

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES: THURS., SEPTEMBER 14, 2017

Meeting called to order: 7:30 PM

Attendance: Jesse Rosenbaum-Chair, Susan Cleary, Allen Eisenstein, Kevin Forrestal, Tami Hirsch, Bright Dae-Jung Limm, Seymour Schwartz, James Gallagher, Marie Adam-Ovide District Manager, Eileen Botti NYC-DOT, Shawn Macias NYC-DOT, Albert Silvestri NYC-DOT, also present Mike Sidell

I. Presentation NYCDOT Bicycle and Greenway Program

A. Responsible for building on-street bike network and increase bike safety

1. 450,000 bike trips daily in 2016 an 80% usage increase since 2010. A 59% increase in Queens.
2. Street redesigns to improve safety for cyclists, pedestrians, drivers, and bus riders, standard width lanes reduce speeding, dedicated bike lanes increases predictability of driver, motorist and pedestrian actions.
3. Upgraded crosswalks improve visibility.
4. DOT outreach in September with programs for Councilman Lancman, Queens College and St John's University (SJU) to discuss street safety and give away bells and lights for bikes.
5. Project proposal: to fill gaps in present network, add extension to access parks and other destinations (Queens College and SJU), better access to Jamaica. Improve access to subway system.
6. CB#8 safety one (1) cyclist was killed when motorist opened car door and 15 cyclists severely injured from 2010-2014.
7. Proposed routes: Parsons Blvd. extension, east west connections, shared lane upgrades and connections to Queens College and SJU.
8. Bike lanes organize the roadway, calm traffic, provide dedicated space for bicyclists with no loss of parking or travel lane removal.
9. Locations: Parsons Blvd, 65th Ave, to GCP SR, 77th Rd, and 77th Ave. on Coolidge and Hoover Aves. 135th St., 150th St. and 65th Ave., 172nd and 173rd St., Parsons Blvd. and 77th Rd.
10. Pending: Design review 73rd Ave. and Parsons Blvd. to improve turning and traffic flow during rush hour.

11. Bike route information will be available on printed map, apps and posted signs at designated decision making points.
12. Transportation Committee is authorizing a letter to be drafted in support of the NYC DOT bike safety program. Committee is in favor of new and remarking street lines, education of riders and motorists and enforcement of bicyclists violating traffic regulations.

II. CORRESPONDENCE

- A. DOT- List of open overdue DOT requests by date from 2015 to 2017 is available for review in the CB#8 office.
- B. NYC DOT has recently updated its “Highway Rules” including requirements for final restoration of city streets. See outline of process below, implementation requires about one week.
 1. Temporary paving.
 2. Saw cut temporary paving, excavate to require DOT depth with clean edges.
 3. Backfill material added and pours a concrete base course that cures for 72 hours.
 4. Paving contractor installs the final paving/asphalt.
- C. NYC DOT- Public Project Scoping Meeting: to discuss improved capacity and access to Kennedy Airport via the Van Wyck Expwy. Wednesday, September 27, 2017 4:30-7:30 p.m.
 1. The Harvest Room Greater Jamaica Development Corp. 90-40 160th Street.
- D. NYS DOT -Travel Advisory: traffic pattern change on LIE from Grand Central Parkway to Junction Blvd. June 26, 2017 - January 18, 2018 to provide westbound operational improvements.
- E. DOT-Utopia Homeowners Civic Assoc. request a public bike planning workshop for locations east of 164th Street to discuss complementary network of bike lanes and safety improvements.
NYCDOT SUGGESTS DIRECT CONTACT TO SCHEDULE A BIKE WORKSHOP TRY EILEEN BOTTI AT 212-839-7239.
- F. Councilman Lancman has requested a DOT traffic study from Utopia Parkway to 188th Street to discuss traffic issues as a result of proposed construction at 179-24 Union Turnpike.
DISCUSSION ENSUED QUESTIONING THE FEASIBILITY OF UNDERTAKING TRAFFIC STUDY BEFORE CONSTRUCTION IS COMPLETE. IT WAS STATED THAT THE SCOPE OF THIS PROJECT MAY CHANGE AS IS RUMORED THAT THE PROPERTY MAY BE FOR SALE.
- G. DOT is drawing new parking lines in Fresh Meadows; markings indicate where cars may start to park and provide an offset from the corner providing motorists an expanded and safer view of approaching traffic. **NYPD ENFORCEMENT IS RECOMMENDED FOR MOTORISTS WHO PARK OUTSIDE THE DESIGNATED PARKING LANE MARKINGS.**
- H. DOT- joint letter from US Congresswoman Grace Meng, NY State Senator Toby Stavisky, NYS Assemblywoman Nily Rozic, and NYC Councilman Rory Lancman on behalf of owners of a new daycare center at 172-03 67th Ave: requesting traffic study and installation of calming devices along 67th Avenue from 164th St. to Utopia Pkwy to facilitate pick up and drop off children. The school is building an 11 car capacity vehicle thoroughfare with entrance on 67th Ave. and exit on 172nd St. **STOP SIGNS ARE RECOMMENDED AT THE CORNERS OF 172ND AND 173RD ST. AS WELL AS “SLOW SCHOOL ZONE” SIGNAGE TO IMPROVE STUDENT CROSSING SAFETY.**
- I. NYS DOT has just published the 2016 NYC Bridge and Tunnel Annual Condition report.
 1. The report can be accessed at www.nyc.gov/html/infrastructure/annualbridgereport.shtml

- J. NYS DOT- Letter from NYC Councilman Barry Grodenchik is requesting a traffic study on the GCP in both directions from Main Street to Nassau County border to review short parkway entrances and traffic merges. He believes current road configuration patterns have resulted in numerous accidents and feels that higher guard rails, Jersey Barriers and rumble strips could mitigate these safety issues.
1. NYPD- Correspondence from Councilmen Barry Grodenchik and Rory Lancman as well as Assemblymen David Weprin and Edward Braunstein: they are requesting enforcement along this road portion for distracted, aggressive and drunken drivers.
- K. NYC - Letter from NYC Councilman Barry Grodenchik to resident indicating that his office has reported a speeding condition to DOT along 75th Ave. from 193-199th St. tracking #DOT-344018-P9D9 has been assigned. (See IV-N) **NYPD ENFORCEMENT IS RECOMMENDED**
- L. DOT- Petition by 57 residents of Briarwood objecting to speed humps in their area instead they are requesting “All-Way stop signs and “No Thru Traffic” signage be posted at the locations listed below. Correspondence indicated that the 57 signatures represent 93.4% of the available residents. Response to post card inquiry by CB#8 indicates no support for “speed humps” for designated location in this area. (*SEE III.O*)
1. Stop signs: Coolidge Ave & (141 St, 82nd Ave., 138th St., 135th St.)-82nd Ave at 138th and 135th St.-82nd Dr. at 141st St. and Hoover Ave at 135th and 138th Streets. **“ALL WAY” STOP SIGNS APPROVED FOR COOLIDGE AVE. AND 138TH STREET, IT IS FURTHER RECOMMENDED THAT SIGN “STOP SIGN AHEAD” BE RAISED ON THE GROUND POLE TO IMPROVE MOTORIST VISIBILITY AND STREET MARKINGS BE PAINTED THAT READ “STOP SIGN AHEAD”.**
 2. “No Through Commercial Traffic” signs at the entrance to Coolidge Ave. & Main St., 82nd Dr. and Main St., 141st St. at GCP Service Rd., Hoover Ave. & 134th St. and 135th St. & Union Turnpike. **DENIED AS UNNECESSARY, NYC TRAFFIC REGULATION PROHIBITS COMMERCIAL VEHICLES FROM DRIVING ON RESIDENTIAL STREETS WITH THE EXCEPTION OF VEHICLES MAKING DELIVERIES.**

III. RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS REQUESTS

- A. DOT Request: additional traffic control at the intersection of Croydon Rd. & Edgerton Blvd. (5/31/16) DENIED as does not meet criteria **AGREE**
- B. DOT Request: installation of curbs and sidewalk along Utopia Pkwy between 73rd Ave & LIE (11/4/16) Tracking code 408201720C. DENIED as inspectors found all curbs & sidewalks in good condition. **SOME CURBS FROM 68TH AVE. TO 69TH AVE. NEED TO BE REPLACED AND SHOULD BE EVALUATED BY DOT.**
- C. DOT Request: “WAIT FOR GREEN LIGHT” signage southbound service road of GCP & Parsons Blvd for northbound traffic. (1/9/17) APPROVED for installation by 10/31/17. **DONE**
- D. DOT Request: resurfacing 186th between 75th & 73rd Ave. (3/6/17). APPROVED, but beyond the scope of in-house DOT repairs. Job will be deferred for future project. **RECOMMENDED TO BE INCLUDED IN THE NEXT CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT BUDGET.**
- E. DOT Request: refurbishing pavement markings at the intersections of 164th St. from Goethals to Hillside Aves. APPROVED, to be included in upcoming thermoplastic marking contract.
- F. DOT Request: resurfacing Union Tpke. from Utopia Pkwy. to 188th St. (6/15/17). Scheduled for resurfacing, Fiscal Year 2020.
1. Mark Lefkof & Martha Taylor asked for reconsideration to move up the date.

REPAIR OF PAVEMENT AT THIS LOCATION SHOULD BE REQUESTED BY THE DISTRICT MANAGER.

- G. DOT Request: speed hump on 75th Ave between Kissena Blvd & 150th St (6/15/17). Postcard survey results:
1. 75th Ave between 153rd St. & Kissena Blvd. – 200 postcards sent: 14 in favor. **DENIED**, inadequate support.
 2. 75th Ave between 150th & 153rd Streets – 150 postcards sent: 6 in favor. **DENIED**, inadequate support.
- H. NYC Sanitation- request for alternate side street cleaning west side 188th St. between Hillside Ave. & Henley Rd. **APPROVED** for Mondays 10:30AM -12:00PM. **NOT DONE**
- I. DOT Request: left-turn signal at the intersection of Kissena Blvd. & Aguilar Ave. **DENIED**, current signal timings are adequate and additional green time allocated to left turn would reduce efficiency.
- J. DOT Request: speed humps along 64th Ave. All **DENIED** because of inadequate community response. Result of survey:
1. between 181st & 182nd St - 16 postcards sent: 4 in favor, 2 against
 2. between 182nd & 183rd St - 11 postcards sent: 1 in favor, 9 against
 3. between 184th & 185th St - 10 postcards sent: 0 in favor, 2 against
- K. DOT Request: adjust timing 72nd Ave & Main St. tracking #DOT-343002-BOR5. Timing should be set similar to that of 73rd Ave & Main St. **DENIED-NYPD ENFORCEMENT IS REQUESTED FOR MOTORISTS CROSSING FROM SERVICE ROAD TO MAIN ROAD. DOT SHOULD STUDY THE POSSIBILITY OF PERMITTING MOTORISTS TO CROSS FROM SERVICE ROAD TO MAIN ROAD AND ADJUST TIMING OF TRAFFIC LIGHT IF IT IS APPROVED.**
- L. DOT Request: Eastbound GCP off-ramp Clearview Expwy. Repaving has been completed. **COMPLETE EXCEPT OVER BRIDGES WHICH ARE REINFORCED CONCRETE AND FREEZE BEFORE PAVED SURFACES.**
- M. DOT Request: Repair of hole at sewer, southwest corner of Chevy Chase St. & Union Tpke. Tracking #DOT-34903-L5Q4. **NOT DONE. THERE IS A SINK HOLE WITH AN UPSIDE DOWN TRAFFIC CONE IN THE HOLE AT THE CATCH BASIN AND THE STEEL TOP OF THE BASIN IS EXPOSED.**
- N. DOT Request: Repair of Ponding condition at 189th St. & 81st Ave. DOT and DEP conducted a joint inspection and will do a further study to determine if this location warrants a catch basin installation.
1. Marie Adam-Ovide has requested a time frame from DEP for conducting this study **REPAVING THE STREET WITH A PITCH AWAY FROM THE CURB SHOULD BE CONSIDERED.**
- O. DOT approved: Speed hump installation on Coolidge Ave between 138th St & 82nd Ave, and between 82nd Ave. & 141st St. meet criteria. (SEE II.L) **DENIED**
- P. DOT Request: temporary suspension of alternate side street parking on Park Drive East from Jewel Ave. to Van Wyck Expwy entrance while Jewel Ave. Bridge is being repaired. Residents are losing parking spaces to construction equipment. This request has been APPROVED by Dept. Sanitation from August 15 - October 1, 2017. **SIGNAGE HAS NOT BEEN REMOVED**

BUT ALTERNATE SIDE PARKING STREET REGULATIONS ARE NOT BEING ENFORCED UNTIL OCT. 1, 2017

IV. REQUESTS BY MARIE ADAM-OVIDE, CB8 DISTRICT MANAGER, ON BEHALF OF CONSTITUENTS

- A. DOT Request: speed hump on 73rd Ave. between 177th & 178th St. Not necessary as there is a stop sign on the corner of 179th St. **AGREE**
- B. DOT Request: speed hump on Park Dr. East & Jewel Ave. – DENIED due to inadequate community support. DOT study for (Reduce speed) and (No Dumping) signage are requested. **NOT DONE**
- C. NYS DOT Request: time frame to implement widening of Clearview Expwy southbound Exit #2 ramp to accommodate left and right turn lanes. This request was approved by Trans. Comm. 7/17/14 and approved by NYS DOT 6/1/16. The project is scheduled to start summer 2018, and last 14-16 months.
- D. DOT Request: resurfacing Parsons Blvd. from Hillside Ave. to LIE. Falls under construction project QED1001. CB8 notified, project complete 7/28/17. Re-evaluation for resurfacing requested. **DONE**
- E. DOT Request: Traffic study for All-way Stop Signs 152nd and 153rd St & 77th Rd. numerous accidents have occurred at this location, substantiated by 107th PCT. **APPROVED**

V. NEW REQUESTS

- A. NYPD request: enforcement of Stop sign at 77th Ave & Park Dr East. Member Trans. Comm. **APPROVED**
- B. DOT Request: Repair of intersection 72nd Ave. & Main St. Wavy condition (Hummock) in service road on west side of street, catch basin is sinking. Member Trans. Comm. **APPROVED**
- C. DOT Request: (President Jamaica Estates Assoc.)
 - 1. All-Way Stop Sign at Chevy Chase St. & 80th Dr.
 - 2. All-Way Stop Sign at Chevy Chase St. & 80th Rd.Traffic accident reports by NYPD 2015-3, 2016-2, 2017-2 **APPROVED FOR STOP SIGNS AND NYPD ENFORCEMENT.**
- D. DOT Request: All-Way Stop Sign at 77th Rd. & 160th St. Individual. **DENIED UNTIL REPORT OF 3 SERIOUS ACCIDENTS SINCE JUNE 2017 ARE CONFIRMED.**
- E. DOT Request: Daylighting 190th St. on SW corner Union Tpke. Individual **APPROVED**
- F. DOT Request: Stop Signs on 193rd St. from Avon Rd. to Union Turnpike. Accompanied by petition with signatures from 17 affected residences. **APPROVED SUGGEST “ALL-WAY STOP SIGN” AT 81ST AVE AT ENTRANCE TO PARK, ONE ON ABERDEEN RD. AT ENTRANCE TO PLAYGROUND AND ONE AT RADNOR RD. AT ENTRANCE TO DOG RUN. PEDESTRIAN CROSS STREET MARKINGS SHOULD BE PAINTED TO IMPROVE PEDESTRIAN SAFETY.**
- G. DOT Request: traffic-calming devices on 182nd St. from 73rd Ave. to LIE. Cars speeding down 182nd St. to entrance of LIE. Member Trans Comm. **NYPD ENFORCEMENT IS RECOMMENDED.**
- H. DOT Request: remove “Left Turn Only” pavement marking in the middle lane of McLaughlin Ave. Westbound at 188th St. to permit right turn from both lanes. (Holliswood Civic Assoc.) **APPROVED FOR DOT STUDY**
- I. DOT Request: Repair of wavy road condition on Jewel Ave. and Main St. Individual **APPROVED**
- J. DOT Request: New curbs in all of West Cunningham Park section. Most are original from 1939. Individual

1. Also re-pave all streets in this area that have not been done in the last 5 years

DENIED. REQUEST IS TOO GENERAL. SPECIFIC LOCATIONS NEED TO BE IDENTIFIED

K. DOT Request: Re-paint crossing lines at the southern end of 170th St. where it meets Goethals Ave. outside SJU Gate #6. Member Trans Comm. **APPROVED**

L. DOT Request: Daylighting on SW corner of Goethals Ave @166th St. Member Trans Comm. **APPROVED**

M. DOT Request Countdown timers at traffic lights at the intersection of 188th St. and McLaughlin Ave. DOT should replace flashing hand count down timers with numerical count down timers.

APPROVED

N. DOT request additional street lights in Jamaica Estates specific list to be attached- Area 7 CB#8 (Member Transportation Comm.)

1. Dumfries Pl. between 80th Dr. and Kildare Rd.
2. Eastern corner of Radnor Rd. and Chevy Chase St.
3. Eastern corner of Avon Rd, and Chevy Chase St.
4. Avon Rd. between Chevy Chase St. and west service Rd. of GCP
5. East side of Midland Pkwy. Between Surrey Pl. and west service Rd. of GCP
6. Radnor St. between eastern service Rd. of GCP and Henley Rd.
7. Corner of Avon St. between eastern service Rd. of GCP.
8. Wicklow St. from 188th St. to eastern service Rd. of GCP.
9. Henley Rd. between Avon St. and Radnor Rd.
10. Radnor St. south and north corners of Henley Rd.
11. Corner of Mayfield Rd. between Kingston Pl. and Aspen Pl.
12. Charlecote Ridge between Croydon Rd. and Henley Rd.
13. Chelsea St. between Barrington St. and Somerset St.
14. Somerset St. between Henley Rd. and Cambridge Rd.

The following street/locations still have “old” lights that were never replaced. This is a complaint as they were supposed to be replaced and must be done ASAP.

15. 80th Rd. between 188th St. and Utopia Pkwy.
16. Tryon Pl. between Aberdeen Rd. and Kildare Rd.
17. In front of 182-05 Henley Rd.
18. On Dalny Rd. north of Wexford Terrace.
19. At Chelsea St. and 87th Rd.
20. At 87th Rd. east of Chelsea St.

APPROVED FOR DOT STUDY.

O. NYPD-Request enforcement for motorists running Stop Signs 179th St. on 75th Ave. as well as 193rd St. on 75th Ave. (individual) **APPROVED**