



COMMUNITY BOARD NUMBER 1

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CEDRIC L. LOFTIN
DISTRICT MANAGER

ADOLFO CARRION, JR.
BOROUGH PRESIDENT

GEORGE RODRIGUEZ
CHAIRPERSON

MUNICIPAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING SEPTEMBER 18, 2006

MINUTES

Attendance: Herman Francis, Jr., Lucas Henríquez, Addie Marrow, Carmen Santos, Alice Simmons, Betty Wesley, Delores Waller-Worrell.

Others Present: Danny Torres, Roberto Clemente 21.com, Jacqueline Carter MTA NYC Transit, Sally Librera, MTA NYC Transit, Joe Chiarmonete, MTA NYC Transit, Rob Thompson, MTA NYC Transit, Ted Orosz, MTA NYC Transit, Mario Bodden, SOBRO, Evonn Stapleton, SOBRO.

Street Name Change of East 152nd Street, between Westchester Avenue and Prospect Avenue to Dr. Ramon S Velez

This matter was introduced at the board last year by Chairperson Rodriguez and is now being advanced to the City Council level.

The office of Honorable Maria del Carmen Arroyo presented a resolution on behalf of changing East 152nd Street, between Westchester Avenue and Prospect Avenue to Dr. Ramon S. Velez.

Designation of the area located at the intersection of 3rd Avenue, East 149th Street, Melrose Avenue, East 148th Street & Willis Avenue as Roberto Clemente Plaza

Mr. Mario Bodden said that the goal is to have a resolution from the Councilperson for designation of the area located at the intersection of 3rd Avenue, East 149th Street, Melrose Avenue, East 148th Street & Willis Avenue as Roberto Clemente Plaza.

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The name came sometime around 1974 and nobody was sure whether it had been entered into any city law. When the city went into reconstruction of 149th Street and the HUB area we said look everyone's calling it Roberto Clemente Plaza but there's no signage there in that name.

Again, we're here seeking your support to get this done.

Mr. Luis Clemente, Jr. was contacted in Puerto Rico by cell phone and he stated that he was in support of this project, happy about it and looking forward to it happening.

New York City Transit Authority

Bx17 Bus

Mr. Ted Orosz said that he does bus planning in the Bronx for the MTA.

The Bx17 was changed a year ago it used to go down Southern Boulevard and now it's on St. Ann's Avenue. The ridership has really gone up and most of the increase is due to the route change, which means that a lot of people on St. Ann's & 138th Street that did not use to ride the Bx17 but now are, so it looks like this has been a very successful change. Because more people are riding the bus we have put additional ones out there. We will monitor the Bx17 and make sure that it continues working on the new route.

Bx4 Bus

The Bx4 operates along Westchester Avenue, between the HUB and Westchester Square. Bx4 has 34 northbound stops and 38 southbound stops, and over 4 ½ miles of route, and every year since 2002 has suffered a decline in ridership.

In order to speed service and improve ridership, it is proposed that the number of stops be reduced. Some stops that are very close to other stops would be removed. Other stops would be combined by removing two stops and adding one in between. There would be five stops removed in each direction of travel, including two eastbound and two westbound stops in Community Board 1.

It is proposed that the northbound and southbound bus stops at Union Avenue be removed, which are one block away from the stops in either direction at Tinton and Prospect Avenues. The stops at Union Avenue serve 350 weekday customers, half of the amount at Tinton Avenue and one third at Prospect Avenue.

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Also proposed is that the bust stop pair between Trinity and Cauldwell Avenues be removed. These stops are one to two blocks from the stops to the north at Jackson Avenue. The Trinity and Cauldwell Avenues stops serve 340 average weekday customers, while the Jackson Avenue stops serve 790 customers, over twice as many.

Bx1 & Bx2 Buses

The Bx1 operates between Riverdale Avenue, West 231st Street & Lincoln Avenue, East 136th Streets with local and limited stop service from end-to-end. Bx2 operates between Fort Independence Street, Sedgwick Avenue & Lincoln Avenue, East 136th Streets with local and limited service from end-to-end.

East 162nd Street & Teller Avenue are very narrow for articulated bus operations and ridership is quite light along this route. Melrose Avenue is well served by the Bx41 and along this route the Bx2 is duplicative.

Bx1 would make all stops south of East 149th Street and beyond Fort Independence Street in Riverdale. Then between East 149th Street & Fort Independence Street all Bx1 buses would make only Limited Stops.

Bx2 would provide local service from end-to-end. The Bx2 would be re-routed to better serve the Courts, Hostos College, Post Office and Yankee Stadium to operate on the Grand Concourse between East 165th Street & East 149th Street, and on East 149th Street between the Grand Concourse & Third Avenue.

Motion made to approve resolution renaming East 152nd Street, between Westchester & Prospect Avenues Dr. Ramon S. Velez. Motion duly seconded. Called and passed unanimously.

Motion made to approve resolution designating the intersection at Third Avenue, East 149th Street, Melrose Avenue, East 148th Street & Willis Avenue Roberto Clemente Plaza. Motion duly seconded. Called and passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned.