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Community Board No. 2

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Anatole Ashraf
Chairperson

Debra Markell Kleinert
District Manager

June 4, 2024

Transportation Committee Meeting Minutes

Transportation Committee Members – Present

Reilly Owens, Osman Chowdhury, Morry Galonoy (PV), Dr. Rosamond Gianutsos, Thomas Mituzas (PV), Oumaya Saab, Laura Shepard

Transportation Committee Members – Absent

Danielle Brecker, Sheila Lewandowski

Transportation Committee Public Members – Present

Corey Hannigan, Patricia Pan

Community Board 2 Staff

Debra Markell Kleinert, District Manager, MaryAnn Gurrado

MTA

Megan Molina, Kana Ervin, Wael Ayoub, AECOM/MTA, Deborah Howes, AECOM/MTA PMC

Department of Transportation

Joseph Patti

Guests

Fanny Chang

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

PRESENTATION BY MTA ON THE 33 STREET-RAWSON AND 46TH STREET BLISS ADA PROJECTS ON THE 7 LINE

Megan Molina and Kana Ervin provided a presentation on the following:

“Serving the Communities of Long Island City, Sunnyside, Woodside, and Maspeth”

ADA Accessibility Upgrades at 33rd Street Rawson, 46th Street Bliss, Crosstown Line CBTC Signal Upgrades

Attachments #1, 2 and 3 are attached.

TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT ISSUES

- Discussion on license plates of motorized vehicles missing and /or illegally presented.
- Discussion of seizure of Parked Scooters.
- Discussion of illegal sidewalk parking around 108th Precinct.

REQUEST UPDATES FROM DOT

Blissville

- The Blissville community has long sought a comprehensive review of our Streets in the Blissville section of Long Island City that would consider the safety of all roadway users of all ages and abilities: including pedestrians, bicyclists, public transportation riders and motorists. Specific items include but not limited to:
- Corner of 35th, Starr and Van Dam - install a proper sidewalk with curbs and pedestrian accessible ramps. Ensure daylighting at this intersection. As of today, it is just dirt and broken up asphalt. Install appropriate sidewalk and ramps.
- Reconsideration of request to install "No thru truck traffic signage" on 35th and 37th. There are only 4 streets in Blissville that are designated as truck routes (1) review avenue (2) Greenpoint Avenue (3) Borden Avenue and (4) Van Dam. All other streets should only have truck traffic for local deliveries yet trucks travel through these streets on a daily basis to other destinations. DOT-581076-X9W1.

DOT provided an update on the Blissville and the Review and Borden Avenue project. DOT is doing more study of the area. They are having healthy discussion with LIC Partnership and local businesses there to make sure it all meshes well. DOT will be speaking with the project team to determine potential conflict points and will be doing more outreach in the later phase of this project over the next few months.

- DOT-581065-J1R6 - we are pleased to see the newly painted lines at Greenpoint and Starr however cars and trucks just park over these lines negating their purpose. May we amend our request to install bollards or an actual bulb out like we've seen done in neighboring communities. DOT-581065-J1R DOT-614185-D189.

DOT stated this is part of the scope of the project. There will be a contra flow bike lane at the curb side. They have been in discussion concerning this intersection

- A study is needed at the 12-lane intersection at the base of the Greenpoint Avenue Bridge. Review/VanDam/Greenpoint. Very dangerous Area.
- Request to build the Blissville Greenway along Laurel Hill Boulevard and Review Avenue west to Blissville. With a widened and paved path that can be shared by pedestrians and cyclist and lined with trees.

- Green Asphalt – Seeking a follow up from DOT on NYC DOT’s use of Green Asphalt Co LLC located at 37-98 Railroad Avenue in the Blissville section of Long Island City that has been charged by the NY State Department of Environmental Conservation on January 11, 2024, with a violation of New York State Air Pollution Control Law.

DOT provided an update on the Queens Boulevard Project. They will be doing more outreach and will be working closely with Sunnyside Shines and reaching out to the businesses to make sure there is awareness of the project. Seeking final feedback. DOT will be conducting an on-site meeting soon.

Court Square

- Crescent Street request to change the diagonal markings and expand the sidewalk. Case number DOT-516190-R6K9. Request update. Scheduled to be done this year on their list for 2024.

Sunnyside

- Request for DOT to present data and findings of the impact of the conversion of 39th Avenue to a bike boulevard (from 45th to 50th Street) on safety, residents, businesses, vehicular traffic (trucks, cars), especially at the corner of 50th Street (right turn) Request for DOT to revisit the closing of 39th Avenue from 45th to 50th Street.
- Request for a Feasibility Study for Safety Improvements at 43rd Street and Laurel Hill Blvd at the entrance to the Kosciuszko Bridge Pedestrian and Bike Pathway. (CB 2 Sent Letter to DOT on September 7, 2022)

Woodside

- 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.
 - 51st Avenue between 65th Place and 61st Street was reversed 63 Street to NB operation from 50th avenue to Laurel Hill Blvd and converted 65th Street to one-way NB from 48th Avenue to Laurel Hill Blvd., both changes have helped curtail the cut through traffic that was using 51s Avenue and at this point unless the CB or residents feel there is another issue, we don’t have any future plans for additional changes.
 - 50th Avenue between 69th Street and 65th Place. We were waiting on the Queens Bus network redesign since that would remove the Q18 bus from 50th Avenue and most likely negate the need for a conversion.
- Request for a Feasibility Study for Safety Improvements on Broadway and 37th Avenue and on 63rd Street to 69th Street near the BQE Exit (DOT-565073-X3Q1) Study still active requesting update. DOT reported some LPI’s installed – 65th Street and Broadway, existing one at 37th Avenue
- 60th Street and 37th Avenue (Existing Study Open (DOT-577572-V1S1) DOT reported still active and being studied with signaling division.

Long Island City

- Request for Quality-of-Life sign, no overnight parking on Center Boulevard between 50th and 47th Avenue. Received letter, conversations will be taking place.

- 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. Provide update.
- 51st Avenue Pedestrian Bridge (also known as the 21st Avenue Pedestrian Foot Bridge) Request an update on a letter from DOT to send to CB 2 to close this project. DOT Tracking number needed.
- Request for the Redesign of Vernon Mall on Borden Avenue, Vernon Boulevard, Jackson Avenue, and the Northern Boundary of 51st Avenue (Letter sent to DOT) Tracking number requested. Pending, capital project.
- Request for New York City DOT Proposals Include Seniors, the Disabled and those with Different Physical Disabilities and Needs (Letter sent to DOT) DOT 599194-D6Q7, please provide an update.
- Request for dedicated bus lanes for G Train shuttle buses.

Old Business:

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New Business:

Tom Mituzas requests the 2024 Streets Plan be placed on the agenda under new business.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by:

MA Gurrado

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