



Jerry Iannece
Chair

COMMUNITY BOARD 11

*Serving Communities of Auburndale, Bayside, Douglaston,
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Susan Seinfeld
District Manager

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE REPORT

January 31, 2011

Bernard Haber – Chair

On Monday, January 31, 2011, the Transportation Committee met. Present from the Committee were Bernard Haber, Frank Skala, Allan Palzer, Joan Garippa, Ed Doster, Steve Behar, Tom Meara, George Karahalas, Joseph Sollano, Susan Seinfeld, District Manager and Alen Beerman, representing Council Member Mark Weprin.

The Committee reviewed several items brought to the attention of the Board.

1- DOT proposed a westbound one -way conversion for 54 Ave. and an eastbound one way for 53 Ave. We surveyed 63 residents on both blocks and 217 Street. On 54 Ave. 16 were opposed and 4 were in favor. On 53 Ave. 6 were opposed and 3 were in favor of the change. On 217 Street 4 were in favor and one was opposed. Of a total of 34 residents responding, 23 were opposed and 11 were in favor. The committee members voted against the recommendation to convert the streets to one way due to the majority of the residents being opposed. It was also discussed that it is the behavior of the drivers who cause problems and that enforcement is necessary.

2- DOT approved a speed hump for 248 Street between the LIE and Northern Blvd., however, this is a long stretch and DOT could not tell the District Manager where the hump or humps would be, therefore, we will write to DOT and tell them that we will not survey residents or recommend the hump until we know specifically where they would be placed.

3- The Chair explained that the traffic island on Little Neck Pkwy., at the LIRR, was an inconvenience at first, but now it is working and people are making the proper turns, although a handful will still cross over the tracks to make a left turn into Sandhill Rd.

4- Mel Meer made a suggestion for an additional exit on the Cross Island Pkwy., southbound after Bell Blvd., where there is a turn off used by the police. We wrote to CB 7 asking them to support this request and the Chair, Gene Kelty, responded that CB 7 had looked into this before and they have written once again to the DOT Commissioner.

5- CM Halloran had a request for residence only parking in Little Neck near the LIRR. He asked Susan Seinfeld if the Board had previously considered this. He was advised that this had been discussed during the BP's Traffic Congestion Mitigation Commission two years ago. We wrote to DOT to find out what, if any, restrictive parking measures could be implemented and we were advised in July, 2010 that a Community Initiative group was reviewing the information We will follow up on the letter.

6- The DOT recommended a speed hump on 86 Ave between Kingsbury Ave. and Union Tpke. in Hollis Hills. The CB 11 received positive responses from the community and so we will recommend the speed hump.

7- Janet McEaney and the Northwest Clearview Civic Association asked for a four way stop on 204 St. and 33 Ave. and was denied by DOT in December 2010. The committee wants DOT to look at this again if there are no stop signs on 33 Ave. We will find out where there are stop signs along 33 Avenue between the CLV and FLB and if there are none, we will write to DOT again.

8- Mel Meer also brought to Bernie's attention that the right lane on the CLV service road at 35 Ave. should have daylighting so that it will be a dedicated right turn lane. Years ago it was proposed but denied. The committee determined that this is a good idea and we will write to DOT again.

9-Bernie discussed a problem on Depew Ave between 240 St. and Stuart Lane in Douglaston. DOT put up No Parking signs for only ½ the block on each side. No Parking should be on one side only for the whole length because of the narrowness of the street. A letter will be written to DOT.

10-Gordon Keit suggested at the last board meeting that there should be "green vehicle" parking spots in parking lots in order to encourage hybrid and electric car ownership. Steve Behar discussed the new hybrid and electric cars that are being produced. We will write to DOT and ask if they have any initiatives or programs for these types of vehicles.

11- A street light base was installed months ago on West Drive between Ardsley and Park but no pole or light has been installed. The CB office will follow up with DOT and/or Con Edison. (CB office learned that it is supposed to be installed by the end of the March.)

12- Susan discussed No Parking School Day signs around QCC. People have received parking tickets on Saturday. NYPD Parking Enforcement said that it was the discretion of the agent to write a ticket because QCC now has classes on Saturday. The Committee suggested CB office write to DOT to clarify signs or change them, if necessary.

13- Susan discussed complaints about traffic problems on 57 Road between Cloverdale Blvd and E. Hampton Blvd. A resident has complained numerous times about cars going too fast and parked cars being sideswiped. The office has made inquiries with DOT and the police. DOT said that the only solution is a one way street or No Parking on one side. The resident admitted that other residents would not like this. Committee decided that there is nothing else that can be suggested.

14- Allan Palzer said that the timing of the light crossing No. Blvd. at Douglaston Pkwy. is shorter than at Little Neck Pkwy. or by the library and Stop and Shop. CB office will ask DOT to extend the timing. Joe Sollano said that the light eastbound at the CIP was changing to red again but should only change when a pedestrian pushes the button. CB office will call DOT signal division.

15- The committee discussed the potholes that are all over and how much worse they will be when we have more snow and ice this week. All potholes should be called into 3-1-1.

16- Tom Meara asked about the possibility of the installation of sound barriers on the CLV. Susan explained that these were requested but NYSDOT will not install unless another road project is being done. Congressman Weiner and Ackerman were asked about obtaining Federal money for transportation programs, but this is all uncertain considering the budget.