

3165 East Tremont Avenue • Bronx, New York 10461 Tel: (718) 892-1161 • Fax: (718) 863-6860 E-mail: bx10@cb.nyc.gov • www.bronxmall.com Website: www.nyc.gov/bronxcb10



Martin A. Prince Chairperson

Kenneth Kearns District Manager

#### BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD #10 MEETING Thursday, March 19, 2015 at 7:30PM Ft. Schuyler House 3077 Cross Bronx Expressway Bronx, New York 10465

#### AGENDA

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Public Participation
- 3. Acceptance of the Minutes of the February 19, 2015 Community Board #10 Meeting
- 4. Borough President's Report

5. District Manager's Report

- 6. Committee Reports
  - a. Executive Board b. Housing and Zoning
  - c. Economic Development
  - d. Municipal Services
  - e. Parks and Recreation
  - f. Planning and Budget
  - g. Youth & Education Services
  - g. Youin & Education Services
  - h. Health and Human Services
- 7. Old Business
- 8. New Business

Tom Lucania

**15** Minutes

Martin Prince, Chairman

Kenneth Kearns

Martin Prince Peter Sullivan Jim McQuade Joseph Russo Virginia M. Gallagher Julian Misiurski Robert Bieder Deborah Hunt



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#### BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD #10 MEETING Thursday, March 19, 2015 at 7:30PM Ft. Schuyler House 3077 Cross Bronx Expressway Bronx, New York 10465

#### RESOLUTIONS

- 1. **"Resolved**...to accept the minutes of the Bronx Community Board #10 meeting of February 19, 2015."
- 2. "**Resolved**...at the recommendation of the Economic Development Committee of Bronx Community Board #10, that the following establishments have agreed to comply with the best management practice standards contained within the Stipulations, by signing them, and to further agree to attend ATAP training, and that their compliance be sent to the State Liquor Authority and a copy placed in the Board's file:
  - Italia Café, 3009 Middletown Road, 10461, between Crosby & Hobart Aves, License #1261634, which expires on 03/31/15.
  - Siete Ocho Siete, 3363 E Tremont Ave, 10461, between Haskin & Baisley Sts, License #1268116, which expired on 02/28/15.
  - Legendary Bar, 3513 E Tremont Ave, 10465, between Barkley Ave & Sommer Pl, License #1248747, which expired on 12/31/14.
  - Bistro SK, 273 City Island Ave, 10464, between Hawkins & Carroll Sts, License #125051, which expires on 05/31/15."
- 3. "**Resolved**...at the recommendation of the Economic Development Committee of Bronx Community Board #10, that the following establishments have agreed to comply with the best management practice standards contained within the Stipulations, by signing them, and to further agree to attend ATAP training, and that their compliance be sent to the State Liquor Authority and a copy placed in the Board's file:
  - Villanueva Restaurant Corp, 3513 E Tremont Ave, 10465, between Barkley Ave & Sommer Pl, License #NEW (formerly Legendary Bar).
  - Travesias Café, 3830-32-34 E Tremont Ave, 10465, between Schley Ave & Lamport Pl, License #NEW (formerly Gianni's Café)."

Page -2-Resolutions

- 4. "**Resolved...**at the request of the Planning and Budget Committee of Bronx Community Board #10 that the attached letter to the Honorable Bill de Blasio, Mayor of the City of New York, containing Bronx Community Board #10's responses to the agency statements contained within the Register of Community Board Budget Requests for the Preliminary Budget for Fiscal Year 2016, be approved by the full Board at its next public meeting and communicated to the Mayor."
- 5. "**Resolved**...at the request of the Youth Services and Education Committee of Bronx Community Board 10 that a letter be written to Governor Cuomo and ask that the scoring portion for standardized tests remain at 20% and that it is the belief that increasing this will only lead to more teaching to the test and not a true evaluation method. Also, that the funding due to New York City Department of Education and our school children be released without political discrimination."



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#### HOUSING AND ZONING COMMITTEE February 25, 2015

Attendees: P. Sullivan; M. Prince; A. Salimbene; M.J. Musano; A. Chirico; D. Lock; V.M.
Gallagher; B. Bieder; R. Barbarelli; J. Marano; A. Boller; P. Cantillo; Col. W. Chin; I.
Guanill-Elukowich; L. Popovic

Guests: Jon Popin from Duane Morris; J. Comer and his architect; J. Sohmers; D. Poggi; I. Otto; E. Sementelli; L. Rocco; representatives from the Locust Point Civic Association.

The meeting began at 7:35PM and Mr. Sullivan began the meeting by commenting that this was an informational meeting only and that no decision would be rendered. He subsequently introduced Mr. Popin of the Duane Morris Law Firm to discuss his client's (John Comer) request for a variance to construct five houses on a two house plot at Longstreet Avenue, between Gingerich Place and Hatting Place. They had been denied permission to build on the site by the New York City Department of Buildings, due to Lot Area sizes; number of dwelling units; front yard concerns; plantings in front yards; perimeter wall height; parking spaces; FAR contrary to zoning, in that it exceeds the maximum residential FAR permitted; front yards contrary to Minimum, Required Front yard zoning regulations, rear yards contrary to zoning regulations.

The owner is seeking a variance to these rulings and has approached the New York City Board of Standards and Appeals (BSA) for a hearing. The BSA has not scheduled one, as of yet. In order to build five houses on a lot zoned for two, the owner will have to install sidewalks, curbs, water and sewer lines, electrical and gas connections on a parcel of land that is completely underdeveloped. The owner is basing his request for a variance on the economic hardship posed by the above costs. It should also be noted that the owner is in compliance with resiliency regulations for the proposed homes.

The Board members greeted the owner's hardship argument with skepticism. The representatives of the Locust Point Civic Association objected to the development based on the height and size of the buildings. The owner would like to sell the properties for \$900,000 to \$1.1 million dollars. When questioned why the owner purchased a property that was so full of challenges, his response was that he was given bad advice.

Inasmuch as this was an informational only meeting, no decision was rendered by the Committee. The Committee indicted that it would wait for a hearing from the BSA, which would cause Community Board #10 to schedule a Public Hearing in the Locust Point community.

Other topics briefly discussed at the meeting were XPort Fitness at Bay Plaza and Board efforts to secure a partnership with them for fitness initiatives in the community.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 PM.



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#### Bronx Community Board #10 Economic Development March 4, 2015

Present: J. McQuade; B. Bieder; J. Onwu; A. Boller; L. Popovic; M. Velazquez

Guests: Liquor License Applicants

Staff: K. Kearns; P. Caruso

Due to the weather, the meeting was called to order at 7:50 PM by the Chair.

The renewal and new liquor license applicants introduced themselves to the committee and gave some background on themselves and their establishments. All attendees signed the Stipulations, the 45<sup>th</sup> had no incident reports. The Committee voted on the resolutions.

For Renewal Licenses:

"Resolved...at the recommendation of the Economic Development Committee of Bronx Community Board #10, that the following establishments have agreed to comply with the best management practice standards contained within the Stipulations, by signing them, and to further agree to attend ATAP training, and that their compliance be sent to the State liquor Authority and a copy placed in the Board's file:

\*Italia Café, 3009 Middletown Road, 10461, between Crosby & Hobart Aves, License #1261634, which expires on 03/31/15.

\*Siete Ocho Siete, 3363 E Tremont Ave, 10461, between Haskin & Baisley Sts, License #1268116, which expired on 02/28/15.

\*Legendary Bar, 3513 E Tremont Ave, 10465, between Barkley Ave & Sommer Pl, License #1248747, which expired on 12/31/14.

\*Bistro SK, 273 City Island Ave, 10464, between Hawkins & Carroll Sts, License #125051, which expires on 05/31/15.

The Resolution passed unanimously.

Page -2-Economic Development Committee

For New Licenses:

"Resolved...at the recommendation of the Economic Development Committee of Bronx Community Board #10, that the following establishments have agreed to comply with the best management practice standards contained within the Stipulations, by signing them, and to further agree to attend ATAP training, and that their compliance be sent to the State liquor Authority and a copy placed in the Board's file:

- \*Villanueva Restaurant Corp, 3513 E Tremont Ave, 10465, between Barkley Ave & Sommer Pl, License #NEW (formerly Legendary Bar).
- \*Travesias Café, 3830-32-34 E Tremont Ave, 10465, between Schley Ave & Lamport Pl, License #NEW (formerly Gianni's Café).

The Resolution passed unanimously.

The Committee then discussed Bronx Beer Garden. Over the past couple of years, the location has changed ownership several times. Under the current owner, there have been several name changes and principals. According to the 45<sup>th</sup> Pct, the police had to respond to several incidents dealing with loud and unruly patrons. Due to a criminal court summons, the owner's new license was revoked until a hearing was held. Although a fine was paid, the violation was over-turned, and the owner's new license application was again viable. The owner told the Board that she was trying to make the site a family-friendly venture by hiring an event planner to book weddings, birthdays and other like catered events.

The owner's lawyer advised her to get a letter of support from the Board, as he said that the SLA had received a recent complaint, and a letter might help get approval for the license. The Board did not make any complaint, but did call the SLA to make an inquiry regarding the proposal of having on-site bartending classes that the owner was considering. The Committee felt that since the Board never made a complaint, the issuance of a letter was a moot point.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.



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Martin A. Prince Chairperson

Kenneth Kearns District Manager

#### MUNICIPAL SERVICES COMMITTEE March 10, 2015

Attendees: J. Russo, C. Papastefanou, B. Bieder, M. Pricoli, A. Chirico

Guests: DOT: C. Moran, K. Kalb, S. Quinn, J. Pallerio

- 1. Amended Street Activity Permits were approved. The amendments were done so as not to coincide with the Fair on the Square, scheduled for June 20, 2015:
  - ID 196071 Weekend Walks/Community Street Fair 6/6/15, 6/13/15, 6/27/15, 2:30PM to 9:00PM, Lane Avenue between E. Tremont and Westchester Avenues, contact Lisa Sorin, WSBID rep.
  - ID 196915 Weekend Walks Community Street Fair, 6/21/15, 10AM to 7Pm, Buhre Avenue between Crosby and Jarvis Avenue, Irene Guanill, Pelham Bay Merchants
- 2. New SAP for St. Raymond's Avenue fair was approved
  - ID 200554 Harvest Fields Community Day, Block Party, 8/22/15, 9AM to 6PM. St. Raymond Avenue between E. Tremont Avenue and Williamsbridge Road, contact Raymond Vargas.
- 3. Reviewed letter proposing relocation of 45<sup>th</sup> Precinct (attached)
- 4. Presented petition for speed hump at Brinsmade Avenue to DOT (NOTE: Connie took the petition and will scan and fax it back to you for CB #10 records.)
- 5. Voted 4-1 in support of DOT traffic plan.



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Martin A. Prince Chairperson

Kenneth Kearns District Manager

Ruben Diaz, Jr. Borough President

March 9, 2015

Honorable Bill de Blasio, Mayor City of New York City Hall New York, NY 10007

Re: Relocation of 45th Precinct House

Dear Mayor de Blasio:

The 45th Precinct has served the northeast Bronx communities that currently comprise Bronx Community Board #10, with distinction from its present location at 2877 Barkley Avenue, since the late 1920's.

The physical plant that the officers and their supervisors occupy is outdated and inadequate. The upper floor's offices, locker areas and rest rooms are seriously deteriorated. The existing precinct is located in a crowded urban area, where parking is at a premium. The police cars, officers' private vehicles and those of the residents, have to compete for very limited parking. This results in a negative work environment for the staff, and unpleasant community relations.

The conditions at Police Service Area #8 (PSA #8), currently located within Throggs Neck Houses, is equally unpleasant in that it is crowded, prone to leakage and lacks parking.

Within Bronx Community Board #10, lies a modern vacant property located at 3860 E. Tremont Avenue that features a large above ground space, a finished basement, a loading dock and a huge parking facility, that is adjacent to the New England Thruway. It is a former Mandee clothing store that has been vacated and our Board would like to suggest that this site be modeled for the new 45th Precinct and PSA 8.

Our Board believes that the possible relocation of both the 45th Precinct and PSA #8 into this building would certainly provide both police agencies, with modern, spacious quarters. Generally accepted management practices, have proven that the productivity levels of staff rise, when they have improved working environments. The public will be better served by having improved facilities, as well.

As to the existing precinct structure, the Board believes that it could re-purposed for community use.

It is our sincere hope that the City will be able to look into this proposal.

Sincerely,

Martin Prince, Chairman

Bronx Community Board #10

C: Hon. R. Diaz, Jr. - Bronx Borough President Hon. A. King – NYC Council Hon. J. Vacca - NYC Council



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Martin A. Prince Chairperson

Kenneth Kearns District Manager

#### PLANNING & BUDGET MARCH 11, 2015

# Attendees:M. Prince; J. Misiurski; L. Goldstein; R. Kurz; M. ProhaskaGuests:M. and R. Pavlica

This meeting served as the Board's Public Hearing on the Mayor's Preliminary Budget for 2016. The Board presented the Register of Community Board Budget Requests for the Preliminary Budget for Fiscal Year 2016 and a letter of response from the Board, to the Mayor's budget document (attached).

The Preliminary Budget document and the agency statements contained within were discussed. Additionally, the corresponding Board response to each agency statement was discussed. A letter was drafted for a floor resolution containing the above information. The Resolution is as follows:

"**Resolved...**at the request of the Planning and Budget Committee of Bronx Community Board #10 that the attached letter to the Honorable Bill de Blasio, Mayor of the City of New York, containing Bronx Community Board #10's responses to the agency statements contained within the Register of Community Board Budget Requests for the Preliminary Budget for Fiscal Year 2016, be approved by the full Board at its next public meeting and communicated to the Mayor."

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.



Ruben Diaz, Jr. Borough President

## **BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 10**

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Martin A. Prince Chairperson

Kenneth Kearns District Manager

March 16, 2015

Honorable Bill de Blasio, Mayor City of New York City Hall New York, NY 10007

Re: Bronx Community Board #10 - Response to the Preliminary Budget for FY 2016

Dear Mayor de Blasio:

Each year Community Boards throughout the City prepare requests under the Capital and Expense Budgets for projects in their Boards. The requests are reviewed and responses are assembled in the Statement on the Preliminary Budget. This document constitutes Bronx Community Board #10's response to the Register of Community Board Budget Requests for the Preliminary Budget for Fiscal Year 2016.

As in past years, we would like to register our disappointment with the overall negative responses from the agencies to our requests. These priorities are representative of the communities' needs and wishes, and they should be taken seriously. We take exception to some of the responses received from the agencies. For many of our projects we are repeatedly told year after year "Further Study is needed," or "Contact your Elected Officials." We have genuine needs that require positive funding action from the City. Seeing the same responses repeated over and over again from the agencies, fosters a belief on our part that our requests are not being taken seriously. We truly believe that agencies should re-visit our requests and provide us with substantive answers to our concerns.

#### CAPTAL BUDGET PRIORITIES

Department of Parks and Recreation

1. Request: Dredging and upgrade of Hammond Cove Marina, a NYC Department of Parks and Recreation property that is leased to a private entity.

Agency Response: Further study of this request is needed. Contact the Agency.

Board Response: This is the same response that we had received last year. A full year has gone by and there has been no study. Bronx Community Board #10 has one of the largest waterfronts in the Borough, yet so little of it is in public hands. As a City facility, the Hammond Cove

Marina offers one of the few venues for enjoyment of the waterfront. Its effectiveness as a marina is limited because its entrance is subject to silting conditions making it difficult for pleasure craft to enter or leave the marina. Only a portion of the marina is truly serviceable. Our Board believes that with an infusion of funds, the inlet will be opened and the area will be improved. If the area were to be dredged, new boat owners would frequent the site and it could be further developed for other water sports, such as kayaking.

The New York City Department of Parks and Recreation is well aware of the conditions at the site. Whatever study was needed, should have been completed by now. Our Board expects the Agency to immediately undertake a study of the site and to present the Board with information on the development of a capital project. It should also be noted that this project is needed, to accommodate the fire boats coming from Queens to the Bronx to extinguish any possible fires at the Marina.

2. Request: Create a performing arts center for the elliptical buildings at Orchard Beach

Agency Response: Department of Parks and Recreation funds are insufficient for this project. We recommend this project be brought to the attention of the Board's elected officials, i.e. Borough President and/or City Council member.

Board Response: These are landmarked structures from the days of the WPA. Orchard Beach currently serves as the venue for numerous concerts during the summer and is the site of the Borough's annual July 4th event. The creation of a performing arts center could easily accommodate the Beach's concerts and serve as an economic boom for the Pelham Bay and City Island areas. Our Board believes that the Agency should at least model this site and develop a Capital Project for it.

#### Economic Development Corporation

3. Request: Bronx Community Board #10 is scheduled to have three shopping malls constructed within its environs that offer free parking. The Board would like to see municipal lots constructed above Bruckner Boulevard at both Pelham Bay and Throggs Neck. This would allow the older shopping areas to remain competitive.

Agency Response: Securing funding for this request is outside of EDC's jurisdiction; please contact the Agency if you have any questions regarding the EDC budget process.

Board Response: The Board finds this response to be curious inasmuch as the New York City EDC is responsible for promoting economic growth, stimulating investment, and broadening revenue and employment through the development of real estate, administration and financing tools, oversight of transportation and infrastructure projects. The Agency also promotes Business Districts, conducts feasibility studies and financial analyses, and guides projects through the necessary public approvals. Our Board firmly believes that this project would fall under the jurisdiction of NYC EDC. The Board would like to see this project revisited by the Agency.

#### Department of Parks and Recreation

4. Request: Expedited construction of the rest room at Ferry Point Park West, install port-osans in the interim.

Agency Response: This project was funded on a prior fiscal year and the contract has been let.

Board Response: The Board has made this a priority for many years. For our 2015 Response in the Preliminary Budget Register the Agency had the very same response as above.

5. Request: Green streets and flower beds are needed on Lafayette Avenue between the Hutchinson River Parkway Service Road and Brush Avenue, along the sidewalk area of Randall Avenue at Senger Place and Jay Place, and at the triangle at Bruckner Boulevard and Brush Avenue.

Agency Response: The Department of Parks and Recreation funds are insufficient for this project. We recommend that this project be brought to your elected officials i.e. Borough President and/or City Councilmember.

Board Response: This is exactly the same response that we had received in the 2015 Preliminary Budget Register. Certainly, a year's time would have revealed that the City's fiscal picture has improved and funding should be allocated for this small project.

6. Request: A fence separating Ferry Point Park West from the roadway is needed to protect the park from vehicular traffic.

Agency Response: The Department of Parks and Recreation funds are insufficient for this project. We recommend that this project be brought to the attention of your elected officials, i.e. Borough President and/or City Council Member.

Board Response: This is exactly the same response that we had received in the 2015 Preliminary Budget Register. Certainly, a year's time would have revealed that the City's fiscal picture has improved and funding should be allocated for this enhanced safety project.

7. Request: Create a comfort station at Rodman's Neck.

Agency Response: The Department of Parks and Recreation funds are insufficient for this project. We recommend that this project be brought to the attention of your elected officials, i.e. Borough President and/or City Council Member.

Board Response: This is exactly the same response that we had received in the 2015 Preliminary Budget Register. A public health concern has arisen due to the lack of a comfort station. The Little League fields at Rodman's Neck are used regularly. If a comfort station cannot be constructed, the Board suggests the installation of port-o-sans.

#### Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)

8. Request: Under SEX 200/400 new sewers are envisioned for Sutherland Street at Minnieford Avenue, Bridge Street, Tier Street, and William Street on City Island. Catch basins are needed for Fordham Street and Fordham Place. This project must be expedited to accommodate the needs of homeowners who experience flooding.

Agency Response: This Capital Project is included in the Agency's departmental estimates for the out years. For details check the FY 2016 Preliminary Budget Statement for Capital Projects and/or the Current Commitment Plan.

Board Response: In the 2015 Preliminary Budget Register the Agency responded that this project was funded in a prior fiscal year and the scope is now underway. At what point in time did the project status change from being funded to being put into the out years? There is a critical need for flood control in this area, especially in light of the many storms that we expect in the future.

9. Request: Construct a water treatment plant to purify water entering the DEP sewage Treatment center at Co-op City for reuse at the complex's power plant cooling tower.

Agency Response: More information is needed from the Community Board before making a funding decision. The Community Board should contact the Agency.

Board Response: Riverbay Corporation, the management entity for Co-op City, is still interested in this type of project. The Board requests that OMB forward the Board's interests in seeing that DEP and Riverbay Corporation meet to discuss this issue.

10. Request: New water and sewer lines are needed at the following streets: Carroll, Schofield, Centre Streets and William Avenue. A catch basin is needed at Ditmars Street and King Avenue on the southwest corner.

Agency Response: Further study by the Agency of this request is needed. Contact the Agency.

Board Response: This is exactly the same response that we had received in the 2015 Preliminary Budget Register for this budget request. Surely, within a year, the Agency should have been able to develop a scope of work to accommodate this needed drainage project.

#### Department of Transportation (DOT)

11. Request: Create a seawall for the Locust Point Community.

Agency Response: Further study by the Agency of this Request is needed. Contact the Agency.

Board Response: In 2015, the Board received a response to this request that stated: Please contact the Borough Commissioner's Office to discuss this request. In essence, the 2015 and 2016 responses are the same. During Hurricane Sandy the Locust Point Community was one of the most severely damaged communities in Bronx Community Board #10. Clearly a seawall (seawalls are considered to be effective barriers to storm surges) is needed to protect the Locust Point Community. Under the City's Resiliency Program, this should be constructed.

#### DEP and DOT

12. Request: Expedite a joint Capital Project for DEP and DOT for Brush Avenue, between Schley Avenue and Bruckner Boulevard, to create a high functioning drainage system and improve road service.

Agency Response: Further study by the Agency of this Request is needed. Contact the Agency.

Board Response: This is exactly the same response that the Board received in the 2015 Budget Register. With DEP's introduction of green engineering initiatives (bioswails), replacing

traditional cut and cover construction methods, both Agencies should be able to develop a scope of work that will enable the community to receive adequate drainage and good road surfaces.

13. Request: Reconstruct streets within and around the perimeter of the Westchester/Zerega Industrial Business Zone, especially in the vicinity of Commerce Avenue. A complete listing of streets was provided to DOT. The Board understands that this will be a joint Capital project between DOT and DEP to address road anomalies and collapsed sewers.

Agency Response: This location needs to be investigated by both DOT and DEP. Results may merit the initiation of a Capital Project. We will advise upon completion of an investigation.

Board Response: The Board had received a similar response in the 2015 Budget Register. A year has gone by and the City's fiscal situation has improved, therefore the Board requests an expedited completion of the investigation.

14. Request: Establish a joint Capital Project with DOT and DEP to correct street anomalies at Bellamy Loop in Co-op City.

Agency Response: This location needs to be investigated by both DOT and DEP. Results may merit the initiation of a Capital Project. We will advise upon completion of our investigation.

Board Response: Again, This is a similar response to what we had received in the 2015 Budget Register. A year has gone by and what is the status of the investigation? Please advise the Board.

15. Request: Reconstruct Middletown Road between Crosby Avenue and Westchester Avenue. This has long been a request of the Board. The Board understands that this is a joint project between DOT and DEP. The subsurface drainage and sewer support system and road service must be addressed in a systematic manner. Recently the road was resurfaced without the extensive study of the subsurface areas. It will continue to be problematic until a true engineering study takes place.

Agency Response: DOT has requested funding for this project.

Board Response: In the 2015 Response for the same project, the Board was told that the area was under study.

#### NYPD

16. Request: Video surveillance cameras are needed along the overpass at I95 which extends from Baychester Avenue to Edson Avenue.

Agency Response: Locations must be surveyed in order to determine the technical feasibility and operational needs for ARGUS camera installation. NYPD ARGUS cameral placement is based on impartial analytic review of relevant crime data with a particular emphasis on violent crime and shooting incidents. Locations with the greatest demonstrated need will receive priority in the placement process.

Board Response: In the 2015 Budget Register Response, the Agency recommended funding for fiscal year 2015 and stated that part of the request was already funded. To the best of the Board's knowledge, no study was done and no cameras were installed and the project was never funded. The area has been identified as being the site of several criminal incidents involving

youth. Would the Agency be so kind as to initiate the study for the cameras with an eye towards installation?

#### DOT

17. Request: Expedite Pennyfield Avenue project.

Agency Response: DOT has requested funding for this project.

Board Response: The area suffers from flooding during major storms. The initiation of a scope of work is greatly needed.

18. New Budget Request: Widening the traffic island on Co-op City Boulevard between Bartow Avenue and Pear Tree Avenue. The widening of these islands will reduce the amount of road space that cars will be using, thereby slowing them down, enhancing the traffic safety area.

#### EXPENSE BUDGET PRIORITIES

#### Department of Parks and Recreation

1. Request: A recreational program with staff should be established at Pearly Gates Park.

Agency Response: In the Preliminary Budget, citywide personnel/program/equipment funds are maintained in FY 2016. Allocations are scheduled by the Agency only after budget adoption.

Board Response: In the 2015 Budget Register we received a similar response. Staff is needed at this site. It is frequented by many children and the Agency had made a substantial committement in capital improvements to this park, so the funding of recreational staff should be awarded.

2. Request: There is a critical need to adequately fund and staff the forestry department to adequately prune the many trees in the Board's service area.

Agency Response: The Agency recommends funding this Expense Budget Request in 2016, but at this time the availability of funds is undetermined.

Board Response: This is exactly the same response we received in the 2015 Budget Register. The program has not been funded adequately and there is a critical need to do so.

3. Request: There is a need to adequately fund and expand the sidewalk and tree root repair program.

Agency Response: The Department of Parks and Recreation funds are inadequate. We suggest that this request be brought to the attention of the Board's elected officials, i.e., Borough President and/or City Councilmember.

Board Response: This is the same response we received in the 2015 Budget Register. This is a critical need within Board #10. Old growth tree root systems are pushing sidewalk flags up from the surface and creating trip hazards.

#### DEP

4. Requests: Survey Ferry Point Park area for installation of idling truck signs.

Agency Response: The Agency will try to accommodate this issue within existing resources.

Board Response: This area is scheduled for two major shopping malls and is already home to a variety of businesses which employ tractor trailer trucks to bring in goods. Too often, large trucks idle on city streets adjacent to over 60 residences causing concern about air and noise pollution.

#### NYPD

5. Request: The NYPD management should reestablish the Narcotics Module for the 45<sup>th</sup> Precinct and increase its resources such as vehicles, or consider merger with the 49<sup>th</sup> Precinct.

Agency Response: NYPD's Narcotics enforcement resources are deployed on a borough-wide basis and are available to all Precincts within the Borough. Specific complaints should be brought to the attention of the local Precinct Commander.

Board Response: This is exactly the same response the Board received in the 2015 Budget Register. The fact of the matter is this, the drug trade is different in Community Board #10. The sale of drugs is accomplished through the use of disposable cellular phones and cars that take advantage of the Board's geographic situation of being at the confluence of three highway systems. Clearly, this is a very difficult situation for the local Precinct to handle. That is why the Board is requesting assistance. The Police Commissioner had combined the Narcotics Module units from the 45 and 43<sup>rd</sup> Precincts together. The Board believes that this combination does not serve either precinct well. Instead, we would like to see a combination between the 45th and 49<sup>th</sup> Precincts, as we believe them to be similar types of command.

#### Department for Youth and Community Development (DYCD)

6. The Summer Youth Employment Program has been underfunded. Bronx Community Board #10 would like to see it properly funded to serve our youth.

Agency Response: The Agency has worked with the Mayor in funding SYEP through City tax levy funding and private donations to make up the significant loss in Federal funding. Expansion of the program depends on the availability of state and federal funding.

Board Response: This is the same response that we had received in the 2015 Budget Register. As a sponsoring agency for the Summer Youth Employment Program for the past two years, the Board understands the value of providing young people with an introduction to a positive work environment. The Board urges the Agency to seek funding from both governmental and non-governmental sources to adequately fund this vitally needed program.

#### Department of Sanitation

7. Ensure that Sanitation District #10 has adequate funding and equipment to keep Brush Avenue clean.

Agency Response: The agency will try to accommodate this issue within existing resources.

Board Response: The Brush Avenue corridor is the home of a major mall and another will be developed; there is a strong need for a robust Sanitation presence.

#### Department of Transportation

8. Request: DOT should consider the installation of "No Truck" signs on the eastern side of Lafayette Avenue.

Agency Response: Further study by the Agency of this Request is needed. Contact the Agency.

Board Response: In the 2015 Budget Register the Agency indicated that they would try to accommodate this issue within existing resources. A year has gone by and our Board requests the installation of the signs.

#### **Department of Education**

9. Request: Increase funding for after school programs.

Agency Response: Funding increases for after school programs have been provided in prior fiscal years and continuity depends on the availability of funds. Specific projects to be funded are decided at the local level. Please contact your school for specific information.

Board Response: This is the same response in the 2015 Budget Register. Under the Mayor's new plan for educational services, after school funding appears to have taken on a new significance. Our Board requests that the local CECs are contacted by the central office and made aware of the increased funding possibilities.

#### Department of Parks & Recreation

10. Request: Security issues in all of the Board's Parks, particularly Pelham Bay Park, is of particular importance to the Board.

Agency Response: The Agency recommends funding for this Expense Budget Request for 2016, but at this time the availability of funds is uncertain.

Board Response: This was the same response that the Board received in the 2015 Budget Register. Pelham Bay Park is a regional park frequented by residents of the entire borough. The limited PEP staff in the park is overburdened due to the demand for their services. They require additional services.

#### Department of Sanitation (DSNY)

11. Request: Garbage receptacles are needed along the Hutchinson River Parkway from Lafayette Avenue to Ferry Point Park

Agency Response: DSNY will evaluate this request.

Board Response: This is what the agency told the Board in the 2015 Register. The receptacles have yet to be installed.

#### Economic Development Corporation

12. Request: Model Co-op City for ferry services.

Agency Response: Further study by the Agency of this request is needed. Contact EDC.

Board Response: The agency offered the same response in the 2015 Budget Register. The Board has learned that the Agency is moving forward with plans for ferry service, emanating from Soundview and the current plans do not include Co-op City, Throggs Neck, City Island and Ferry Point, home to many residents who would benefit from such service.

Thank you for your attention and assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

Martin Prince, Chairman Bronx Community Board #10 Julian Misiurski, Chairman Planning & Budget Committee



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Martin A. Prince Chairperson

Kenneth Kearns District Manager

Ruben Diaz, Jr. Borough President

Youth Committee 3-16-15

The committee discussed the Global Youth Day Essay Contest. This year's theme is "Public Schools vs. Charter Schools" and will be open to  $7^{th} \& 8^{th}$  grade students who live in community board 10.

The prizes will be \$250.00 for first place, \$150.00 for second place and \$100.00 for third place. The essays are due by March 20th and the oral competition will be held at the board office on April  $20^{th}$  at the youth committee meeting.

Joanne Timmins of TNCAP announced their 17<sup>th</sup> annual Poster Campaign. This year's theme is "Eat Well, Play Well" with a focus on the recommended 60 minutes a day of exercise and healthy eating habits. TNCAP once again thanks Senator Klein for his contribution of the card stock provided to the contestants and the laminated posters provided to the winners.

TNCAP also announced that this year they will honoring our own Patrick Caruso for his many years of service to TNCAP. The ceremony will be at FT. Schuyler House on Friday, April 24<sup>th</sup> from 3-5 pm, all are welcome.

The committee discussed the Governor's plan to make the standardized testing count as 50% of the teachers evaluation score. The tests currently account for 20% of the evaluations. The Governor has been holding up city funding until he gets his way. The following motion was brought forth by Joseph Onwu and seconded by Reginald Sawyer and unanimously approved by the committee:

"**Resolved**...at the request of the Youth Services and Education Committee of Bronx Community Board 10 that a letter be written to Governor Cuomo and ask that the scoring portion for standardized tests remain at 20% and that it is the belief that increasing this will only lead to more teaching to the test and not a true evaluation method. Also, that the funding due to New York City Department of Education and our school children be released without political discrimination."

The committee had a guest, Rick Marsico, President of the Board of <u>The Charter High School For Law</u> <u>And Social Justice.</u>

The school is set to open in the 2015-2016 school year and will be accepting 120 9<sup>th</sup> grade students.

The exact address is not yet determined but will be in the Westchester Square area. Preference will be given to students living in school district 11 and any additional students will be chosen on a lottery basis.

The school will offer a regents diploma with a full curriculum as well as specialized courses in law and social justice.

The committee looks forward to working with them as they grow their school. Applications are available in the back of the room or online at <u>www.chslawandsocialjustice.org</u>

Respectfully submitted, Robert Bieder Committee Chair