

March 13, 2018

The Honorable James Kenney  
Mayor of the City of Philadelphia  
City Hall, Office 215  
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Dear Mayor Kenney;

I hope this letter finds you well, and as an aside, my congratulations and thanks for your Eagles beating those loathsome New England Patriots.

I am writing because I have become aware, through an article I read as far back as last July, that your city is revising its regulations to require utilities to mill and resurface traffic lanes when they dig trenches. As President of the Borough of Staten Island, New York, I have long been advocating for stricter regulations as they relate to street restoration.

I must express my admiration for a municipality – and a Mayor – who insists that those who may be inconvenienced during the completion of a necessary project, are not further inconvenienced, for years to come, by a sub-standard restoration on the part of the utility or its contractor.

Since Staten Island has no subway system, and our residents who wish to go off-island are limited to traveling over one of four bridges, we are, per capita, the most automobile-dependent of the five boroughs. This makes us particularly sensitive to road conditions; hence, I have been beating the drum for a regulatory policy more like that of Philadelphia, albeit unsuccessfully to this point.

I was wondering if you might have a member of your staff contact a member of mine with details on Philadelphia's revised regulations, and what the PennDot regulations actually are. My ultimate goal is to present a similar package of revisions to Mayor de Blasio. The person to contact here at Staten Island Borough Hall is my Senior Advisor, Frank Santarpia, who can be reached at [fsantarpia@statenislandusa.com](mailto:fsantarpia@statenislandusa.com), or (718) 816-2053.

Thank you so much for your kind attention and consideration; I hope that perhaps someday we might meet in person.

Sincerely,

*James S. Oddo*  
James S. Oddo  
President, Borough of Staten Island

*P.S. Thank you for your leadership on this issue. Mayor de Blasio, to his credit, has resurfaced NYC streets at an historic rate. We need to continue BUT ALSO update our street cut rules. It seems Philadelphia is leading on this. We want to replicate your efforts. THANK YOU! - Jim*

