(s)

– Joint Resolution –

"Resolution Addressing Traffic Safety Improvement of Sherman Ave. Corridor"

September 8, 2026

Whereas: Since 2021, crash data across Washington Heights and Inwood has risen steadily, recording 2,789 total accidents, 27 fatalities, and 3,715 injuries across Community District-12 Manhattan, demonstrating an urgent need for physical and automated street safety interventions; and

Whereas: The contributing factors include, but are not limited to, "failure to yield right-of-way, unsafe speeds, traffic control disregarded, alcohol involvement, and aggressive driving," which accounts for 31% of reported accidents/collisions; and

Whereas: Public crash records from NYC Open Data, NYPD Collision Reports, and Crashmapper indicate that along the five-block corridor of Sherman Avenue between Dyckman Street and West 207th Street, there were 75 reported collisions resulting in 101 total injuries (19 pedestrians, 8 cyclists, and 74 motorists/passengers) and 2 pedestrian fatalities over the last five years; and

Whereas: The current roadway layout along Sherman Avenue facilitates dangerous driving behaviors – including illegal racing, mid-block passing in oncoming lanes, excessive speed, illegal parking, and disregarding traffic signals – which previously resulted in the tragic deaths of two sidewalk pedestrians at Sherman Avenue and West 207th Street; and

Whereas: Following such incident, the New York City Department of Transportation ("NYCDOT") held a press conference to advocate to state legislators for a red-light camera program to be renewed and request additional cameras for the City. Such advocacy was successful, and the program launched, resulting in the activity of the program in January 2026. Despite many intersections throughout the City receiving these cameras and Sherman Avenue serving as a catalyst for the program, NYCDOT has yet to install a red-light camera on Sherman Avenue or within Community District 12; and

Whereas: The intersection of West 204th Street and Sherman Avenue directly fronts a middle school, Washington Heights Academy, and on August 20, 2026, experienced a catastrophic collision caused by illegal speeding and red-light running that sent a vehicle onto the sidewalk and into a building, critically injuring three people, including a bystander; and

Whereas: In January 2024, Community Board 12-Manhattan unanimously passed a resolution urging NYCDOT to present a comprehensive safety plan for Sherman Avenue in accordance to Vision Zero and expand automated enforcement, highlighting the ongoing dangerous driving patterns and severe crashes which have continued unabated without physical street modifications and automated enforcement; now therefore be it,

Resolved: That Community Board 12-Manhattan calls upon the New York City Department of Transportation to immediately design and implement a comprehensive capital safety plan for Sherman Avenue between Dyckman Street and West 207th Street, with top priority given to the school-adjacent intersection of West 204th Street and Sherman Avenue; and be it further

Resolved: That Community Board 12-Manhattan urges this redesign to incorporate:

1. Universal Daylighting: Clearing vehicular parking and visual obstructions within at least 20 feet of all crosswalk approaches along Sherman Avenue, particularly at West 204th Street, using physical curb extensions and street furniture to maximize visibility for crossing pedestrians and school children;
2. Raised Crosswalks: Installing raised crosswalks across Sherman Avenue at West 204th Street and adjacent intersections to physically force vehicular traffic to slow down and curb drag racing along the straightaway;
3. Median/Pedestrian Island: Installing raised medians and pedestrian islands along Sherman Avenue, particularly near West 204th Street and the school, to prevent illegal U-turns into oncoming traffic, deter reckless driving endangering pedestrians, and shorter crossing distances for pedestrians and school children; and
4. Protected Bicycle Infrastructure: Upgrading the current painted bike lane to a parking-protected bike lane along Sherman Avenue that integrates with the broader Northern Manhattan bicycle network narrowing excessively wide vehicular travel lanes; and it be further

Resolved: That Community Board 12-Manhattan strongly encourages the New York City Department of Transportation to immediately make this matter a priority and install automated red-light cameras and speed safety cameras along Sherman Avenue, specifically at the intersection of West 204th Street, utilizing the newly authorized 600-camera citywide allocation; and be it

further

Resolved: That Community Boad 12 – Manhattan requests that the New York City Department of Transportation release the total number of red-light cameras currently installed in our district and include supporting data for the reasons these cameras were allocated to the specific locations and intersections; and be it further

Resolved: That Community Board 12 – Manhattan calls upon the 34th Precinct of the New York City Police Department to coordinate dedicated enforcement details along Sherman Avenue targeted at apprehending reckless drivers, curbing illegal street racing, and enforcing red light compliance.

	Yes	**No**	**Abstain**
T&T Committee Members	**8**	**0**	**0**
Board Members	**1**	**0**	**1**

	Yes	**No**	**Abstain**
PS Committee Members			
Board Members			

Refer to the minutes of Traffic & Transportation and Public Safety for further details relating to this Resolution.

Relevant Organizations:

NYC Department of Transportation (NYCDOT)
NYC Police Department – 34th Precinct (NYPD)