

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES DECEMBER 11, 2023

Meeting called to order 7:30 PM

Attendance: Jesse Rosenbaum-Chair, Allen Eisenstein, James Gallagher Jr., also present Soleil Griffin CB#8 Office, Cristy Vanterpool-Germain DOT Queens Borough Planner, Finlay Scanlon DOT Outreach Coordinator (making presentation), Linus Levey DOT Operations Associate, Yolanda Gallagher Fresh Meadows Tenant Association.

I. PRESENTATION

A. DOT Queens Proposed E-Scooter Share Expansion

- 1) Select E-Scooter companies are being awarded agreements to service Eastern Queens beginning Spring 2024. Current vendors are Bird, Lime and Veo.
- 2) DOT is collecting online input in regards to this program.(no email address provided)
- 3) Benefits of the program:increased mobility, point to point transportation, scooters are dockless and can be locked and unlocked and paid by smartphone.
- 4) Program started in the Bronx summer 2023, Queens outreach, fall and winter 2023, with community board presentations and feedback period.Program launches spring 2024
- 5) .Vehicle max speed is 15 MPH, they are available in corrals on sidewalk near the curb. Rentals are charged on the phone by scanning a QR code. Each unit contains a GPS device to locate each vehicle and monitor infractions at any time.
- 6) Safety: In person training, must be 18.years of age with a verified NYS License, passport or NYC ID. Helmets are required and given away for free. Beginner mode is the first 3 trips during daytime with a max speed of 10 mph. After 3 rule infractions rental privileges are revoked. Infractions include slow zones,no ride zones, no parking zones, or riding on sidewalks. Scooter has a front light and rear reflector for night use. Company carries insurance for riders, vehicles and pedestrians in case of an accident.
- 7) Scooters are permitted in park and bike lanes.
- 8) When going out of the service zone, the scooter automatically stops.
- 9) Cost: Lime and Bird \$1 to unlock \$0.42 per minute,Veo \$1 +\$0.39 per minute. Monthly discount for \$5. Bird includes unlimited 45 min ride than \$0.39 Per Min, Lime one 30 min ride/day + \$0.04 P.M.Veo one free 30 min ride/day +\$0.20
- 10)Batteries are UL approved and run for 35 hrs. Batteries are swapped out by the company. GPS device is proprietary; it locks the unit when not in service and prevents theft.

II. CORRESPONDENCE

- #### A. DOT - NYC Serious Injury Response Tracking & Analysis Program (SIRTA) -Second quarter 2023 - Total number of investigations completed; all evidence and data collected;

determination of fault including potential criminal wrongdoing; any contributing or mitigating factors that contributed to the crash; determination if changes to street design or improvements to infrastructure could reduce risk of future crashes.

- 1) 649 investigations were completed, with 846 serious injuries and 62 fatalities.
- 2) 179 crashes were in Queens.
- 3) Citywide: 28.1% pedestrian, 17.1% bicycle, 49.8% automobile, 9% other motorized vehicles.

B. Letter of Support for Playstreet for 1400 students at MS216Q (174th St between 64th & 65th Ave) due to playground closure for school construction from October '23 - September '26. Member CB8. **TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE APPROVES REQUEST FOR PLAYSTREET BUT SUGGESTS THE LOCATION BE ON 175TH ST. BETWEEN 64TH AND 65TH AVE. 174 ST. HAS TWO BUS LINES Q17 AND THE Q88 WHICH STUDENT USE FOR SCHOOL TRAVEL. IN ADDITION, 175TH IS A ONE-WAY STREET AND HAS NO CONNECTION TO HHE, MAKING IT A LESS CONGESTED VEHICLE ROUTE.**

C. DOT - New Parking meter rates - Increases effective October 16, 2023. Start date for Queens is Oct. 27, 2023.

- 1) Mid Manhattan: 1st hour - \$5.50, 2nd hour - \$9.00; Manhattan So: 1st hour - \$5.00, 2nd hour - \$8.25; 96th St -110th St: 1st hour \$3.00, 2nd hour - \$5.00
- 2) Other Boroughs: business districts: 1st hr - \$2.50, 2nd hr -\$5.00; local retail: 1st hr \$2, 2nd hr- \$3. Other meter locations:1st hr - \$1.50, 2nd hr - \$2.50.

D. Environmental and Land-Use Group presented issues on stadium controversies and special permits in regard to renewing leases, agreements, or existing construction of public stadiums of more than 2500 spectators. Document is available in the CB#8 office.

E. Street Renaming:

1). Multiple locations have been done: Nettie Mayersohn and Michael Simanowitz were approved by this committee and the entire Board. Additional renaming for Marc Haken, Rabbi Simcha Kraus, Barry Commoner (QC Prof), have occurred with no input from CB8. Request coordination between local politicians and CB8 before future changes are made.

CORRESPONDENCE WITH ELECTED OFFICIALS IS REQUESTED IN ORDER THAT CB#8 HAS INPUT BEFORE INSTALLATION.

F. National Grid reports 3ft gas main pipe installation on 191st St from Foothill Ave to Hillside Ave. To be completed by 12/31/2023. **NO CURRENT CONSTRUCTION OR BARRIERS, HOWEVER A LARGE REPAVED PATCH WAS NOTED NEAR FOOTHILL AVE. SUGGESTING THE WORK IS COMPLETE**

G. NYC DOT - Women Cyclist Media Campaign Survey - the goal is to promote cycling as a healthy and accessible mode of transportation. Survey can be found at www.surveymonkey.com/r/O7F6PH9.

H. MTA Queens bus network redesign- The Proposed Final Plan (PFP) is scheduled for publication in December 2023. They would like to present to our committee and /or the full board in January or February 2024. **CORRESPONDENCE WAS SENT TO DOT REQUESTING THE TWO MEETINGS. EFFECTIVE DEC.12, 2023, THE MTA RELEASED THE PROPOSAL FOR A NEW Q73 LINE. THE PROPOSED CHANGES ARE TO Q30, Q31, & Q88 BUS LINES AND WERE PRESENTED IN A 590 PAGE DOCUMENT.**

I. DOT Congestion Pricing- Traffic Mobility Review Board (TMRB) presented an update which is expected to generate \$15B annually

1. Passenger vehicle \$15 no more than once per day when entering the Central Business District (CBD). Motorcycles will be charged half passenger cars.
2. Trucks will be charged \$24 or \$36 depending on type.
3. Rates will apply from 9 am to 9 pm and 5 am to 9 pm weekends. Night time rates should be reduced by 75%.
4. Entrance by tunnel (Queens Midtown, Hugh Carey, Holland, Lincoln) credit \$5 for cars, \$2.50 motorcycles, \$12 for small trucks intercity/charter buses. \$20 for large trucks and tour buses. No discounts after 9 pm. No credit for bridge use.
5. TLC-taxis and limousines are exempt however \$1.25 will be added per taxi ride and \$2.50 for app-based For Hire Vehicles (FHV).
6. Emergency and disability transport vehicles are exempt.
7. Projected benefits: 17% less vehicles, improved air quality, minimal impact on taxi and FHV industry, \$15B transit improvements.
8. This congestion pricing program will be reviewed by the board of the Triborough Bridge and Tunnel Authority (TBTA) on December 6, 2023. Public hearings will be held in February. The vendor who is building the toll system will continue construction. 60% of the construction is complete.
9. Governor Murphy of NJ complains that this program is unfair to all out of state commuters and that it will add significant pollution at bridge and tunnel crossing. He is committed to stopping the program and is prepared to challenge it in court, NYC Mayor Adams complains that the city has no input on use of generated revenues.

J. CB8 Chair requests that all CB8 members notify the office if they see vehicles without license plates. Please provide color, make, model, and location where parked. The Office will compile a list for NYPD to have them removed.

III. RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS REQUESTS

- A. DOT request - additional parking on Francis Lewis Blvd from HHE to 73rd Ave. DENIED. No Standing Anytime signage is necessary for traffic flow on 73rd Ave.
- B. DOT request - installation of speed/red light camera at 188th St and 75th Ave. Request tabled (not denied) as state legislation permits 150 installations annually. NYC has authorized deployment of 750 cameras in school zones/or near schools, an increase from 140. **PLEASE AWARE SPEED ZONES IN FRONT OF SCHOOLS ARE IN EFFECT 24 HOURS/DAY AS WELL AS ON ADJACENT STREETS.**
- C. DOT request - additional speed humps on Park Drive East between Jewel Ave & 72nd Ave. DENIED There are currently 8 speed humps along this stretch of road. The requested section is curvy in nature with no pedestrian destination on the west side.
- D. DOT request - Replacement of Speed hump in front of 197-40 Peck Ave (in front of school). Units will continue to make repairs until it's milled out during a future resurfacing project. **EXISTING SPEED HUMP HAS NOT BEEN REPAIRED**

- E. DOT request - Shared bike lane be moved to sidewalk on 73rd Ave between Francis Lewis Blvd and 199th St. DENIED There are no current plans to make any changes. **THIS COMMITTEE DISAGREES. SHOULD BE REVISITED IN 18 MONTHS.**
- F. DOT request - All-Way stop signs at 69th Ave & 185th St. DENIED. Not eligible until 6/30/24. **REVISIT 6/30/2024**
- G. Follow-up by resident for DOT Update of Two-way conversion to One-way operation on 168th St between HHE and Union Tpk. DOT is asking CB8 for input on this issue. **DENIED BY TRANS COMM. THIS IS A MAIN TWO-WAY THOROUGHFARE FROM JAMAICA TO FLUSHING AND WOULD BE BENEFICIAL TO LOCAL RESIDENTS BUT NOT THE COMMUNITY AT LARGE.**
- H. DOT request - additional traffic control on McLaughlin Ave with Sancho and 85th Rd. DENIED as unnecessary, and will be eligible for reconsideration in May 2026. **AGREE**
- I. DOT request - additional traffic control at the intersection of 171st St and 67th Ave. DENIED as unnecessary. Eligible for reconsideration July, 2025. **STOP SIGN ON 173RD ST. SLOWS TRAFFIC WITHOUT IMPEDING FLOW ON 67TH AVE.**
- J. DOT request - resurface 196th Lane and 67th Ave. **DONE SUMMER 2023.**
- K. DOT request - daylighting at the intersection of 75th Ave & 174th St. **DENIED. INTERSECTION IS CONTROLLED BY ALL-WAY STOP SIGNS.**
- L. DOT request - "Wait for Green Light" signage on 188th St & Avon Rd. DENIED as existing signage is sufficient. **COMMITTEE DISAGREES WITH THIS FINDING. ADDITIONAL SIGNAGE WOULD PREVENT MOTORISTS FROM GOING THROUGH A RED LIGHT WHICH THEY THINK IS BROKEN.**
- M. DOT request - repair road depression on Chevy Chase between Radnor Rd & Midland Pkwy in front of 83-09. APPROVED. **NOT DONE. HARD TO SEE DEPRESSION N/B (BUT YOU DO FEEL IT).**
- N. DOT request- traffic control at Jewel Ave & 169th St. DENIED. Does not meet nationally recognized safety standards. **169TH ST. IS CONTROLLED BY A STOP SIGN. A TRAFFIC LIGHT ON 170TH STREET WOULD IMPROVE PEDESTRIAN SAFETY WHEN CONGREGANTS LEAVE TEMPLE AFTER SERVICES.**
- O. DOT request - traffic control at 168th St and 82nd Rd (near St John's). DENIED. An additional traffic or stop sign will not provide maximum safety benefit. **RECONSIDERATION WHEN ELIGIBLE IN 2024.**
- P. DOT request - additional traffic control on 80th Dr with Kent St & Kildare Rd. DENIED. Does not meet recognized safety standards for installation.
- Q. CB8 - request for installation of bollards in front of St Francis Prep High School located on Francis Lewis Blvd. DOT has determined that it is permitted to install bollards on private property (NOT the sidewalk). For installations on the sidewalk, DOT's Revocable Consent Unit along with NYC Design Commission require consent. **DOT WILL BE ASKED TO PROVIDE DETAILED DIRECTIONS FOR INSTALLATION OF BOLLARDS ON CITY SIDEWALKS NEAR THE CURB. TO INCLUDE VECTOR ANALYSIS BY THE NYPD;**

REVOCAABLE CONSENT APPLICATIONS; REVIEW OF DESIGN BY DOT; PUBLIC HEARINGS; AND FUNDS PROVIDED BY PRIVATE RESOURCES. WHEN THE INFORMATION COMES IN, IT WILL BE FORWARDED TO ALL SCHOOLS AND RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS IN CB8.

IV. NEW REQUESTS

- A. DOT - Additional lighting on 72nd Ave between 147th St & 150th St. All lamp posts should be changed to two-headed. **Individual A DOT LIGHT STUDY IS RECOMMENDED AFTER TREE TRIMMING BY NYC DEPT OF PARKS IS DONE. N/E CORNER OF 147TH ST & 72ND AVE IS UNOBSTRUCTED AND APPEARS ADEQUATELY ILLUMINATED.**
- B. DOT - traffic calming device at the intersection of Chevy Chase St and GCP Service Rd. Difficult to make right turn on to service road during rush hour and during Summit School arrival and dismissal times. **Individual. APPROVED FOR DOT STUDY. STOP SIGN SHOULD BE CHANGED TO TRAFFIC LIGHT.**
- C. DOT - traffic calming device to facilitate left turn onto Hillside Ave when traveling southbound at Dalny Rd, 184th St, Edgerton Blvd, & 178th St. **CB8 Chairman. THESE INTERSECTIONS ARE CONTROLLED BY TRAFFIC LIGHTS AND DELAYED GREEN LIGHTS. DOT SHOULD STUDY EXTENDING THE DELAY IN THE GREEN LIGHTS AND POSTING "DELAYED GREEN " SIGNAGE.**
- D. DOT - traffic lights on 196th Place & 197th St at Union Tpk to facilitate entrance and exit for cars and pedestrians at the entrance to Cunningham Park parking lot. **Individual. TRAFFIC SIGNAL AT THE CORNER OF 197TH ST & UNION TPK IS APPROVED TO FACILITATE PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS AND VEHICLES TURNING. TRAFFIC LIGHT @196TH PL IS DENIED.**
- E. DOT - 15 additional street lights in Briarwood (Individual):
 - 1) Eight on Main St between Manton St & 84th Rd
 - 2) Two on Pershing Crescent between Manton St & Lander St
 - 3) Five on Manton St between 84th Rd & 83rd Ave

PRESIDENT OF BRIARWOOD COMMUNITY ASSOC. PROVIDED SPECIFIC LOCATIONS AND ADDITIONAL LOCATIONS. HE THEN ASKED THAT REQUEST BE TABLED. THE COMMITTEE REVIEWED THE ORIGINAL REQUEST AND DETERMINED THAT ADDITIONAL LIGHTING ON MAIN ST FROM MANTON TO 84TH RD IS NOT WARRANTED WHILE APPROVING DOT LIGHT STUDY AFTER NYC DEPT OF PARKS TRIMS THE TREES ON PERSHING CRESCENT, AND MANTON ST WEST OF ENTRANCE TO VAN WYCK NEAR THE PARK

- F. DOT - "No Overnight Truck Parking or Dumping" signage on east side (along Mt Hebron Cemetery) of Main St between 63rd Ave/Reeves Ave and Gravett Rd. **Individual ALTERNATE SIDE OF THE STREET PARKING SIGNAGE EXISTS (MONDAY 7:00-7:30 AM FOR STREET**

CLEANING). TRUCKS THAT ARE ILLEGALLY PARKED ARE ON THE WEST SIDE OF MAIN ST IN FRONT OF THE CEMETERY. NYPD ENFORCEMENT SHOULD BE REQUESTED.

G. DOT request - One-way conversion of Henley Rd from Mayfield Rd to Ava Pl. Individual.

A petition with a positive response of 75% of affected residents is required. Sample Petition was sent. **HENLEY RD IS A MAIN EAST/WEST THOROUGHFARE AND TURNING IT INTO A ONE-WAY OPERATION FOR SUCH A SHORT DISTANCE WOULD BENEFIT RESIDENTS OF THAT BLOCK ONLY, WHILE INCONVENIENCING MOTORISTS. IN ORDER FOR CONVERSION TO BE CONSIDERED, 75% OF ALL RESIDENTS OF HENLEY RD MUST AGREE TO THE REQUEST.**

H. DOT request - Stop sign midblock on 192nd St between Union Tpke & 75th Ave. **DENIED. DOT DOES NOT INSTALL STOP SIGNS MIDBLOCK.**

Meeting adjourned 9:15 PM