

COMMUNITY BOARD # 3
655 Rossville Avenue
Staten Island, N.Y. 10309
Traffic & Transportation Committee Minutes

May 6, 2015

Committee Members Present

Frank Morano, *Chairman Of the Board*
Frank Contrera, *Chairman of Committee*
Robert DiGennaro
George Fehling
Celia Iervasi
Vincent Molino
Frank P. Morano
James Pistilli
Owen Reiter
John Shultz Sr.
Gil Tal
Danny Venuto

Committee Members Absent

John Felicetti

Staff

Charlene Wagner, *District Manager*
Stacey Wertheim, *Community Coordinator*

Board Members Present

Dennis McKeon

Guests:

PO Zinnanti, 123rd Precinct Community Affairs
Robert DeBiase, representing Transportation Alternatives
Kiawana Rich, Staten Island Advance
Pat Agnese, resident
Marilyn Curcio, resident
Frank Esposito, resident
R. Kurziow, are resident
Mary Recor, area resident

PUBLIC CONTACT SESSION

Transportation Alternatives

Robert DeBiase: Is Right Hand Turn on Red Right for Staten Island?

- Staten Island's intersections have become increasingly dangerous for pedestrians to cross or bicycles to ride through even without right on red.
- Engineering is about making trade-offs. The trade space here is automobile traffic, pedestrian traffic, bicycle traffic and cost. Right turn on red is cheap to implement but facilitates automobile movement at the expense of pedestrian and bicycle movement.
- An alternative of right turn on red is the "ever green" which when producing a sufficiently large right turn island, large enough to hold multiple bicycles and pedestrians safely, can facilitate automobile movement while at the same time facilitating bicycle and pedestrian movement. The "ever green" is more expensive than right turn on red.

Loredo Avenue

Area residents

- Area residents complained about the owner of 177 Laredo Avenue. He is operating Island Driving School from his house. Numerous driving school cars with visible business lettering are being stored and mechanical repairs and maintenance are being done on Laredo Avenue which is a residential street. Area residents have no place to park their cars because the Island Driving School cars are being stored on Loredo Avenue with a few cars now being parked on Katan Avenue and Figurea Avenue.

Intersection of Arthur Kill Road and Getz Avenue

Area Resident

- Right turn on red sign has been removed at the intersection of Arthur Kill Road and Getz Avenue eastbound lane.
- Area resident requests lane markings.

Sharrotts Avenue and Englewood Avenue Overpass

Area resident

- Commercial vehicles are parking on the overpass of Sharrotts Avenue between Veterans Road East and West. Some of these vehicles appear to be permanently parked for the purpose of advertising their business.
- Commercial vehicles are parking on the overpass of Englewood Avenue between Veterans Road East and West. Some of these vehicles appear to be permanently parked for the purpose of advertising their business.
- *Committee will request from Department of Traffic and Transportation (DOT) time restricted parking to prevent vehicles from being parked indefinitely, or complete "No Parking" on the Sharrotts Avenue and Englewood Avenue overpasses.*

Bloomngdale Park

Area resident

- Lenavar Avenue and Ramona Avenue - numerous complaints regarding speeding and double parking.
- *Committee has referred this complaint to the NYPD 123pct for enforcement.*

Where to Turn

Dennis McKeon, Executive Director

The City Council's citywide Cleanup Initiative, co-sponsored by Councilman Vincent Ignizio and Councilman Steven Matteo, allocated money to the organization Where to Turn for cleaning services. The new funds will help Where to Turn keep regular maintenance schedules for the districts at manageable levels, finance the hiring of clean teams, and supplement snow removal operations for the group. The grant will also help the organization purchase a lawn mower, gas-powered weed whackers, a truck and other equipment.

- Support from the NYPD 123pct is being requested for an Arthur Kill Road cleanup, from Sharrotts Road to Industrial Loop. Due to the lack of sidewalks and narrow street, Arthur Kill Road will need to be blocked in the early morning hours on a Sunday morning for approximately (3) hours.
- *Committee has referred this request to the NYPD 123pct.*

Introduction to New Legislation

New York State Assemblyman Joseph Borelli

Right-Turn-On Red Lights

- Introduced legislation calling on the city to make right-on-red the default rule unless otherwise posted.
- The bill would cover right-turn-on-red only for Staten Island.
- The bill is coming up for a vote in the Assembly's Traffic and Transportation Committee

Motor Vehicle Inspection Law

- Allows for inspections once every two years instead of the state's annual inspection requirement.

Commuter Benefits Program

- Employers would be able to offer their employees a pre-tax credit each month to spend on tolls paid while driving to and from work.

MOTION: by **Vincent Molino** *“to send a letter of support to the State Assembly Chairman of Traffic and Transportation Committee for Right Turns on Red as per Assemblyman Joseph Borelli's legislation.”*

SECOND: **Owen Reiter**

VOTE: **12-0-0**

MOTION: **PASSED**

New Business

New York State Assemblyman Joseph Borelli - future project in conjunction with New York City Councilman Vincent Ignizio and the Port Authority of NY and NJ. A new turning bay under the Outerbridge, between North Bridge Street and South Bridge Street on Arthur Kill Road to form a continuous loop to regulate the flow of traffic to Page Avenue.

Community Complaint 56610 – Grantwood Avenue at Stafford Avenue

Resident requests a study for addition of a stop sign on Grantwood Avenue to make this an “all way stop”. Motorists often do not stop at the existing “stop” on Stafford Avenue.

Committee will request new lane markings from the Department of Transportation (DOT)

80 Winant Place - Apple Towing Company is parking cars on Winant Place without license plates.

Committee will refer this complaint to Department of Transportation (DOT).

Old Business

None

Respectfully submitted,

Frank Contrera

Frank Contrera, Chair