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March 15, 2016

Ms. Sonia Pichardo
Regional Director
New York State Department of Transportation
Hunters Point Plaza
47-40 21st Street
Long Island City, NY 11101

Mr. Charlie O'Shea
Director of External Relations, NYC Region
New York State Department of Transportation
Hunters Point Plaza
47-40 21st Street
Long Island City, NY 11101

Re: H.E.L.P. (Highway Emergency Local Patrol) Trucks

Dear Director Pichardo and Director O'Shea:

We are writing to discuss the need for H.E.L.P. Trucks along the Interstate 278 (Staten Island Expressway [SIE] and Brooklyn Queens Expressway [BQE]) corridor from the Goethals Bridge on Staten Island to the Hugh Carey Tunnel in Brooklyn.

This highly-trafficked corridor represents a main artery into Manhattan, and, when running without congestion or delay, helps to keep motorists off our local streets and dramatically decreases commute times.

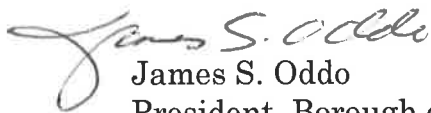
Often, however, even the most minor fender-bender or breakdown results in major delays. According to the Federal Highway Administration, for every minute a lane is blocked due to a traffic incident, four minutes of traffic delays result. If it takes 15 minutes to clear a vehicle on the BQE, for example, a motorist on the SIE could be sitting in traffic for an hour.

We believe that staging two H.E.L.P. Trucks - one on the Staten Island Expressway and one on the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway - would help to alleviate this condition. Of course, we understand that in the event of a bad collision a tow truck is required, but for a vehicle with a flat tire, or a vehicle that has run out of gasoline, these trucks could prove invaluable.

This is not a panacea that will cure all traffic ills, nor would it be necessary if traffic delays were a rare occurrence. Sadly, however, this happens multiple times a week, and we owe it to the public to explore any and all methods to relieve this problem.

Please consider our request. We believe this can make a real and immediate positive impact on the quality of life of our motoring public.

Sincerely,



James S. Oddo
President, Borough of Staten Island



Eric L. Adams
President, Borough of Brooklyn