



Traffic and Transportation Committee Meeting

January 7, 2019

Committee Members Present –Debby Nabavian (Chair), Edgar Roman (Assistant Chair), Mary Anderson, James Berlin, Gerard Dengel, Bruce Robertson

Absent: Robin Cruz, Bianca Guerrero, Danielle Jettoo

CB 12 Members Present – Richard Lewis, Steve Simon

Public – Natalie Espino (MBPO); Paul; Shain Anderson, Thomas Mattie

Opening Remarks – Deborah Nabavian, *Chair*

1. Meeting called to order by Debby Nabavian at 7:12 pm

2. Old Business

- a. **Update on 1 Train bypass of 168th Station** – DKN: Today was the first commuting day of the 1 train bypass of the 168th station. Everything seems as MTA has planned and envisioned the project. Haven't seen reactions in social media. DKN encourages everyone to keep ears out with community for issues. The MTA has committed to responding quickly with Plan B for alternate travel plans if there are problems.

MA expressed concerns the downtown M3 bus stop at 168th street and Broadway was closed. And that the M5 bus route does not go all the way to 181st station, terminates at bus terminal.

JB: committee can possibly request the MTA to temporarily extend the M5 to help passengers to get to 181st street, 1 Train station.

DN: Deirdre Parker, MTA will be retiring on January 31st, 2019. Replacement is Howard Levine.

PH: Raised that downtown M3 bus not stopping at 168th street and he called 311 to make a Complaint (#190107000714).

- b. **Update on Riverside Viaduct Project** – DKN: BR keeping close to this situation and will help keep committee updated. The project launch may be early April, CCL has been hired. Apparently some adjustments have been made as compared to what was presented to the Traffic and Transportation committee.

- c. **Traffic Congestion / Success Academy WaHi** - Residents reported today 1/7/2019 a No Standing zone has been installed on Fort Washington Avenue that replaces about 9 parking spots. This sign was driven by the Precinct, based on all the calls received. RL expressed concern that DoT did not inform CB 12. A resident also raised concerns about the new "No Standing" zone and said that people with placards benefitted from this situation.

2. **Congestion Pricing and Financing MTA Fast Forward turnaround plan.** DKN: Move NY transportation plan was presented in April 2017 to this committee. Today DKN has drafted a resolution that would urge elected officials to support congestion pricing as the key component in financing the MTA Fast Forward Plan.

Fast Forward is a turnaround and modernization plan led by the new head of New York City Transit and it is estimated to cost up \$35-\$30 billion, but is not currently fully financed. The state of the subway system is the biggest pain point we here from the community, and Fast Forward is a plan that addresses the issues.

Given the legislature will be taking this up, and that the Governor is in support of congestion pricing, finally, this is opportunity for CB12 to add its voice while the political horse trading is happening.

DKN summarized the resolution and highlighted the rationale for congestion pricing (60th Street cordon), toll equity (lowering tolls on most MTA bridges, adding equalized tolls on the East River bridges, and lockboxed and bonded revenues.



JB: suggested edit to opening of resolution.

GD: adding bike lanes has constrained flow for cars with the addition that more taxis are on the street.

RL: wants to see statistical model and see how it may be implemented.

DKN: Four pillars of Fast Forward are reimagining the bus network, fixing the subway (largely signals), accessibility (accessibility within 2 train stations), and transforming employee culture / organization.

TM: Fast Forward plan does not deal with non-residents parking on NYC streets. His emphasis was mainly to use less cars and transport more people on single cars.

SA: expressed concerns to also consider seniors who use transportation as part of the plan.

JB Congestion Pricing has two main goals: To generate revenue and not to incentivize individuals to use solo transportation, especially in the Central Business District to help the transportation flow.

DKN: a core element of congestion pricing plan is to bond the revenue and allocate the funds to support important projects.

Voting: 4-0-2. In favor: DKN, ER, JB, BR. Abstain: MA and GD. RL: 1 vote No.

3. New Business - Expedite 168th Street Train Station Closure

SS - In light of what the governor Cuomo has done with the L train shutdown, SS presented a resolution to the committee asking the Governor to direct the Columbia and Cornell engineering school deans to evaluate the Uptown elevator projects to see if there is a way to minimize the disruptive impact to the community and minimize the duration of the closures which are currently 1 year each. SS suggested that possibly train stations can remain partially open.

DKN: SS should have reached out to committee chair prior to introducing the resolution.

JB: partial shutdown of the train station can potentially delay project completion. However, JB supports to explore the option of asking for feedback without stopping the MTA their current work.

RL: add review of accessibility as well. JB proposes to amend the resolution and capture "increase ADA accessibility to the platform".

DKN suggested that if purpose of reso is to see if project length could be compressed that adding a review of accessibility would by definition add to project length, and that since 168th street is underway, RL's alternate approach to accessibility might be better addressed on its own.

DKN - Ask committee members to vote on JB amendment. All in favor

DKN - Made a motion for Steve's resolution: T&T members: ALL in favor except DKN. CB 12 members: 2 (RL and SS) in favor. Residents: 4 in favor

4. Meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm.