

**Brooklyn Community Board 9**  
**Transportation Committee June Meeting Minutes**  
**890 Nostrand Avenue**  
**Brooklyn, New York 11225**

Chair: Ethan Norville; Vice Chair: Felice Robertson; Secretary: Paco Abraham

**Attendance** (Board Members): Ethan Norville; Felice Robertson; Benny Rosenberger;

**Attendance** (Community Resident Members): Paco Abraham; Andrew Magnus; Valerie Fleming; Jeffrey Grannum

**Absent** (Board Members): Lorianne Wolseley

**Absent** (Community Resident Members): Calista DeJesus; Stanley Greenberg

**Guests:** Alicia Boyd; Theresa Westerdahl, CB9; Hector Robertson; Catt Small

Agency Representatives: Keith Bray, Brooklyn Borough Commissioner, NYC DOT; Nick Carey, Director, School Safety, NYC DOT; Katelyn Graham, Project Manager; Elena Lunyova, Deputy Director, School Safety, NYC DOT

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**Agenda:**

I. Welcome/Greetings

- a. Meeting is called to order at 7:10pm, 6/10/24

II. DOT Presentation

- a. Presentation by Katelyn Graham (DOT) of a School Safety Project for Brooklyn & Kingston Avenues

- i. Full presentation is available at this link.

1. <https://www.nyc.gov/html/dot/downloads/pdf/brooklyn-ave-kingston-ave-empire-blvd-winthrop-st-jun2024.pdf>

- ii. Highlights of the plan include

1. High concentration of schools... over 15 within 5-minute walk
2. 158 injuries between 2019 & 2023, 71 % were pedestrians or cyclist
  - a. 50% of which occurred when they had the right of way.
  - b. 14% of these injuries were children (~1 in 7 injuries)
3. Dangerous by design because these are both uniquely wide streets
  - a. The wide street induces speeding, even during turns.
  - b. The wide streets offer zero cyclists infrastructure so there is no predictability in placement of riders.
4. Proposal is to reduce street width on both corridors by adding protected bike lanes and shortened crosswalks for pedestrians.
  - a. Some corners would get concrete build outs for pedestrian safety, others would only have paint and plastic design.
5. To achieve the design as presented, some curbside vehicle space would be eliminated... estimated ~50 car parking spots.

- b. Assorted questions from the committee & guests, including...

1. Andrew Magnus asked what other decisions are needed to implement. DOT replied that all schools have been contacted about it and they've met with some. They also want to talk further with local yeshivas & the hospital. Implementation could be late this year or early next year in 2025.
2. Felice Robertson asked if the crashes DOT cited were often during school hours when crossing guards ought to be there. DOT noted that injuries were at all times of day but the tricky part of school hours was that children are dismissed ~2:30p when rush hour traffic volumes are not there and more speeding is seen, so crashes can be more dangerous.
3. Hector Robertson asked about speed cameras on these stretches of roadway.

4. Jeffrey Grannum asked if the width of these streets allowed for more back in parking to offset the potential loss. DOT noted the one wide block of Kingston already had back in parking and the other sections were wide but not necessarily wide enough for it.
5. Alicia Boyd challenged some of the DOT data which presented safety metrics because they only went up until 2017. She asked for more recent numbers. DOT said they'd follow up with other, more current reports.
6. Paco Abraham asked about paint vs concrete fixes for the pedestrian crossings. DOT said concrete build outs cause drainage changes so these would mostly be islands, 5 or 6 currently. Paco wondered about using the street furniture tool kit to ensure newly dedicated pedestrian space does not get encroached upon by vehicles.
7. Theresa Westerdahl asked for more bike racks throughout. Valerie Flemming notes that there are damaged/ missing bike racks in front of Major Owens Rec Center
8. Felice Robertson asked if this redesign would pose difficulties for emergency service vehicles. DOT said they've had conversations with and run their numbers through all needs known for FDNY, NYPD, DSNY and they meet with the Mayor's office of people with disabilities.
9. Paco Abraham asked for proper wayfinding signage to be included with any bike route changes

### III. Review of Previous Discussions

#### a. STAND Guidelines and Bike Lane Network (BikeNet)

- i. Chairman Norville explained that support for our previous resolution was split. We tried to give the board a lot of items as one package but some people got bogged down by concerns with the bike lanes and so there were not enough full board votes to support the package as written.

### IV. Unfinished Business

#### a. Revising STAND (Shared Transportation and Network) Guidelines

- i. Chairman Norville motions that we split the guidelines and remove the Bike lane Network section for the board to more easily approve, so that the Car share density request - (no more than 3 locations per quarter mile radius) and the Citibike station siting request (strong preference for placement on sidewalks rather than in the street) could pass the board easily.

- ii. Paco Abraham seconds the motion

#### **iii. Motion passes by unanimous consent.**

#### b. Bike Lane Network (BikeNet)

- i. Andrew Magnus motions that we

1. change #1 as written on the previous month's "Potential Bike Lane Network" resolution which had requested bike lanes on Brooklyn and Kingston Ave and instead we ask DOT to come back to our committee with a revised version of their 6/10/24 proposal that incorporates our feedback and anything else they receive from local stakeholders.
2. adjust #2 as written on the previous month's "Potential Bike Lane Network" resolution which had requested a two way or conventional bike lane on Lincoln Road between Flatbush and Ocean avenues and instead we just ask DOT to review the lack of bicycle connectivity in/out of Prospect Park and come back to our committee with a proposal for improvements.
3. add a #4 on the previous month's "Potential Bike Lane Network" resolution's final page to request DOT do more education outreach, such as by new PSAs, for riders to be aware of local bike network changes and to better know the rules of the road citywide.

- ii. Paco Abraham seconds the motion

#### **iii. Motion passes by unanimous consent.**

- c.

### V. Adjourn

- a. MOTION - Ethan Norville made a motion to adjourn at 9:25pm.

- i. Andrew Magnus seconded the motion. **Motion passed by unanimous consent.**