



*THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK
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****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****

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**COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN CALLS FOR NEW SPEED LIMIT
SIGNAGE ON SOUTH AND WEST STREETS AS PART OF
CITYWIDE 25 MPH SPEED LIMIT ROLLOUT ON NOV. 7**

Today, Council Member Margaret Chin sent a letter to NYC Department of Transportation Commissioner Polly Trottenberg, calling for new speed limit signage to be installed on portions of South Street and West Street in Lower Manhattan as part of the City's rollout of the new 25 mph default speed limit on November 7. The letter is attached.

Council Member Chin specifically requested the new 25 mph speed limit signage to be installed along South Street at and around the entrances and exits of the busy FDR Drive, as well as every few blocks along West Street throughout Tribeca, the World Trade Center area and Battery Park City.

"Both of these areas are heavily used as pedestrian crossings by local residents — particularly seniors and families with young children," **Council Member Chin wrote in the letter.**

"I am requesting this new signage because it is clear that too many drivers move at unsafe speeds at these locations, generally because they do not differentiate between the highway pace of the FDR Drive and the slower pace of South Street, and because they also do not differentiate between the "West Side Highway" pace of uptown and the pedestrian-centric crossing areas that dominate West Street throughout Lower Manhattan.

"You will recall that just two months ago, on the morning of August 28, three elderly women — Lower East Side residents — were hit by a car as they were walking through the crosswalk at South and Rutgers Streets. In that case, the driver was reportedly accelerating in preparation to enter the FDR Drive several blocks away, and was simply traveling too fast while clearly unaware that the elderly pedestrians were crossing at that time. Tragically, one of those pedestrians died as a result of that incident.

"Prominent signage leading up to and at these locations along South Street and West Street could prevent another tragic incident like that from occurring. I sincerely hope that you will agree to install this new signage as part of the citywide 25 mph rollout on November 7."

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