

**BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8**

**MINUTES OF THE TRAFFIC & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE  
MEETING HELD MAY 21<sup>ST</sup>, 2013  
AT MANHATTANVILLE NURSING CARE CENTER  
311 WEST 231<sup>ST</sup> STREET**

**PRESENT**

Daniel Padernacht  
Robert Press  
Sylvia Alexander  
Bob Bender  
Arlene G. Feldmeier  
Michael Heller  
Georgia Santiago  
Herb Young  
Steve Balicer  
Daniel Johnson  
Andrew Sandler  
Tony Edwards  
Norberto Acevedo  
Marlan Rangel  
Mahesh Rana  
Mohammad A. Rab  
Tom Durham  
Jose Conistanza  
Q. Familia  
Jessica Rivera  
Miguel Duarte  
Bill Carter  
Vaughn Carter  
Flor Montero  
Hector Diaz  
Lissette Thomas  
Edwin Acosta Diaz

**AFFILIATION**

CB8, Committee Chair  
CB8, Committee Vice Chair  
CB8  
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CB8  
CB8  
rep. Assemblyman Dinowitz  
rep. Councilman Koppell  
rep. Councilman Rodriguez  
NYC DDC  
NYC DDC  
NYC DDC  
NYC DDC  
  
Seaman Radio  
All Town  
All Town  
All Town  
All Town  
All Town  
Livery Base Owners

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chair Robert Press on instructions from T&T Chairman Dan Padernacht who stated that he was would be a few minutes late. A Quorum was present.

There was a presentation from the Department of Design & Construction by Marlon Rangel. On June 17, 2013 a project will commence to replace the old water mains in the area running across West 238<sup>th</sup> Street from Riverdale Avenue to Waldo Avenue and the surrounding area. The water lines next to the Fieldston School will be done first to accommodate the school. The school has feeder lines from Greystone Avenue and West 238<sup>th</sup> Street. Both sides of the street will have no parking during construction which is expected to occur between 7 AM and 6 PM Monday through Friday. The water main work is to be done in 200 to 400 foot sections of roadway, and temporary asphalt will be placed over completed work for parking. Materials and equipment is expected to take up a few parking spots during construction and there could be

one week of no parking per block during the construction, with longer periods of no parking if problems arise.

DDC will temporarily leave to work on another job after the first segment by Fieldston School is completed. DDC will return in mid-July and is expected to be completed by the end of August. DDC said that the infrastructure is very old and they may have unforeseen problems on this project. DDC has stated that if there are problems upon digging an area, they will proceed to another area and they have no set plan after the first segment by the school is completed. DDC will give notice to residents 48 hours before any shut off of the water.

Chairman Padernacht mentioned that Manhattan College will be doing construction in the area on Waldo Avenue in June and stated that DDC should contact the Director of Construction at Manhattan College. The committee voiced its concerns about shutting off water to the merchants, particularly in the summer months, along West 238<sup>th</sup> Street and Riverdale Avenue. The Chairman stated that DDC should contact the merchants shortly to make them aware of this project and anticipated timeline. There were also concerns of the loss of parking in what is very tight parking situation in the area. DDC said that they will do the best they can. Chairman Padernacht made it clear that the loss of parking should be mitigated to the greatest extent.

T&T committee member Mike Heller spoke of the dissatisfaction of the repair work that becomes a pothole in one year and that DDC needs to do a better job in filling potholes and repaving. The Corlear Avenue Water Main Project was raised and the committee expressed its dissatisfaction for the work and questioned whether the piecemeal filling of trenches will last through the winter. DDC stated that the work is guaranteed for 18 months.

The Chairman asked about the curb to curb repaving of streets which were repaved within one year of the project commencement which are "protected streets." On the Corlear Project, certain streets were repaved curb to curb six months prior to the commencement of the project and the Chairman asked for an affirmative answer as to whether they will be repaved curb to curb. DDC did not answer.

The Chairman stated that there must be better communication between DDC and other agencies. One member of the community stated that Dash Place was repaved completely last year and now DDC has Dash Place as one of the streets to be dug up as part of the current project.

Andrew Sandler of Councilman Koppell's office spoke of a ground water issue by his office that is affecting the roadway causing a possible sink hole in the street. DDC will look at the location, but this project does not include any other work.

Veterans Radio Dispatch came before the committee for a letter of support. They are a new company that will be in business with the Bailey Taxi and also located at 131 West Kingsbridge Road. Mr. Quere Fauiler, an expediter for Bailey Taxi said that Bailey has been in business for 20 years and this is a new system called Veterans Radio Dispatch by owners of Bailey Taxi. They are across the street from the Veterans Hospital and the plan is to have "Green Taxis" to have up to 481 cars per base operating. The representative stated that there were no violations or complaints about Bailey Taxi Service. Mr. Edwin Acosta Diaz, a representative of the Livery Base Owners of Manhattan, disclosed that Bailey Taxi is a member of his organization and has no objections to the addition of Veterans Radio Dispatch.

The Chair called the question and the vote was 7 in favor S. Alexander, B. Bender, A. Feldmeier, M. Heller, D. Padernacht, R. Press, and G. Santiago, 0 against, and 0 abstentions.

All Town Car Service returned this month with Mr. Bill Carter as its representative. Mr. Carter has 20 years of experience in the industry. Mr. Carter spoke about the approval process. The license lasts for three years. A new base station must have at least 10 cars. All Town is expected to open with 15 – 25 cars operating. Unless there are objections to the base station, the City Council has 90 days to act and then the TLC will approve the application Mr. Carter stated that there are approximately 8 base stations operating in the CB8 area.

Andrew Sandler was concerned that there would be on street parking used as the base station needs only one off street space for every two cars. Mr. Carter addressed this by saying that the other cars will be operating at the time.

Mr. Edwin Acosta Diaz, a representative of the Livery Base Owners of Manhattan, had several objections to the new base station. The Livery Base Owners of Manhattan includes members in our area such as Dykman, First Class, Seaman, and Kiss taxi services. He stated that he believes there will be an increase in traffic, questioned where the cars will cue up and questioned which drivers are being recruited by All Town. Mr. Acosta Diaz said that All Town is recruiting one particular driver that has been cited for changing frequency which is a violation. He added that drivers will be making illegal u-turns, Double Parking and other wrong things by the base station on West 231<sup>st</sup> Street.

Mr. Carter, representing All Town, said that was all false. The Chair asked if any drivers of All Town have been cited by the TLC in the last year. Mr. Carter responded no.

Chairman Padernacht stated that this Committee will not base its vote on increased competition.

Mr. Tony Edwards of Councilman Rodriguez's office said that Councilman Rodriguez supports the All Town application.

Chairman Padernacht called the question of a letter of support with the following four conditions:

- 1- All Town shall not line their cars up at the base station.
- 2- All Town shall not use metered spots for business purposes on West 231<sup>st</sup> Street
- 3- A representative of All Town will appear at the committee if asked.
- 4- That commercial parking is allowed in the Bailey Avenue garage being used.

The vote was 7 – 0 – 0 to approve.

The Van Cortlandt Bridge was put over to next month's meeting by the Chair.

Mr. Jeff Moerdler of the Riverdale Hatzolah Volunteer Ambulance asked the committee to look into the changing of street signs on West 239<sup>th</sup> Street & Hudson Manor Terrace, a location where Hatzolah volunteers reside. The signs were recently changed and the former No Parking signs allowed for parking with the permit the volunteers hold.

In addition, there are three spaces in front of the Riverdale Jewish Center on Independence Avenue at West 237<sup>th</sup> Street. The signs were changed to No Standing which is not allowed by

the permit. J. Moerdler stated that his volunteers are on 24 hour call and may have to respond to a call at any time of the day or night. Time is of the essence when an emergency call comes. While one member goes to the site of the ambulance, the other goes to the call site. When their cars are in front of their homes they can respond quicker.

The chair said that a letter will be sent to DOT for clarification on the parking permits the volunteers have. Dan Johnson of Assemblyman Dinowitz's office said that the Assemblyman is looking into the change of signs by West 239<sup>th</sup> & Hudson Manor Terrace.

A vote on the letter was 8 – 0 – 0 with committee member Mr. Young arriving after the last vote.

New Business – A slow zone for W.254<sup>th</sup> to W.263<sup>rd</sup> Streets, Palisades Avenue to Riverdale Avenue to include PS 81, SAR, Mt. St. Vincent, St. Margret's, and the Hebrew Home was brought up. The councilman deadline for filing however is May 31<sup>st</sup>, and this approval must come from the full board and not just committee.

Mr. Tony Edwards of Councilman Rodriguez's office brought up the idea of a slow zone for the Marble Hill area that Councilman Rodriguez is pushing.

Member Mike Heller wanted to know if service cuts from two years ago on the B10 & B20 bus lines could be restored.

Old Business – The chair mentioned that construction by Manhattan College is scheduled to start next month on Waldo Avenue.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:04 PM.

Submitted by,

Dan Padernacht  
Chair  
Traffic & Transportation Committee