



CITY OF NEW YORK
PRESIDENT
OF THE
BOROUGH OF STATEN ISLAND

JAMES S. ODDO
PRESIDENT

BOROUGH HALL
STATEN ISLAND, NY 10301

May 15, 2014

The Honorable Polly Trottenberg
Commissioner
NYC Department of Transportation
55 Water Street, 9th Floor
New York, NY 10041

Dear Commissioner Trottenberg:

We hope this letter finds you well.

We would like to take a moment to thank you for your participation in the first Transportation Task Force meeting earlier this week. It was a productive initial dialogue, and one that we hope will lead to positive results for Staten Islanders.

In the end, our goal is exactly the same – we want to see results on our roads.

We were exceedingly pleased to hear you express a willingness to experiment with new technologies. As we made clear at the meeting, the status quo is simply not working, which requires us to think outside of the proverbial “box.”

Since you agreed at the meeting to pilot some new technologies, we list below some potential ideas for your consideration. We are hopeful that we can collaborate on bringing these projects and others to Staten Island as pilot programs.

First, use of “paving trains” for rapid road resurfacing, which is used in other parts of the country, but not in New York City. Some believe this technology could be a “game-changer” for roads that are beyond simple pothole repair.

Second, the use of two-foot milling machines as part of the pothole patch process. Some in the industry claim that patches could last up to five years if potholes are milled before they are filled.

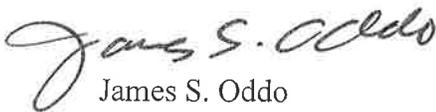
Third, a pilot program using the Pothole Killer on Staten Island. As we know, this technology is successfully used by numerous other municipalities, including the State of New York.

We know that all of these methods have detractors, and we have been given reasons why each is not appropriate for NYC streets. But these are not ordinary times, and inconveniences or costs that might have been unacceptable in different times must be rethought now. The conditions are so bad, the need is so critical, that we must either accept these inconveniences or create ways to work around them. Again, maintaining the status quo is simply not a viable alternative.

Finally, while not a new technology, we are asking that you provide us with the exact numerical ratings of each street on Staten Island. This information is essential to us as we work with your office on examining the paving schedule (which we discussed at the meeting). While Local Law 1 of 2012 requires DOT to post the current rating for each street on its website, that information is limited to "good," "fair," and "poor," which, while useful, is not as helpful as knowing the exact numerical rating.

We thank you for your consideration of these requests and look forward to our continuing collaboration.

Very truly yours,



James S. Oddo
Borough President



Vincent Ignizio
Minority Leader



Deborah Rose
Deputy Majority Leader



Steven Matteo
Council Member, 50th District