

**MINUTES OF THE JOINT ENVIRONMENT & SANITATION AND  
TRAFFIC & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD ON APRIL 18, 2012  
AT ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH, 144 WEST 228TH STREET**

*Board Members of the Committee present:*

Rosemary Ginty, Committee Chair  
Laura Spalter, Vice-Chair  
Sylvia Alexander  
Andrew Cohen  
Thailary Lim  
Robert Press  
Pedro Reyes

*Community Members of the Committee present:*

Robert Spalter

*Board Members present:*

Georgia Santiago  
Maria Khury  
Thomas Durham  
Dan Padernacht

*Also in attendance:*

Tony Edwards, Councilmember Ydanis Rodriguez's Office  
Rodney Armanie, Deputy Director NYCHA  
Teresa Williams, DMS NYCHA  
Rev. Nathaniel Dixon, St. Stephen's Church  
Kenneth Clive, St. Stephen's Church  
Tom O'Connor, 50<sup>th</sup> Precinct Council  
Rev. Brendan McGirt, Carolina Baptist Church  
Paulette Shomo  
Ann Severino  
Patrick O'Flynn  
Regina Beam  
Lealu Mock  
Bertha Fields  
Beulah Davis  
Andrew Ryan, Manhattan College  
Maria Centeno, NYC Department of Design & Construction (DDC)  
Ahmed Bashjawish, Deputy Director, Infrastructure, Bronx Construction, DDC  
Mehdi Asherian, DDC

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The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM.

The minutes of the March 21st meeting were approved.

### Community Day Clean-Up Event

The Chair of the Environment & Sanitation Committee explained the background for a Community Day Clean-Up Event. The DSNY provides equipment and supplies for a clean up and the community provides volunteers to do the clean up. The committee made the suggestion that it be held in Marble Hill, on a Saturday morning in June and possible streets could be Exterior Street, Broadway from West 225<sup>th</sup> to West 230<sup>th</sup> Streets and the streets bordering the Marble Hill Playground.

The Chair recognized the efforts of Mr. Tony Edwards from Council Member Ydanis Rodriguez's office and Board member Georgia Santiago in addition to the committee members. She then asked for suggestions and input into the event and its timing and solicited interest and support.

The community response was positive. They supported the effort and made some suggestions. The merchants and schools should be informed of the effort and included. It was noted that those who litter were the visitors/shoppers in the area and the students arriving and leaving school. There was also interest in not just doing an event once but continuing the effort by doing a second event. Many speakers suggested increased enforcement for people littering and leaving dog waste.

The NYCHA representatives generously offered to have their weekend workers participate in the effort also.

The committee agreed to focus on June 9<sup>th</sup> or June 16<sup>th</sup> as the date for the event and agreed to 10:00 am to 1:00 pm as the scheduled time. The three streets named were accepted as the best. We will be back to the community as the event gets planned further.

### Special Traffic & Transportation Committee Item

Department of Design and Construction appeared in front of the committee to discuss a watermain project on Corlear Avenue between West 230<sup>th</sup> Street and West 240<sup>th</sup> Street which commenced on April 16<sup>th</sup>. The project involves the removal and construction of watermains in the following areas:

1. The construction of 20" distribution main and appurtenances in Corlear Avenue between West 238<sup>th</sup> Street and West 240<sup>th</sup> Street, West 238<sup>th</sup> Street between Corlear Avenue and Irwin Avenue, and West 240<sup>th</sup> Street Between Corlear Avenue and Broadway; and
2. The construction of 12" distribution main and appurtenances in Corlear Avenue between West 230<sup>th</sup> Street and West 240<sup>th</sup> Street; and
3. The construction of 8" distribution main and appurtenances in Corlear Avenue between West 230<sup>th</sup> Street and West 240<sup>th</sup> Street.

Community Board 8 Traffic Chair Dan Padernacht questioned DDC representatives about the timing of the project and the effects on the residents of the affected area. DDC stated that the project was expected to last 6-8 weeks and that the construction would progress on a street-by-street basis from the approximate hours of 7am – 5pm. Each day the affected street will be shut down to traffic but re-opened each afternoon. Water shut-offs will occur on a daily basis but water will be restored each afternoon. DDC stated that the project is necessary to ensure the adequate supply of water to the area. Questions were presented by the community about notice

of the project and who to contact with issues related to the project. Chairman Padernacht asked DDC for the name of the point person from DDC to contact along with a phone number to call. DDC gave such information to the community and collected email addresses for those individuals who wished to be placed on their email list.

#### Chair's Report – Environment & Sanitation Committee

The Chair reported that DSNY has notified the board office that waste collection in Section 3 of District 8 will be from 4:00 pm to midnight through November.

The Chair described a new bill (Intro 833) introduced at the City Council at the request of the Mayor today that would require residential buildings to adopt written policies on where smoking is permitted or prohibited and to disclose those rules to prospective tenants and owners. Thomas Durham, Chair of the Housing Committee, will deal with the issue in his committee.

#### Vice-Chair's Report – Environment & Sanitation Committee

In the Mayor's FY 2013 budget there is a proposal to charge not-for-profit organizations and charities a fee for garbage removal. Details of the program will not be available until the end of April. Organizations present at our meeting spoke against this new fee to be issued by the Department of Sanitation.

To counteract this proposal, a proposed local law Intro.792, has been introduced in the City Council that would make it illegal to charge not-for-profit organizations and charities (synagogues and churches) for garbage collection. Currently, a majority of council members have signed on, including Community Board 8 Council members Koppell, Cabrera, and Rodriguez. However, in my conversations with their legislative aides, all spoke of the importance of lobbying Council Speaker Quinn, because it will be necessary to bring Int. No. 792 out of committee and to the floor for a vote. The budget is passed in June, so time is of the essence.

The Vice-Chair drafted and presented a resolution that 1) opposes the Mayor's proposal to charge not-for-profit organizations and charities fees for garbage removal and 2) supports Int. No. 792. The resolution was accepted unanimously with the Chair abstaining for cause. Our plan is to send the final resolution to Mayor Bloomberg, Speaker Quinn, and Commissioner Doherty. Additionally, we will distribute it to community boards and others to strengthen our efforts to stop the new fees.

#### Budget Requests from the Environment & Sanitation Committee

The committee unanimously adopted the following capital and expense budget requests for DSNY and DEP:

#### DEP Expense Budget Requests

More Inspectors for Enforcement of the City's Noise Codes – The Hansen Reports issued monthly by the Department of Environmental Protection ("DEP") show a high number of community complaints concerning noise from: Alarms, Construction Before and After Hours, Construction Equipment, Air Conditioning and Ventilation Equipment, Jack Hammering and Other Sources.

More Workers to Routinely Clear Clogged Catch Basins which Cause Flooding - The Hansen Reports from DEP show a high number of community complaints monthly concerning clogged catch basins.

DSNY Capital Budget Request

Request for Dual-Bin Trucks for Recycling – A recent Independent Budget Office (“IBO”) study showed that recycling collection is most cost-effective and productive when the city increased its use of dual-bin trucks, which eliminate the need for sending two trucks on a recycling route, one to pick up paper, the other metal, glass, and plastic. Community Board # 8 was not listed as having this equipment.

DSNY Expense Budget Requests

Request for Staffing Sufficient for Dual-Bin Recycling Trucks – A recent IBO study showed that recycling collection is most cost-effective and productive when the city increased its use of dual-bin trucks, which eliminate the need for sending two trucks on a recycling route, one to pick up paper, the other metal, glass, and plastic. In addition to the Capital Budget request for this specialized equipment, we request staffing for this important recycling effort.

Request for Additional Sanitation Officers for the Enforcement of Sanitation Laws – At recent Environment & Sanitation Committee meetings in the various neighborhoods of CB # 8, the members have heard numerous requests for increased enforcement of the city’s sanitation laws especially littering, illegal dumping and “pooper-scooper” laws.

Other Business

The next Environment & Sanitation Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 16.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosemary Ginty  
*Chair,*  
*Environment and Sanitation Committee*

Daniel Padernacht  
*Chair,*  
*Traffic & Transportation Committee*

Laura Spalter  
*Vice Chair,*  
*Environment and Sanitation Committee*