

Traffic and Transportation Committee Meeting Minutes

December 7th 2015

Attendance: Committee Members Present – Yahaira Alonzo, Chair, Wanda Garcia, Asst Chair, Mary Anderson,

Board Members – Richard Lewis

Public Members:

Public: Deirdre Parker – MTA NYC Transit, Yemit Favre, Carlos Ruiz, Buckley Young, Beatrice Hall, F. Phipps, Eleanor B Johnson, Shellie Price, Miguel Gelpe, Miguel Christian, Raquel Pena, Ramon Henriques, Joshua Sosa.

1. NYCDOT and MTA Bx Bus Route – amend agenda and remove this item – look into it – don't know why it's on the agenda

2. MTA NYC M5 Bus Route

Deirdre Parker:

M5 longest bus route in NYC; choke point; proposal is to split the route; will be making presentation to 7 community boards, then there will be a public hearing; open to questions and concerns.

Buckley Young:

Bus service planning – M5 - a 12 mile route. Ridership declined because traffic is so congested; 2012 – 13, 9000 riders; now 11,700 riders per day; large number of riders still. From GWB to south ferry ; a lot of bottlenecks – unable to meet schedules; cut route at 37th street because of amount of people that need to transfer; M5 North Proposal Route and a M5 South Proposed Route ; don't want to do 34th street because the Precinct and DOT said there have heavy pedestrian accidents.

Board Comment – is there a free transfer if have to continue onto the M5 south Proposed Route? Would look into it

It's not mid -point; its more beneficial to people in the south – response – chose 37th street because least amount of transfer – trying to make the split as smooth as possible.

What is the time frame? Hope to present to all boards; Hope to have public hearing in March; if things go well might start by end of year of 2016.

What's the number of people getting off at 37th street? Don't have the numbers, will send to us

Resident comments:

Always crowded, hope don't shut it off around 37th street because

Uptown gets short changed: always have to get off at 135th street;

M5 limited – on Broadway its limited; Riverside Drive- it makes all stops – local; there's a lot of resistance to eliminating stops on Riverside Drive

What is estimated time for the route now? – the whole route takes between 50 minutes and 1 hour and a half depending on the time of day.

The 67th busiest route is out of 200 + routes.

3. Old Business: 2 resolutions from last month couldn't pass because didn't have quorum, as is the case tonight. One resolution to increase bus shelter – 176st and Broadway – MTA said there is a manhole there and post office box but not there anymore; Another resolution – requesting DOT do a study for the health and safety issue over the bike lane on 170th street; could be a major fire hazard – courtyard apartments – the ladder would

not be able to get to those apartments; board member said maybe take it to public safety committee to make a resolution together.

4. New Business

Yahaira announced:

DOT workshop regarding Dykman area changes; they were supposed to do that this month, pushed workshop to January or February.

Resident: Miguel Christian – reported that he just saw a committee member just had an argument with post office truck- the post office truck almost ran over her on 170th Street; he went over red light.

Another resident -Joshua Sosa–said bike lane not being used; they drive bikes on Haven Avenue; when residents have a lot of packages from Costco – can't park car to get packages upstairs; now with the snow - it will get worse; the bikes don't stay in their lane; bikes not following traffic regulations;

Resident -Carlos Ruiz – a car hit his car this morning on 170th Street.

Resident -Raquel Pena – saw the accident; contacted Ydanis Rodriguez – office was supposed to be at this meeting but was not here; 623 West 170th Building has 3 basements – in the building we live in we feel the shaking – an engineer told us that are street is a death trap; there is a storage – MTA problem; DOB – come to Richard's committee Housing and Human Service

Resident Paul – 190th St Fort George – fire truck took 20 minutes to get up the hill; the lights are not synchronized at the top of the hill; streets are dirty on the top of hill – don't clean it now; Board Member Richard suggested to the Bring it to the District Cabinet Meeting on Thursday December 18th at 10 am; Mary will go to the cabinet meeting; send letter to Ebenezer so he's prepared

Shelley Price – Mark Levine's office – wondering if better designated if it's better

Gioviani Price present from Gale Brewer's office

Meeting adjourned at 8:26 pm