

**TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES JANUARY 22, 2024**

Meeting called to order at 7:30pm.

Attendance: Jesse Rosenbaum, Chair.; Kevin Forrestal; Howard Fried; James Gallagher, Jr. Also present: Lucille Songhai, MTA Queens Bus Redesign; Faith Chojar NYC DOT.; Christy Vanterpool-Germain, DOT NYC; (Two additional members of Redesign did not sign in); Yolanda Gallagher; David Kupferberg, Passengers United; Soleil Griffin- CB8.

- I. **DOT & MTA PRESENTATION OF QUEENS BUS RE-DESIGN. FINAL PLAN PROPOSAL. WINTER, 2024: DETAILED PRESENTATION WAS MADE BY MEMBERS OF QUEENS BUS NETWORK REDESIGN PLANNING GROUP OUTLINING EACH OF THE EXISTING QUEENS BUS SERVICE ROUTES AND PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS.**
  - A. **THE FINAL PROPOSED PLAN IS NOW BEING PRESENTED TO COMMUNITY BOARDS, SCHOOLS, AND RESIDENTS FOR REVIEW, SUGGESTIONS AND MODIFICATIONS ENCOURAGED.**
    1. **A WRITTEN DETAILED LIST OF SUGGESTIONS WAS OFFERED BY LAWRENCE HUGHS, WHO IS A PAST ACTING CHIEF OF OPERATIONS FOR WHAT IS NOW MTA BUS COMPANY, 1988-1998. HIS DOCUMENT WAS FORWARDED TO MTA AND DOT FOR REVIEW.**
  - B. **THE PLAN WILL NOT BE ENACTED UNTIL ALL AFFECTED COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS AND RESIDENTS HAVE HAD AN OPPORTUNITY FOR INPUT.**
  - C. **THE PROPOSED ROUTE FOR A Q73 HAS BEEN ELIMINATED IN RESPONSE NEGATIVE PUBLIC OPINION.**
  - D. **THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE RECOMMENDED AT THE MEETING:**
    1. **MOVE BUS STOP FROM EAST CORNER OF UNION TPKE & UTOPIA PKWY TO THE WEST CORNER. THIS WOULD FACILITATE PATIENTS EXITING VEHICLES TO ENTER REHAB AND TREATMENT CENTERS. IT WILL DISCOURAGE DOUBLE AND TRIPLE PARKING AND CLEAR A BUS THOROFARE. IT ALSO CLEARS A LANE FOR EMERGENCY VEHICLES.**
    2. **MOVE BUS STOP ACROSS FROM QUEENS GENERAL HOSPITAL (ON PARSONS BLVD) TO FACILITATE ENTRANCE AND EXIT FROM COMMON DRIVEWAY FOR RESIDENTS IN ADJOINING BLOCK OF HOUSES (8216 - 8230 PARSONS BLVD), WHILE BUSES ARE PICKING UP AND DISCHARGING PASSENGERS.**
    3. **PROPOSED BUS PLAN CALLS FOR QM6 TO CEASE MAKING STOPS EAST OF 188TH STREET AND UNION TPKE IN ORDER TO**

**DECREASE PASSENGER TRAVEL TIME TO LITTLE NECK. THIS ROUTE IS ALSO COVERED BY THE QM1 AND QM5 WHICH WILL CONTINUE MAKING THOSE STOPS. HOWEVER, SINCE ELIMINATING THE QM6 WILL RESULT IN CROWDING AND LONGER WAIT TIMES, IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT ADDITIONAL BUSES BE ADDED TO THE ROUTE IN ORDER TO DECREASE THE WAITING TIME BETWEEN BUSES.**

**4. REAL-TIME SIGNAGE SHOULD BE INSTALLED WHERE FEASIBLE. PASSENGERS CAN SEE WHEN THE NEXT BUS IS COMING WITHOUT LOGGING INTO MTA TRAVEL SITE BY SMARTPHONE, IN COLD, OR INCLEMENT WEATHER, OR WITH HANDS FULL OF PACKAGES.**

**E. THE QUEENS BUS REDESIGN PLAN IS AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW IN THE CB8 OFFICE.**

Meeting adjourned at 9:00pm.