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Community Board No. 2

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Morry Galonoy
Chairperson

Debra Markell Kleinert
District Manager

September 6, 2022

Transportation Committee Meeting Minutes

This meeting was teleconferenced on Zoom

Transportation Committee Members - Present

Tom Mituzas, Osman Chowdhury, Morry Galonoy, Rosamond Gianutsos, Reilly Owens, Caroline Spitzer, Laura Shepard, Mary Torres

Transportation Committee Members - Absent

Sheila Lewandowski, Kristen McGowan

Community Board 2 Staff

Debra Markell Kleinert, District Manager, MaryAnn Gurrado

108th Police Precinct

Sgt. Pak

NYC Department of Transportation

Gretha Suarez

Guests

Gray Harrison

Judy Flood

Stephanie

Public Comment

Seth Slade

David Morant

Maria Davis

Joanna Rock, JRock Consulting

Public Comments – Comments by Community Members (1 Minute) up to ten minutes

Seth Slade discussed the following:

- Public Membership, interested in joining.
- Still waiting for citibike installation in Woodside.
- Thanked everyone for the cross walks that were repaired on Laurel Hill Blvd and 61ST Street.

Morry Galonoy discussed that the CB 2 By-Laws have description of the public committee members and that they are posted on the website. Announcements for a digital application will be announced at the meeting this month and how people can apply for the committee of their choice.

David Morant discussed his support of citibike expansion.

Joanna Rock, JRock Consulting discussed the need for a loading zone at Citylights.

Stephanie discussed her opposition to expansion of citibikes installation in the Sunnyside Gardens.

Maria Davis requested safety improvements at Greenpoint Avenue and Star Avenue

UPDATE BY 108TH POLICE PRECINCT ON TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT ISSUES

- Traffic Calming issues – Blissville-
- Van Dam and Bradley Avenue Auto Body Shops
- Crescent Street between 43rd Avenue and 44th Road – enforcement needed (triple parking)
- 37th Street between Bradley Avenue and Starr Avenue – Enforcement of cars coming down the wrong direction – Request for a Camera?

Sgt. Pak reported that patrols, traffic teams and NCO's are out there each day and for the 28-day period approximately 50 summonses were issued on 37th Street and Bradley.

Questions were entertained.

REQUEST UPDATES FROM DOT - Follow-up on DOT Issues

Blissville

Tom Mituzas requested updates regarding 37th Street. Gretha Suarez reported Parks is working on the triangle. 37th Street it is ongoing. She is aware of the issues here and the agency is doing the larger review for the Greenway request and doing data collection and will not address 37th Street again until they look at the whole as part of the project. PD is aware of the issue and there is plenty of signage. Letters are being reviewed. They will be coming this year to present this project.

Tom Mituzas discussed the lack of truck signage at this location and he will be forwarding a letter to CB 2 from the Blissville Civic.

The Blissville Greenway from K bridge to G bridge along Review Avenue connecting Laurel Hill and Blissville and the Boroughs of Brooklyn and Queens. Councilman Van Bramer has written a letter of

support for this community inspired project that is also contained in the CB2s “Top 10” budget priorities. DOT-484255-K7Q6 – Request an update. No target date and bike unit is aiming to do a presentation this year approximately 2023 spring.

- Request DOT conduct a feasibility study on 37th Street between Review Avenue and Starr Avenue. Change directional and if not approved, add a left turn signal from Review Avenue onto 37th going east. CB2 sent a letter to DOT (DOT-537677-J6D9)
- Maspeth Industrial Business Zone Safety Enhancements part II – No target date for when they are coming back. When they are working, they will come to the CB 2 when the unit are ready.

Court Square

- Crescent Street request to change the diagonal markings and expand the sidewalk. case number DOT-516190-R6K9. Request update.
- Request a feasibility study for Crescent Street between 43rd Avenue and 44th Road east side of the street.

Sunnyside

- CB 2 sent a letter of request for a feasibility study for a slow zone sign and a speed reducer on 38th Street between 48th Avenue and Greenpoint Avenue (10/14/ 2020) Neighborhood slow zone (DOT-478719-Q9P4) Speed Reducer (DOT-478711-P8D2). REQUEST DENIED CB2 is requesting traffic calming measures.

Woodside

- Wynwoode Gardens update on Citibike installation.
- Request to DOT for a One-Way Street conversion on 51st Avenue Between 65th Place and 61st Street. Provide an update. (DOT-464313-T7R8) Open and being evaluated, please provide an update?

The unit will be doing the conversions for 63 and 65 on October 31, 2022. DOT will send an email.

- Request for feasibility study for a one-way conversion on 50th Avenue between 69th Street and 65th Place. (DOT-483019-P9P2) request an update.
- Request an update on traffic control study at 67th Street and Garfield Avenue:
 - Enhanced Crosswalks – Garfield Avenue and 67th Street (DOT-499828-Z0H6) Provide an update based on safety at schools?
 - Speed Mobile Enforcement – Garfield Avenue and 67th Street (DOT-500207-P9J1) Letter received from DOT concerning fixed speed enforcement program. Provide Implementation schedule?
- 58th and Laurel Hill Blvd – heading west. Complaint that the right lane now only lets you turn right onto 58th and now go straight (DOT-531299-VOV2) Provide an update. DOT updated marking changes. Autobody shops continue to park in the parking lane. Sgt. Pak has spoken to the businesses there.
- Citibike Installation for Wynwoode Gardens –The unit reported they will be doing implantation and will continue to head east in the next two days. Never set a target date or deadline for when they would finish implementing and stated they would be starting June. They collaborate with Lyft who is doing the implementation.

Woodside Speed Reducers

- Speed Cushion request on 58th Street from 39th Ave to Woodside Ave. (DOT- 433629-RSM3) Request an update - DOT states this is still an active study. Please provide an updated timeline as this is near a school. CB2 submitted a letter to DOT (DOT-537619-L2C2)

Long Island City

- Loading Zone request in front of City Lights building 4-74 48th Avenue.

Mary Torres discussed the need for a residential loading zone at the Citylights building at 4-74 48th Avenue, as they continue to have issues that are forcing seniors into unsafe areas to load in and out vehicles as well as Access-a-Ride. Currently older residents getting into vans have to use the driveway of the garage to get access to the street. DOT requested a letter.

- Request for a one-way conversion southbound – 5th Street between 50th Avenue and Borden Avenue (DOT-509191-57R9) – Received CB 2 letter of support. Please provide an implementation date. No target date and may be installed this season.
- Request a study on how to provide better signage in front of the southeast corner of Vernon Boulevard and 48th Avenue. CB2 is requesting no standing signage at the intersection.
- 11th Street and Borden Avenue under the Pulaski Bridge Entrance and Exit to midtown tunnel requesting a turning lane and a left turn signal (DOT-497660 Z4G6). DOT denied continue discussion. (Site Visit with DOT) CB2 discussion on resubmitting as separate items and breaking up the request.
- Center Blvd north of 47th Road transfer of property from State to City. Please continue to provide update. 47th Road and N Basin Road. Paving stones collapsing in intersection at Center Blvd. north of 47th Road.
- Request for a one-way conversion on 31st Place between 47th Avenue and 48th Avenue (DOT-497662-R8J2). (APPROVED) Provide Implementation date?
- Multi Way Stop – Borden Avenue and 5th Street (DOT 508287-VOB8) – Provide an update.
- 51st Avenue Pedestrian Bridge (also known as the 21st Avenue Pedestrian Food Bridge) Request an update on a letter from DOT to send to CB 2 to close this project.
- Request for a feasibility study for the installation of Accessible Pedestrian Signals (APS) at the Lights around CUNY LaGuardia Community College/Bard High School Early College (Request submitted to DOT) (DOT533922H3F1) Please provide an update. Open

DOT – District Wide

- Provide an update on the Queensboro bridge pedestrian cyclist lane. CB2 is requesting an expedited timeline. (CB2 provided a letter and CB 2 is looking for a response to the CB 2 Letter)
- Provide an update on the clear markings along the Northern Blvd. Protected Bike Lane Path.
- TC response to rejection of DOT response that meters will remain as is... review regulation changes for all 12/14-hour meters to 4 hours within CB 2. (DOT-481113-J7B9)
- Provide update on Open Restaurants. Requesting Formal Guidelines with criteria and fee schedules). No updates.
- Provide an update on the Citi Bike Share program. What is the process for incorporating and sharing feedback which is due on March 1, 2022. Continue Discussion
- DOT is conducting a Parking Study for Congestion Pricing initiative (DOT-481113-J7B9)

- Provide an update on the Mayor Adams 1000 Citywide DOT initiative on intersection improvements and the impact on the CB2 District. (Any intersections within CB 2, What is the process to get on the list)
- Provide an update on the new initiative of the Jersey Barriers within CB 2. DOT stated location of Vernon Blvd between 46th and 30th Road. Please provide updated timeline.

CB2 District Wide Initiatives and other Agencies

- MTA Disruptions
- Bike Share / Car Share / Scooter / Mopeds
- NYC Ferry – provide regular ridership updates and any plans for schedules changes and/or expansions

Reilly Owens discussed the following issues:

Requested a study for the expansion of the bike network and requested a protected bike lane to continue 39th Avenue between Woodside Avenue eastward to Roosevelt Avenue.

Requested a study for safety improvements and traffic calming measures 39th Avenue between Woodside Avenue to 58th Street and the crossings in between these streets for safety improvements and traffic calming measures to ensure the overall safety of the public, especially our school children. He reported that it is dangerous crossing the streets in this area for school children that attend the local school. As there are narrow sidewalks, it is increasingly difficult for pedestrians to navigate crossing the street.

Tom Mituzas made a motion, and it was seconded by Laura Shepard to include the corner of Greenpoint Avenue and Starr Avenue as part of Mayor Adams 1000 Citywide DOT Initiative on Intersection Improvements on behalf of the residents of Blissville. All were in favor of the motion by a show of hands with none opposed and no abstentions.

Reilly Owens made a motion, and it was seconded by Laura Shepard to request the DOT install a protected bike lane on 39th Avenue between Woodside Avenue eastward to Roosevelt Avenue? All were in favor of the motion by a show of hands with none opposed and no abstentions.

Reilly Owens made a motion, and it was seconded by Laura Shepard to request the DOT traffic calming measures on 39th Avenue between Woodside Avenue to 58th Street as there are dangerous crossings for school children, there are narrow sidewalks and to conduct a study for each of the crossings.

Mary Torres made a motion, and it was seconded by Tom Mituzas to send a letter to DOT to request a residential loading zone at Citylights at 4-74 48th Avenue. All were in favor of the motion with none opposed and no abstentions.

Laura Shepard made a motion, and it was seconded by Tom Mituzas to send a letter of support to DOT and Council Member Holden for the citibike docking locations in District 30 within the confines of CB 2. All were in favor of the motion with none opposed and no abstentions.

Laura Shepard made a motion, and it was seconded by Tom Mituzas to send a letter to Community Board 5 Queens encouraging the expansion of citibike docking locations in their district. All were in favor of the motion with none opposed and no abstentions.

Laura Shepard made a motion, and it was seconded by Mary Torres to send a request to DOT for a Feasibility Study for safety improvements on Broadway and 37th Avenue and 63rd to 69th Street. All were in favor of the motion by a show of hands with none opposed and no abstentions.

Morry Galonoy made a motion, and it was seconded Tom Mituzas to send a letter to NYC DOT and NY State DOT for safety improvements at 43rd Street at the underpass at north and south of Laurel Hill Boulevard at the entrance to the Kosciuszko Bridge. The location is in need of lighting, cleaning and needs to be made safer for the protection of pedestrians and cyclists as this location will also be the entranceway to the Blissville Greenway.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by:
MA Gurrado

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