

January 6, 2017

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

Re: Signage to prohibit motorhome parking

Dear Commissioner Trottenberg:

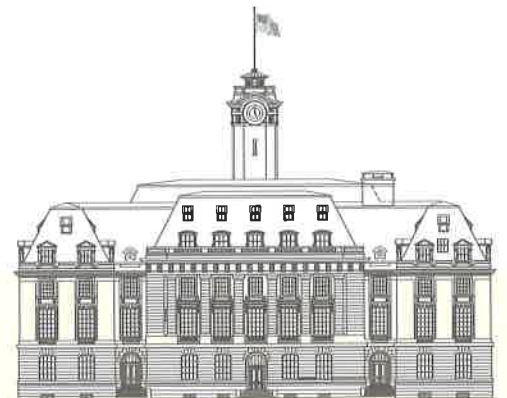
I hope this letter finds you well.

At a recent meeting in Borough Hall, I hosted North Shore business owners, as well as representatives of the New York City Police Department (NYPD), the Department of Transportation (DOT), the Department of Homeless Services (DHS) and the Human Resources Administration (HRA).

Our discussion revolved around the escalating problem of street homelessness in the North Shore and the ensuing public safety challenges it presents. The conversation uncovered a litany of alarming issues, but I am writing today to address one of the more straightforward of those issues that came to light: motorhomes being used as *de facto* residences or shelters.

At least three such vehicles park on select streets on the North Shore, connected to power generators, and for extended periods of time. Given the potential impact of this unregulated practice on public health, quality of life and the environment, I believe a proactive response is warranted.

The most immediate concern is public safety, especially since the motor homes typically park near an elementary school: PS 59. According to the NYPD, they are aware of the problem, but the enforcement options available to them are severely limited. In fact, they can only take action if a vehicle hasn't moved in seven days—an easy rule to game.



Therefore, I respectfully request that you investigate the feasibility of installing signage that specifically prohibits the curbside parking of oversized vehicles on the following streets at issue:

- Richmond Terrace between Westervelt Avenue and Nicholas Street
- Carroll Place between Westervelt Avenue and Nicholas Street
- St. Marks Place between Westervelt Avenue and Nicholas Street
- Martling Avenue between Manor Road and Clove Road
- Mosel Avenue between Clove Road and Steuben Street

The objective of this approach is to empower the NYPD with the authority to effectively address the issue of long-term parking of motorhomes on the public streets where it is known to exist. Given the public safety risks and other potential harms associated with the practice, we cannot allow motorhomes to be used as residences or shelters in our communities.

It is my hope that this targeted tactic will resolve the issue rather than push it to other locations. In any case, my staff will be developing legislative options to employ if necessary.

Kindly accord this request every consideration consistent with your rules and regulations and please advise me of the results of your assessment. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Very truly yours,



James S. Oddo  
President  
Borough of Staten Island

cc: Assistant Chief Edward Delatorre, NYPD  
Borough Commissioner Thomas Cocola, NYC DOT