

New signs for Gramercy Park should ease traffic

By Maciej Wroblewski

The Gramercy Park Block Association has announced that it has managed to secure traffic signs for Gramercy Park North that hopefully will prevent reckless drivers from plowing into the north gate of Gramercy Park.

For many months, the Gramercy Park Block Association has been involved in meetings with Community Board Six,

the New York City Department of Transportation, and the 13th Precinct to address the traffic problems on Gramercy Park, and in particular, the problem of drivers who speed down Lexington Avenue without noticing that the Avenue ends at 21st Street and end up plowing into the Park planters and, on occasion, into the north gate of Gramercy Park as well.

The Block Association

has just been advised that, as a result of these meetings, the DOT's borough engineer has finalized his investigation of these and other traffic problems on Gramercy Park.

Within two to six weeks, the following reflective signs will be installed: one reflective sign will be "ALL TRAFFIC" with a right arrow, this will complement the existing green traffic light

arrow and "NO LEFT TURN"; DOT believes the latter will assist in preventing motorists from going straight, and to realize that they should turn right.

Arlene Harrison, president of the Gramercy Park Block Association, expressed her thanks to Community Board Six Chair, Timothy McGinn, and District Manager, Toni Carlina, the Department of Transportation and the

Officers of the 13th Precinct for all they did to resolve these longstanding traffic problems.

The GPBA has been leading the neighborhood drive to address traffic in the Gramercy Park area. They have already successfully helped ease the traffic congestion that has previously caused extensive problems on Gramercy Park North by working with Community Board Six and the DOT to replace missing signs and add additional advisory signs placed

down Lexington Avenue from 28th Street to Gramercy Park North.

The quest to protect pedestrians and the planters from traffic will not end with the signs installed by the DOT.

According to Harrison, who is also a Trustee of the park, "The Trustees plan to install additional reflective arrows that point to the right and install them directly on some of the planters themselves as an addition to the DOT signs."