

COMMITTEE REPORT

TO: All Board Members

FROM: Transportation Committee
Bernard Haber and Mohan Jethwani, Co-Chairs

DATE: April 30, 2008

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On Tuesday, April 29, 2008 the Transportation Committee met. Present from the Committee were Bernard Haber and Mohan Jethwani, Co-Chairs, Frank Skala, John Rosse, Joseph Sollano, Allan Palzer, Ed Doster and Laura James. Also present was Susan Seinfeld, District Manager and residents Ann Jawin and Tom Pinto from the Doug-Bay Civic Association.

The Committee first reviewed the planned pavement markings NYC DOT has designed for Hollis Court Boulevard and Francis Lewis Boulevard. All members present agreed that the pavement markings are a good idea and would help the traffic problems at this triangle.

The Committee then discussed the request that was received and recommended by NYC DOT that 38 Drive between Douglaston Parkway and 234 Street be converted to a one way street westbound. The request was made due to poor visibility when drivers exit 38 Drive because of the curve in West Drive as it turns into Douglaston Parkway. Ann Jawin and Tom Pinto from Doug-Bay Civic Association said that its members had been waiting 30 years to have the street improved. It is narrow and partially unpaved. They agreed that a westbound one way would be safer but they want the Community Board to request that the street be widened and repaved. The Board office sent out 47 resident letters and received 13 replies, seven in favor and six against. Discussion continued about the one way and concerns that there are only three means of ingress and egress for the community and how making 38 Drive a one way may impact on safety. However, it was noted that in case of emergency where evacuation or entry from and to Doug-Bay is required, 38 Drive would be available in both directions. The committee voted six in favor of the one way and two against. However, due to civic association concerns and a split vote by residents, Bernie Haber said that we should have a public hearing at the June 23rd meeting. Ms. Jawin and Mr. Pinto made other suggestions for traffic improvements in the Doug-Bay area that will have to be studied by DOT. The board members did not believe that the suggested improvements would be beneficial.

The Committee then reviewed the request made for a speed hump on 247 Street between Depew Avenue and 43 Avenue. The NYC DOT had agreed that a speed hump would be beneficial. It was pointed out that there are already two speed humps on 247 Street between 42 Avenue and Northern Boulevard. The Board office mailed 48 resident letter and 19 responses were received all overwhelming in favor of the installation of the hump. The members asked that Susan Seinfeld find out exactly where the speed hump will be placed in order to advise the residents. The Committee voted to recommend to DOT to install the speed hump.

Addendum: DOT stated that at the time it will be installed a survey would be made and it would be placed near the midpoint of the block, at least 250' from a traffic signal and 50' from an intersection