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*Morry Galonoy
Chairperson*

*Debra Markell Kleinert
District Manager*

February 1, 2022

Transportation Committee Meeting Minutes

This meeting was teleconferenced on Zoom

Transportation Committee Members – Present

Sheila Lewandowski, Thomas Mituzas, Osman Chowdhury, Jake DeGroot, Kristen McGowan, Laura Shepard, Mary Torres, Dr. Rosamond Gianutsos

Transportation Committee Members – Absent

Steven Raga, John Vaichunas

Community Board 2 Staff

*Debra Markell Kleinert, District Manager
MaryAnn Gurrado*

Elected Officials/Representatives

Isaac Blasenstein, Representing Council Member Julie Won

108th Police Precinct

Sgt. Pak, Police Officer Singh

NYC Department of Transportation

Gretha Suarez, Sam Hope, Jessica Cronstein, Lisa Morasco, Samantha Dolgoff

Public Comment

*Diane Pena
Adam Aftyka
Jhony Nelson
Keldi Kruger
Gian Pedulla*

Valerie Thomson
Seth Slade

Public Comments

Faculty Members and students from LaGuardia Community College and Bard High School Early College spoke about safety concerns at their respective schools. They requested Accessible pedestrian Signals (APS) at the lights around CUNY LaGuardia Community College/Bard High School Early College.

Seth Slade discussed the Citibike Expansion and requested a timeline.

UPDATE BY 108TH POLICE PRECINCT ON TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT ISSUES

Sgt. Pak provided an update on the following issues:

- Discuss enforcement need from parked cars and warehouse south of Wynwood Gardens and Mt. Zion Cemetery. PD is conducting enforcement and they are seeing improvements and approximately 150 summonses have been issued.
- Request for Enforcement and discussion of wrong one-way conversion of 37th Street between Review Avenue and Bradley Avenue. PD made one arrest and issued 22 summonses.
- Drag Racing – Woodside, Sunnyside. PD reported 311 and 911 calls are down. PD is out and conducting enforcement.
- 44th Avenue between 12th and 13th Street's auto body shops storing vehicles. PD towed 6 vehicles and things have improved in the area.
- 51st Avenue between 70th and 71st Street. PD conducted enforcement, issued many summonses.
- Follow up with the 108th Police Precinct on Bike Cops.
- Rules for the use of placards for parking.
- Announce Traffic Community Zoom meeting with PD on February 9, 2022, all are invited to attend.

A request was made for information about parking placards.

DOT Presentations

- **12th Street Plaza**

Rachel Cohen, Vorea provided a presentation on the 12th Street Plaza. A copy of the presentation is attached. (Please see Attachment #1)

Followed by questions and answers.

A discussion about the use of crosswalks, public restrooms and water fountain took place.

The Committee requested the presenters return to the next Transportation Committee meeting with an updated proposal that includes the capacity for bike parking and seating.

- **Citi Bike Expansion**

Lisa Morasco, NYC DOT provided a presentation on the Citi Bike Expansion for the CB 2 district. The plan is available on their website at www.nyc.gov/bikeshare and the feedback may be submitted to bikeshare@dot.nyc.gov by March 1, 2022. 71 new stations are being proposed. This is not required to come to the Full Board. The anticipated roll out is late April, early May. If the Board has any specific feedback about a particular location, or where it is felt an opportunity may have been missed, they will welcome those comments. (Please see Attachment #2)

Gretha Suarez reported the DOT is allocating a one-month period for the feedback and encouraged the information be shared on social media and website.

The DOT was asked about loss of parking due to the proposed expansion. DOT responded that they have not studied loss of parking yet but will report on this when the plans are finalized.

Followed by questions and answers.

Gretha Suarez provided an update on the following:

- Mayor Adams, DOT Commissioner Rodriguez and PD Commissioner announced some new actions in pedestrian safety at intersection.
- Announced the DOT will be making improvements at 1,000 intersections to make them safer for improved traffic signals, improved crosswalks adding expanding pedestrian spaces and disability measures. There are all DOT treatments used at 1,000 intersections with the goal of improving pedestrian safety and trying to reach Vision Zero goals. The DOT will keep us posted on which intersections in Queens will receive these treatments.
- Announced the new traffic rule was announced that protects pedestrians. It went into effect when it was announced on January 19, 2022. PD began expanded enforcement against drivers who failed to recognize pedestrians in crosswalks. The new DOT traffic rule further empowers the enforcement of the failure to yield violations. Under this new rule drivers and cyclists passing through intersections that doesn't have a traffic signal or stop sign they have to fully stop when they see a pedestrian that is crossing the street. This rule is intended to clarify enforcement and remove any subjectivity for such violations when vehicles don't stop when seeing a pedestrian crossing the street.
- There is a new awareness campaign which is called **Stop Let Them Cross**. She will bring it back to the team that the information goes out to more outlets.
- Announced City Harvest is moving out by the end of January. Will remove the NSA signs which were temporary to begin with by the beginning of March 2022.

DOT

- Provide an update for request for a dedicated bus lane on 21st Street.
- CB 2 sent letter of support for the Queensboro bridge pedestrian cyclist lane. Request and update on design and timeline. DOT submitted a one-page update for the replacement of the

upper deck replacement work begins February 14, 2022, anticipated completion December 2023. A copy of the one wagger was submitted to CB2.

- Provide an update on the clear markings along the Northern Blvd. Protected Bike Lane Path.
- Discuss 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 and preparation for winter Inspections & Complaints
- Plans for snow removal and keeping structures safe (electric, ramps)

REQUEST UPDATES FROM DOT - Follow-up on DOT Issues

Blissville

- 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

DOT did not provide an update.

Court Square

- Request an update on letter from Court Square Civic sent regarding a study for Crescent Street. The Transportation Committee requested this item be removed from the agenda for the time being until DOS has an opportunity to review the request and provide an update.
- Crescent Street request to change the diagonal markings and expand the sidewalk. case number DOT-516190-R6K9. Request update.

DOT did not provide an update.

Sunnyside

- Provide an update on the 39th Ave, Barnett Ave to Woodside Ave Bike Blvd Improvements. DOT reported this is completed. If there are any concerns or issues, forward to DOT.
- 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 an update.

DOT did not provide an update.

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?
- 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)
- Traffic Study 63rd and Laurel Hill to Tyler Ave – to evaluate the request from the community to reverse the one-way street. (DOT-531011-3C8)

DOT did not provide an update.

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.

DOT did not provide an update.

Woodside Completed Items

- Traffic signal approved at the intersection of 39th Ave and 52nd Street (DOT – 398882-J7N2), Work to be completed by Nov 30, 2021. Provide Implementation update?
- Speed Cushion request on 58th Place between Laurel Hill Blvd and 52nd Avenue (DOT- 297802-W3Y6) –Approved. (10/9 DOT informed CB2 this is prioritized). Please provide installation date.
- Speed Reducer request on 50th Avenue between 46th and 47th Streets (DOT-427192-D0P9 (DOT - 430484-Z2V7). Approved (10/9 DOT informed CB2 this is prioritized). Please provide installation date.
- Provide an update on the Implementation of the Street Improvement Project on Northern Blvd. from Broadway to 114th Street. (Completed as per DOT report on December 7, 2021)

DOT did not provide an update.

Long Island City

- Request for all way stop, cross walks and safety improvements on 5th Street and 47th Road. DOT requested CB 2 submit a letter regarding this issue.

Sheila Lewandowski made a motion, and it was seconded by Tom Mituzas to send DOT a letter requesting crosswalks and All Way Stop Sign at the corner of 5th Street and 47th Road. All were in favor by a show of hands with none opposed and no abstentions.

- 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. DOT reported they will follow up on this request to get more clarification. There are other stakeholders involved in order to make improvements to the entire section. Gretha Suarez will follow up on this issue.

Sheila Lewandowski stated that there was an initial request to have a turning lane into the LIE off of Borden Avenue going east because we get a backlog of single lane. She asked if we could break up this request to be considered.

- Center Blvd north of 47th Road transfer of property from State to City. Please continue to provide update. 47th Road and N Basin Road.
- Request an update on the Vernon Blvd Bulkhead at 54th Avenue and Vernon Blvd. (Construction Started) Provide update?
- Request for a one-way conversion on 31st Place between 47th Avenue and 48th Avenue (DOT-497662-R8J2). (APPROVED) Provide Implementation date?

DOT did not provide an update.

- Request for a one-way conversion southbound – 5th Street between 50th Avenue and Borden Avenue (DOT-509191-57R9 – Request update.

Gretha Suarez reported this was presented at the January Transportation Committee Meeting. DOT requested a letter of support. Mary Torres made a motion to send a letter of support for the conversion of 5th (Fifth) Street one way south from 50th Avenue to Borden Avenue. It was seconded by Laura Shepard. All were in favor of the motion with none opposed and no abstentions.

- Multi Way Stop – Borden Avenue and 5th Street (DOT 508287-VOB8) – Request update.

DOT did not provide an update.

- 51st Avenue Pedestrian Bridge – Request an update on a letter DOT to send to CB 2 to close this project. Also known as the 21st Street Pedestrian Foot Bridge.

DOT will be sending a letter. They are coordinating with the Bridges Unit.

Gretha Suarez reported that LaGuardia Community College reached out to their public space unit to take advantage of some of their programming. They want to do two pop up plazas for possibly April and March on 29th Street.

Tom Mituzas made a motion, and it was seconded by Laura Shepard to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted by:

MA Gurrado

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