



Old Astoria Neighborhood Association (OANA)  
www.OANA-NY.org

June 29, 2015

Press Release

To:

Samantha Dolgoff

Planner, Department of Transportation

120-55 Queens Blvd., Room 285

Kew Gardens NY 11424

The Old Astoria Neighborhood Assn. urges the NYC Department of Transportation to institute traffic calming measures on Ditmars Blvd from Shore Blvd to 21<sup>st</sup> St. The recent death of 21 year old Betty Jean DiBlasio by being struck by a hit and run vehicle at Ditmars and 19<sup>th</sup> St. could perhaps have been avoided had these measures been in place. Such measures currently exist on Astoria Park Border Streets Shore Blvd, 19<sup>th</sup> St., and Astoria Park South, and should be extended to Ditmars Blvd.

While we have not previously presented this specific issue of traffic calming on Ditmars, it is very similar to the safety issues that were presented to you at our meeting on June 9<sup>th</sup>.

We also urge that the Department of Transportation consider creating a "Slow-Zone" in the Old Astoria Neighborhood in general. Because of the many narrow roads, such a designation could save many lives.

We look forward to the inclusion of speed bumps or other traffic calming measures on Ditmars to support Mayor DiBlasio's Vision Zero so we can avoid more unnecessary deaths.

Richard Khuzami  
President

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CC: Councilman Costa Constantanides  
State Senator Michael Gianaris  
Assemblyperson Aravella Simotas  
Nikki Kokkinos  
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