

**TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES: OCTOBER 3, 2022**

Meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m.

**Attendance** Chair Jesse Rosenbaum, Allen Eisenstein, Kevin Forrestal, James Gallagher, Jr.  
**Also in attendance:** CB8 Staff Jatnna Reyes and Yolanda Gallagher (resident).

I. **CORRESPONDENCE**

A. MTA – effective Sept. 7, 2022, masks are no longer required on subways, busses, and commuter railroads, although mask use is recommended and distributed free-of-charge at subway stations.

B. MTA- announces Universal Subway Wireless Connectivity Plan. Expected cost is \$1billion and will connect all cars. Work on project is scheduled to start immediately and will take approx. 10 years. Riders will be able to use new service as each section is completed. **WORK ON THIS PROJECT HAS STARTED.**

C. MTA- Interboro Express (IBX) – new transportation route will run along unused rail track and connect Brooklyn to Queens – 14-mile rail line from Bayridge to Jackson Heights. Second virtual meeting was held on Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup>.

D. MTA – Network redesign Queens Bus lines – Public hearings were held throughout the summer in multiple locations to get ridership feedback before final plan is drafted (expected in 2023).

1. MTA has promised to address Community Board before enacting any plans.

E. MTA – Proposed Q73 bus route to go from Forest Hills to Queensborough Community College along 73<sup>rd</sup> Ave. Residential feedback has been overwhelmingly in opposition to this proposal for the following reasons: Increased traffic congestion; one-lane road; reduced parking; change the character of the neighborhoods; decrease property value along route; increase noise and air pollution; random people roaming around and the issues and problems they bring; increased litter; un-needed additional bus route.

F. MTA- Announces new leadership appointments: Jaqueline Halldow as Chief of Staff, Brittany Montgomery, and Jake Luce as Senior Advisors for Special Project Initiatives.

G. NYS DOT – announces the development of the State’s National Electronic Vehicle Infrastructure Plan (NEVI). Federally funded and will receive \$75million in funds over 5 years. The initial emphasis of the program is on installing publicly available direct current, fast-charging stations for passenger EV at intervals of no more than 50 miles apart.

H. MTA- installation of security cameras in every subway car. MTA has received \$2million thru the Urban Area Security Initiative Federal Grant program for this purpose.

I. MTA – has announced major accessibility improvement at Queensborough Plaza station.

J. MTA – in favor of Congestion Pricing. They state it is good for the environment, public transit, income will be invested in public transit, and there is no adverse effect on regional air quality, transportation or parking. Congestion Pricing is expected to decrease vehicle traffic by 20%. This will increase reliability of bus service due to decrease in traffic and increase in transit ridership. **FINAL DETERMINATION OF COST TO PUBLIC HAS NOT BEEN ESTABLISHED YET.**

K. DOT – Resurfacing schedule July to end of December 2022 is available in CB8 office. (**SEE ATTACHED SCHEDULE**)

L. DOT – private trucks parking overnight on residential streets – This is an issue in multiple locations in our district. Deputy Inspector Chan of the 107<sup>th</sup> PCT has announced the opening of a holding area for illegally parked and towed vehicles in Cambria Heights. Multiple citations have been issued and more than 50 vehicles have been impounded. (**SEE INSERT ATTACHED FROM LAST CB8 MINUTES**)

M. DOT – Improvement to Homelawn St at the GCP – Project will extend NE and SE corners of the intersection, greatly reducing the crossing distance of pedestrians. In addition, a concrete median tip will be constructed on the south leg of the intersection to provide safe refuge. There will be no removal of parking spaces or travel lanes. **WORK ON THIS PROJECT HAS NOT STARTED YET.**

N. DOT – Carshare – A fleet of hourly-rental vehicles will be made available from Enterprise Carshare, Zipcar, Get-Around, and Truquit. Two hundred and thirty on-street parking spots and 55 Municipal parking facilities have been established. Two-year pilot program average 24 trips per space, per month.

1. Site location for CB8 is at 87<sup>th</sup> Road from 144<sup>th</sup> Street to 148<sup>th</sup> Street on the north side in front of 87-29 144<sup>th</sup> Street.

## **II. RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS REQUESTS**

A. DOT request for – additional traffic controls at Daniels St. and Coolidge Ave. 3/25/22. Has been DENIED as they do not meet nationally recognized standards. **APPROVED**

B. MTA request – to alter Q24/54 Bus stop in front of 82-30 Parsons Blvd. Reconsideration after CB8 May letter has resulted in DENIAL. Unable to comply due to lack of pavement at location and obstruction due to pavement tree. In order to consider moving the stop, the sidewalk would need to be resurfaced, removal of grass strip, and trim tree. All are non-MTA expenses. **NO TREE PRUNING WAS NOTED AT THIS TIME, BUS PAD INSTALLATION AND FILLING GRASSY AREAS NEAR SIDEWALK ARE RECOMMENDED AND SHOULD BE UNDERTAKEN BY THE APPROPRIATE AGENCY.**

C. DOT – operation of traffic signals along [73<sup>rd</sup> Avenue] between 199<sup>th</sup> St. and Francis Lewis Blvd. 5/12/22. DOT is investigating timing changes at this location to improve traffic flow. **NOT DONE YET. TRAFFIC BACKED UP 5 OR 6 BLOCKS WITH A 20 MINUTE DELAY DURING RUSH HOUR.**

D. NYPD – response to request for enforcement at school arrival and dismissal times at 73<sup>rd</sup> Ave. and 168<sup>th</sup> St. Fifteen summonses were issued. They will continue to monitor this location.

E. DOT – intersection of 76<sup>th</sup> Ave. & Main St. – raised crosswalks to be installed here. This is similar to a speed hump with a flat top for crossing pedestrians. This new treatment to be installed near schools, parks, and senior centers. **NOT DONE YET**

F. DOT – traffic signal has been installed at 186<sup>th</sup> St and 75<sup>th</sup> Ave.

G. Response from LINKNYC Kiosk-QN CB8 –inquiry in regard to limitation of Kiosk use. These installations have been ongoing for the last several years with no complaints of overuse by single individuals at any locations.

H. DOT – request for three-way stop sign at 180<sup>th</sup> St & 69<sup>th</sup> Ave. Request presented multiple times by an individual to DOT has been DENIED as it does not meet criteria.

## **III. REQUESTS MADE BY MARIE ADAM-OVIDE. CB8 ON BEHALF OF CONSTITUENTS**

A. DOT - Request establishing a process for updates on the progress of previous DOT requests.

B. DOT – request for reconsideration of traffic signal at 76<sup>th</sup> Ave & 147<sup>th</sup> St. **APPROVED**

- C. DOT – Request NO PARKING signs at MS216 (64-20 175<sup>th</sup> St). (This should be teacher parking only). **APPROVED**
- D. DOT – 73<sup>rd</sup> Ave Shared Bike Lane between Francis Lewis Blvd & 199<sup>th</sup> St – this committee requested study to install narrow green bike lane on the sidewalk under the Vanderbilt Motor Pkwy instead of a shared bike lane. **APPROVED**

#### IV. NEW REQUESTS

- A. DOT request – stop sign at 185<sup>th</sup> St & 69<sup>th</sup> Ave. (Individual.) **APPROVED**
- B. MTA request – that the bus stop at 188<sup>th</sup> St South of Midland Pkwy (83-10 188<sup>th</sup> St) not be removed. (Individual) **APPROVED**
- C. DOT request – NO STANDING signs in front of day care (Shalom pre-school, 71-12 Main St.), to facilitate pick up and drop off. DENIED as there are two fire hydrants at that location. 10/08/19. A new request has been presented by the school Director who has agreed to install bollards at this location to prevent vehicles from mounting the sidewalk. **APPROVED. IT WAS NOTED THAT AN EMERGENCY VEHICLE WAS UNABLE TO PASS WHILE BUS DISCHARGED STUDENTS. AS AGREED, THE SCHOOL SHOULD INSTALL BOLLARDS AT THEIR EXPENSE TO IMPROVE STUDENT SAFETY.**
- D. DOT request – repave 187<sup>th</sup> St. between 73<sup>rd</sup> Ave. & Union Tpk. (Member Trans Comm.) **APPROVED**
- E. DOT request – reconstruct 188<sup>th</sup> St. from 73<sup>rd</sup> Ave. to Union Tpk. due to sinkholes and wavy roadway. (Member CB8) **APPROVED FOR DOT AND DEP STUDY TO INVESTIGATE PROPER AGENCY FOR THIS REPAIR.**
- F. DOT request – resurface Landers St. between Pershing Crescent & Hoover Ave. (Member CB8.) **CHECK WITH DOT FOR REPAVING SCHEDULE AT THIS LOCATION. REPAIR IS RECOMMENDED IF REPAVING SCHEDULE AT THIS LOCATION IS MORE THAN A YEAR AWAY.**
- G. DOT request – traffic control device 193<sup>rd</sup> St. & 73<sup>rd</sup> Ave. (Individual.) **APPROVED FOR DOT TRAFFIC STUDY.**
- H. DOT request – NO STANDING Zone in front of Academy of Excellence, 178-36 Wexford Terrace. To facilitate drop off and pick up of children at the school. (Chairman, Camelot Safety Advisory Committee.) **APPROVED FOR DOT STUDY. THIS TREATMENT IS RECOMMENDED SINCE WEXFORD TERRACE IS A NARROW ROADWAY AND TRAFFIC BACKS UP WHILE BUSES AND PARENTS DISCHARGE STUDENTS.**
- I. DOT request – repair or replace sidewalk and curb, East side of 185<sup>th</sup> St (400ft.) from 64<sup>th</sup> Ave. to 67<sup>th</sup> Ave. Requested since 1983. (Member Trans. Comm.) **THIS PROJECT IS TOO LARGE FOR DOT. IT SHOULD BE ADDED TO THE NEXT CAPITAL BUDGET.**
- J. DOT request – repair or replace sidewalk and curb on the East side of Peck Ave. & 199<sup>th</sup> St. (Member Trans. Comm.) **APPROVED. IF PROJECT IS TOO LARGE FOR DOT, IT SHOULD BE ADDED TO THE NEXT CAPITAL BUDGET.**
- K. DOT request – repair or replace sidewalk and curb next to Brinckerhoff Colonial Cemetery (NYC Landmark since 2012), on the East side of 182<sup>nd</sup> St. (120ft) from 69<sup>th</sup> Ave. to 73<sup>rd</sup> Ave. (Member Trans. Comm.) **APPROVED. IF PROJECT IS TOO LARGE FOR DOT, IT SHOULD BE ADDED TO THE NEXT CAPITAL BUDGET.**
- L. DOT request – NO PARKING M-F, 8 AM – 5PM on the east side of Parsons Blvd., North of Jewel Ave to facilitate school busses dropping students at JIB Lanes. (Deputy Inspector Chan, and Carolann Foley, Pres. 107<sup>th</sup> Pct. Community Council) **APPROVED.**

**Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.**