

BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8

MINUTES OF THE TRAFFIC & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON SEPTEMBER 20, 2011, AT THE OFFICE OF BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD 8

PRESENT

Daniel Padernacht
Robert Press
Nils Graham
Mike Heller
Pedro Reyes
Andrew Sandler
Thomas Giallorenzi
Ted Hollenberg
Miawling Lam
Rhoda Sperling

AFFILIATION

Committee Chair
Committee Vice Chair
CB8
CB8
CB8
rep. Councilman Koppell
CB8 committee member

Riverdale Review

Meeting called to order at 7:37 PM by the chair, who welcomed everyone to the meeting.

The first subject was that on West 256th Street, west of Arlington Avenue, next to the exit of the Riverdale Y, a housing development (Hudson Ridge) has been built within the last few years. Residents of the development said that the road was enlarged from 15 feet to 24 feet when the development was constructed for access to their homes. The residents raised safety concerns including illegal u-turns. They stated that cars park in an area of road where there was no parking before the site was developed, and the stretch of road created was meant for safety purposes and not parking. In addition, residents want to plant trees where the cars park. It is unclear who owns this stretch of land in which up to six cars park. There were comments that it was owned by both the Y and Hudson Ridge. A representative from Council Member Koppell's office said that he would find out who owned the land for the next meeting. The chair advised residents that if a traffic study is conducted by DOT, the city may request sidewalks be put in at the expense of the homeowners. It was requested that a "two-way traffic ahead" sign be placed at or near the exit of the Y to alert drivers that they are on a two way street and not one way as before the new development.

Chair reported that the Parents Associations of PS 24 and 141 have asked the committee to investigate traffic on Independence Avenue from West 232nd Street thru West 246th Street. The Chair asked for volunteers for a working group to look at this stretch of roadway along with representatives of elected officials and the PA's. CB 8 members Nils Graham, Mike Heller, and Robert Press volunteered.

The committee discussed repaving in Community Board 8 and whether it was enough this year. A discussion of how the local streets get broken up in the winter by the snow removal equipment brought up the idea of a joint resolution with the Environment and Sanitation Committee to have wheels placed on snow plows like other cities in Northern New York and parts of the state highways. As to the repaving of certain streets, the

Chair stated that, on private streets, the city will only fix potholes and not repave those private streets. Members looked at the street repaving list submitted by the committee in the spring.

The area on the HHP service road south by the Manhattan College Parkway overpass that has been in discussion to become a park is owned by the city, but the broken sidewalk is owned by the two buildings on each side.

The committee was advised that a 311 call was placed for the West 235th Street HHP pedestrian overpass graffiti problem over the summer. It was painted by DOT, but the problem has come back now that school has started.

Members were given issues to monitor. Robert Press will continue to update on SAR, Pedro Reyes was appointed West 256th Street situation and Mike Heller and Robert Press PS 24/141.

The committee reviewed the budget priorities.

The chair appointed Robert Press as the Vice-Chair of the committee, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:17PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel Padernacht
Chairman