



*Donovan Richards  
Queens Borough President*

# Community Board No. 2

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*Danielle Brecker  
Chairperson*

*Debra Markell Kleinert  
District Manager*

**September 5, 2023**

**Transportation Committee Meeting Minutes**

***This meeting was teleconferenced on Zoom***

## **Transportation Committee Members – Present**

*Sheila Lewandowski, Thomas Mituzas, Osman Chowdhury, Rosamond Gianutsos, Reilly Owens, Oumaya Saab, Laura Shepard*

## **Transportation Committee Members – Absent**

*Morry Galonoy, Zeehan Ott*

## **Transportation Committee Public Members – Present**

*Patricia Pan, Seth Slade*

## **Community Board 2 Staff**

*Debra Markell Kleinert, District Manager, MaryAnn Gurrado*

## **108<sup>th</sup> Police Precinct**

*Sgt. Kevin Gallagher*

## **NYC Department of Transportation**

*Jason Banrey, Joseph Patti*

## **Public Comment**

*Katie*

## **Guests**

*Peter Peirce, Timorthy Yip*

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

Kati Reilly requested CB 2 advocate for all way stop signs at the location at 38<sup>th</sup> Avenue at 59<sup>th</sup> Street and 60<sup>th</sup> Street as there is poor visibility. She also requested stop signs on 37<sup>th</sup> Street.

Jason Banrey, DOT will look at the intersection and get back to CB 2.

Tom Mituzas made a motion, and it was seconded by Laura Shepard to recommend DOT conduct a feasibility study request for an all way stop sign at 38<sup>th</sup> Avenue at 59<sup>th</sup> Street and 60<sup>th</sup> Street.

### **UPDATE BY 108<sup>TH</sup> POLICE PRECINCT ON TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT ISSUES**

Sgt. Gallagher provided an update on the following:

- Trending in the right direction, collisions are down by 22%.
- Bicycle accidents are down by 58%
- Up on motorcycles. PD is addressing this issue, there were 29 confiscations and PD wrote 259 moving violations for various motorcycles and mopheads.
- Reported there were 4 fatal accidents.
- Reported the 108<sup>th</sup> Police Precinct is conducting enforcement.
- Provided an update on enforcement of fake license plates and arrests on fake plates.
- Encouraged all to call 311 to report parked cars on the street, and to call 911 for people driving recklessly.
- Reported a trailer was removed on 37<sup>th</sup> Street.

Q & A

### **DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

Jason Banrey provided the following update:

- Introduced new liaison Joseph Patti, DOT.
- Announced that DOT will continue to work with the Transportation Committee and will provide feedback in a written document.
- Provided an update on the Comprehensive Speed Camera Program that is yielding positive results.
- Provided an update on the new Permanent Outdoor Dining Program, which is called Dining Out NYC. This was signed into law on August 16, 2023. Current rule making process is anticipated for Fall 2023 including a 30-day comment period which will include a public hearing. DOT is not accepting new applications under the Temporary Program. They are having discussions with the Mayor's Office on how to bring this to the Board. The first season of the permanent outdoor

dining is next spring. If anyone has questions or comments, to let DOT know. There are still more discussions taking place on the rule making process.

A discussion took place concerning the vetting process and that the City Services & Transportation Committees will be the committees to review these applications.

A board member reported some restaurants are blocking wheelchair access and will forward the locations to the CB 2 Office.

- Jason Banrey announced DOT will follow up on this complaint and that there will be more stringent requirements. It is a seasonal program with a waiver period for the wintertime. Restaurants are required to provide ADA access. There will be a revocable consent form with a more stringent agreement that will be more legally binding. DOT will share an FAQ with the Board Office.

The committee discussed the repaving of streets around the outdoor dining sheds. DOT has a process imbedded into the repaving process. Notices are sent in advance. Jason requested that any locations that are of concern, can be sent to DOT for follow up.

Jason Banrey provided the following updates:

- Reported on the marking upgrades in Blissville. Will provide more definitive bullets on where this was done.
- Reported on the final portions of the Street Improvement Project in the Maspeth Industrial Business Zone, this was finalized over the summer.
- Reported on the infill of bike share and the DOT will be doing expansion into CB 3 and CB 4 area.
- Reported that the Bikes Team is looking at developing a cycling network to make a connection from Blissville into Maspeth and trailing into the southern portion and central Queens.
- DOT will be back to begin the conversation including Blissville in their future marking season.
- Open Street on 46<sup>th</sup> Street has been operating successfully, there were some challenges, and the DOT is working with businesses on truck loading zone. They reduced the hours to just weekends.

The committee requested the DOT look into the following locations which are considered dangerous.

- 42<sup>nd</sup> Place has a dangerous curve there. DOT will look into this but there may be jurisdictional issues at the location.
- 39<sup>th</sup> Place between 50<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Queens Midtown Expressway middle of street
- On 40<sup>th</sup> Street and 48<sup>th</sup> Avenue there is a pothole.
- LIRR overpasses have excessive pigeon excrement on 54<sup>th</sup> Street.
- Requested bollards be added to bulb out street painted markings at Greenpoint Avenue and Starr Avenue.
- Request was made for the end of Borden Avenue and 30<sup>th</sup> Street at Newtown Creek, to make sure to issue a recommendation to keep public land for public use.
- Allow handicapped pedestrians to get a green walk signal to making a left onto Borden Avenue
- Ask MTA for an update on the capital items.

Laura Shepard made a recommendation, and it was seconded by Sheila Lewandowski and Tom Mituzas for the Sunnyside Station between Queensborough Plaza and Skillman Avenue that the LIRR dedicated there.

The committee discussed that this needs to be brought back. The committee requested CB 2 send a letter to the Governor, Congresswoman Valesquez and Senator Gonazlez. A discussion concerning the allocation of funding by then Congresswoman Maloney was put into this many years ago. For the long promised partially funded LIRR station. This was promised and we demand to receive the services that were promised to us and partially funded by then Congresswoman Maloney. The community has grown by 700 % and it was promised when the population was lower. This station would also help as tolling on the bridge encourages more people to take other forms of transportation. This stop would help in decreasing congestion and traffic in the growing western Queens area.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted by:  
MA Gurrado

