

Donovan Richards Queens Borough President

Community Board No. 2

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February 6, 2024 Transportation Committee Meeting Minutes

Transportation Committee Members – Present

Thomas Mituzas, Anatole Ashraf (PV), Morry Galonoy, Rosamond Gianutsos, Reilly Owens, Oumaya Saab, Laura Shepard

Transportation Committee Members – Absent

Community Board 2 Staff

Debra Markell Kleinert, District Manager, MaryAnn Gurrado

Public Members

Patricia Pan, Seth Slade

MTA NYCT

Evan Bialostozky, Audrey Prigov, Schayne Fox, Meagan Molina

Public Comment

Beverly Brown

Public Comments - Comments by Community Members (1 Minute) up to ten minutes

Beverly Brown requested a letter of support for a Hunters Point-Midtown Tunnel Bus Connection.

UPDATE BY 108TH POLICE PRECINCT ON TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT ISSUES

- Discussion on license plates of motorized vehicles missing and /or illegally presented.
- Discussion of illegal sidewalk parking.

No Report

PRESENTATION BY MTA ON THE QUEENS BUS NETWORK REDESIGN PROPOSED FINAL PLAN

"Serving the Communities of Long Island City, Sunnyside, Woodside, and Maspeth"

Evan Bialostozky introduced his colleagues and presented a power point presentation (copy attached).

Route Profiles and Queens Redesign Project Timeline was presented.

Questions were entertained.

Tom Mituzas made a motion, and it was seconded by Laura Shepard to find an alternative bus service route to go through the Midtown Tunnel and to specify that it stops at Hunters Point. All were in favor of the motion with none opposed and no abstention.

Laura Shepard made a motion and it was seconded by Reilly Owens to support a dedicated bus lane on the priority corridors designed by the MTA and DOT within CB 2 which include Queens Boulevard, Northern Boulevard, Queens Boulevard, the Long Island Expressway including the Queens Midtown tunnel and dedicated bus lane on Queens Boro Bridge.

All were in favor of the motion with none opposed an no abstentions.

Joseph Patti, Department of Transportation provided an update on the outdoor dining rules and highlighted important aspects.

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

• Discussion of Residential Parking.

DOT – DISTRICT WIDE

- Discussion of Intro 1164-2023 into law-enacted to ensure equality NYC DOT infrastructure investments. How and when will DOT approach communities?
- Discussion of proposal for daylighting and intersection safety.
- Provide update on Open Restaurants. Streets, Culture Requesting Formal Guidelines with criteria and fee schedules) NYC's New Permanent Outdoor Dining Program Dining Out NYC.

REQUEST UPDATES FROM DOT

• <u>Blissville</u>

The Blissville community has long sought a comprehensive review of our Streets in the Blissville section of Long Island City that would consider the safety of all roadway users of all ages and abilities: including pedestrians, bicyclists, public transportation riders and motorists. Specific items include but not limited to:

- Corner of 35th, Starr and Van Dam install a proper sidewalk with curbs and pedestrian accessible ramps. Ensure daylighting at this intersection. As of today, it is just dirt and broken up asphalt. There is a sidewalk violation that was issued. DOT reported more specific work at this location. and is an area he will bring up to the ped ramp unit.
- Reconsideration of request to install "No thru truck traffic signage" on 35th and 37th. There are only 4 streets in Blissville that are designated as truck routes (1) review avenue (2) Greenpoint Avenue (3) Borden Avenue and (4) Van Dam. All other streets should only have truck traffic for

local deliveries yet trucks travel through these streets on a daily basis to other destinations. DOT-581076-X9W1.

- DOT-581065-J1R6 we are pleased to see the newly painted lines at Greenpoint and Starr however cars and trucks just park over these lines negating their purpose. May we amend our request to install bollards or an actual bulbout like we've seen done in neighboring communities. DOT-581065-J1R DOT-614185-D189.
- A study is needed at the 12-lane intersection at the base of the Greenpoint Avenue Bridge. Review/VanDam/Greenpoint. Very dangerous Area.
- Green Asphalt company in Blissville, a violation was issued by NYS DEC regarding this company that the DOT uses on a regular basis, fumes emanate into the community. This company is clearly violating the law. DOT will investigate this matter.

Court Square

• Crescent Street request to change the diagonal markings and expand the sidewalk. case number DOT-516190-R6K9. Request update.

Sunnyside

- Request for DOT to present data and findings of the impact of the conversion of 39th Avenue to a bike boulevard (from 45th to 50th Street) on safety, residents, businesses, vehicular traffic (trucks, cars), especially at the corner of 50th Street (right turn) Request for DOT to revisit the closing of 39th Avenue from 45th to 50th Street.
- Request for a Feasibility Study for Safety Improvements at 43rd Street and Laurel Hill Blvd at the entrance to the Kosciuszko Bridge Pedestrian and Bike Pathway. (CB 2 Sent Letter to DOT on September 7, 2022) This location is still being looked at for future improvements

Woodside

- Request to DOT for a One-Way Street conversion on 51st Avenue Between 65th Place and 61st Street. Provide an update. (DOT-464313-T7R8) Open and being evaluated, please provide an update.
 - 51st Avenue between 65th Place and 61st Street was reversed 63 Street to NB operation from 50th avenue to Laurel Hill Blvd and converted 65th Street to one-way NB from 48th Avenue to Laurel Hill Blvd., both changes have helped curtail the cut through traffic that was using 51s Avenue and at this point unless the CB or residents feel there is another issue, we don't have any future plans for additional changes.
 - 50th Avenue between 69th Street and 65th Place. We were waiting on the Queens Bus network redesign since that would remove the Q18 bus from 50th Avenue and most likely negate the need for a conversion.
- Request for a Feasibility Study for Safety Improvements on Broadway and 37th Avenue and on 63rd Street to 69th Street near the BQE Exit (DOT-565073-X3Q1) Study still active requesting update. DOT reported some LPI's installed 65th Street and Broadway, existing one at 37th Avenue

• 60th Street and 37th Avenue (Existing Study Open (DOT-577572-V1S1) DOT reported still active, study is still open.

Long Island City

- Center Blvd north of 47th Road transfer of property from State to City. Please continue to provide update. 47th Road and N Basin Road. Paving stones collapsing in intersection at Center Blvd. north of 47th Road. Provide update.
- Request for a one-way conversion on 31st Place between 47th Avenue and 48th Avenue (DOT-497662-R8J2). (APPROVED) Provide Implementation date? Letter of support requested from CB 2 on 10/4/2023. CB 2 Letter submitted (DOT621806-L7V9) Still awaiting implementation.
- 51st Avenue Pedestrian Bridge (also known as the 21st Avenue Pedestrian Foot Bridge) Request an update on a letter from DOT to send to CB 2 to close this project. DOT Tracking number needed. Still awaiting implementation
- Request for the Redesign of Vernon Mall on Borden Avenue, Vernon Boulevard, Jackson Avenue, and the Northern Boundary of 51st Avenue (Letter sent to DOT) Tracking number requested.
- Request for New York City DOT Proposals Include Seniors, the Disabled and those with Different Physical Disabilities and Needs (Letter sent to DOT) DOT 599194-D6Q7, please provide an update.

Old Business:

New Business:

• Request for alternate side of the street parking on Center Boulevard. A recommendation was made and seconded to redirect this matter to the City Services and Public Safety Committee for street cleaning.

Rosamond Gianutsos made a motion, and it was seconded by Laura Shepard that CB 2 formulate a letter that states all the 12-hour meters in the CB 2 district should be revised and looked and reduced to a maximum of 4 hours in advance of congestion pricing. All were in favor of the motion with 1 (one) opposed and no (0) abstentions.

The meeting was adjourned.

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