



Hon. Vanessa L. Gibson
Borough President

BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD No. 10

3165 East Tremont Avenue • Bronx, New York 10461

Tel: (718) 892-1161 • Fax: (718) 863-6860

E-mail: bx10@cb.nyc.gov

Facebook.com/BronxCommunityBoard10

Website: www.nyc.gov/bronxcb10

Instagram & Twitter @BronxCB10



Joseph Russo
Chairperson

Matthew Cruz
District Manager

BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD #10 VIRTUAL DISTRICT SERVICE CABINET MEETING MINUTES January 18, 2022

Attendance: CB10: M. Cruz; N. Kilkenny; Con Ed: R. Infante; DCWR: A. Algabyali; CCHR: O. Torres; DDC: L. Alfred; DEP: E. Ardizzone; DFTA: J. Melendez; DOB: E. Jarratt; DoHMH: E. Peralta; DOT: D. Cruz; DOT Bridges: A. Zhou, S. Bayer; DOT – State: T. Bayer; DSNY: J. Falcaro; DSNY-E: D. Ratliff; NYCEM: Y. Duarte; NYPL: L. Brown, L. Velazquez, L. Marin; M. Ramos-Lugo; Parks: C. Acosta; K. Zagorski; V. Davis-O'Neill; Sen. Alessandra Biaggi's Office: A. Conley; Assemblyman Benedetto's Office: M. McKay; Assemblyman Riley's Office: C. Burton; Councilmember Velazquez and A. Jadric; Council Member A. Farrias and R. Nieves; Sen. Bailey's Office: S. Morello; Bronx District Attorney's Office: M. Santana-Tavares; Bronx Borough President V. Gibson's Office: I. Gonzalez (34)

Mr. Cruz commenced the meeting at 10:10 AM by welcoming Cabinet members.

Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DoHMH) – E. Peralta

Ms. Peralta reported that the agency continues to encourage all to get vaccinated/boosted. Pfizer and Moderna vaccines can be boosted five months after receiving the first dose. Johnson and Johnson vaccines can be boosted two months after receiving the first dose. Five to seventeen-year-olds are eligible for the Pfizer vaccine. Primary care providers can assist with questions.

Ms. Peralta reported that the agency has a limited number of inspectors available to pursue complaints. Requests for inspections can be logged daily but may require a longer response period.

Office of Council Member Marjorie Velazquez – Hon. M. Velazquez; A. Jadric

Council Member Velazquez greeted Cabinet members and introduced Adrienne Jadric as her representative at future meetings.

Ms. Jadric reported that the Council Office is working remotely. Those in need of assistance can call 718 931-1721.

Office of Council Member Farias – A. Farias; R. Nieves

Council Member Farias greeted Cabinet members and introduced Rebecca Nieves as her representative at future meetings.

R. Nieves reported that the Council office at 2347 Lafayette Avenue is conducting constituent services. Free tax prep for those who qualify will begin in the coming weeks. The office is working to procure home test kits for distribution.

Matt requested a site visit on Westchester Avenue and assistance finding artists to paint over graffiti.

Mr. Cruz noted that NYPD is not in attendance because representatives are attending an event at One Police Plaza.

New York City Emergency Management (NYCEM) - Y. Duarte

Ms. Duarte noted that the NYCEM report was emailed. She noted the importance of the “Share your space Program”. The agency needs to know of large staging sites in every community to be used in the event of an emergency such as the recent tragic fire on 181st Street. Such knowledge promotes a smooth and speedy response to emergencies. A form for registering potential sites will be forwarded.

New York City - Department of Transportation (DOT) – D. Cruz

Ms. Cruz reported on agenda items:

No update was available on the status of the lighting installation on Westchester Avenue from Middletown Road to Wilkinson Avenue.

No update was available on the speed hump requests for LaSalle Avenue from Edison to Crosby Avenues DOT-406830-K0G5 or Edison Avenue from LaSalle to Waterbury Avenues, DOT-406830-M9C8.

A response to the request for a speed hump at Dudley Avenue between Edison and Mayflower Avenues – DOT-522629-J1T4, is due in October 2022.

Responses to the requests for speed humps at Layton Avenue between Fairfax and Dean Avenues – DOT-523990-X8C6 and Harding Avenue from East Tremont to Pennyfield Avenues – DOT-523994-K9Y8, are due this week.

The request for a speed hump at Harding Avenue from East Tremont to Emerson Avenues – DOT-523991-V3T2, was denied.

Responses to the requests for *No Standing Midnight to 6AM* signage at the following locations are due February 2022:

DOT-504510-C1L2 - Bruckner Boulevard Service Road from Middletown Road to Wilkinson Avenue

DOT-504513-V2F9 - Underpass at Randall Avenue at Cross Bronx Expressway Service Rd.

DOT-504517-T6G0 - Cross Bronx Expressway Service Road between Lafayette Avenue and Harding Avenue (St. Raymond Cemetery side)

Painting of double yellow lines on Westchester Avenue from Waters Place to Overing Street – DOT-514784-P1S2, was done.

The request for repainting of the crosswalk on Doris Street near the intersection of Westchester Avenue, was approved and will be accomplished in the spring.

The Request for repaving Doris Street between Westchester Avenue and Starling Avenue, DOT-518794-G0D2, has been approved.

A response to the request for repaving George Street is due in March 2022. The agency is verifying that it is a city street.

No update was provided concerning the request for a 4-Way stop sign at the intersection of Mayflower and Zulette Avenues DOT-494456-G9K8. Ms. Cruz is awaiting an e-mail reply.

New York City - Department of Transportation (DOT) continued

A response to the request for a stop sign on Baisley Avenue at Edison Avenue, DOT-526081-V5L3 is due in February 2022.

The request for resurfacing of Waterbury Avenue from Hollywood Avenue to Hobart Avenue, DOT-512146-Q0D1, was approved and will be accomplished in FY 2023.

The agency is awaiting clarification concerning the ownership of the street as pertains to the request for repair/remilling/resurfacing of Miles Avenue from Throggs Neck Expressway Service Road to the water at the boundary separating Alden Park and Pennyfield Camp. 311-08070988. A decision is expected shortly.

A response to the request for placement of a crosswalk on Balcom Avenue at the intersection of Dewey Avenue is due in March. DOT-526080-R7G9

The request for repaving of Alcott Place at Asch Loop (140 Alcott Place area has no catch basins) will be submitted as a Capital Reconstruction request.

Ms. Cruz requested that the Board resend the request for additional asphalt at Hutchinson River Parkway East and Boller Avenue due to the area sinking.

There was no update on the request for a traffic signal study for Robinson Ave. & Miles Ave: DOT-514198-Q3J9.

A response to the request for a DOT study to address removal of the City Bench at 1710 Crosby Avenue which has become a gathering place for vagrants is due by the end of January 2022, DOT-522828-T7F4.

The request for a street lighting study at Harding Avenue and Huntington Avenue DOT-516990-X2S6 has been approved.

No update is available for the request for an All-Way Stop at the intersection of Harding and Longstreet: DOT-516307-S2R2.

The Right Turn Lane at the intersection of Harding and Longstreet Avenues: DOT-516311-Z6T8, has been installed. Weekday regulations are between 4 and 7 PM.

The request for a traffic control study at the intersection of Philip Avenue and Revere Avenue – possible all-way stop sign, DOT – 531619-F3Q5, is due in May 2022.

A response to the request for a speed cushion study on Revere Avenue between Philip Avenue and Dill Place, DOT-521620-S3H3, is due in April. Speed cushions have been installed elsewhere in New York City.

On January 6, 2022, a CAR was issued by the agency for a temporary restoration of the road opposite 905 Brush Avenue. Repairs must be accomplished within 30 days.

A response to the request for a study for additional street lighting on Bruckner Boulevard from East Tremont Avenue to Balcom Avenue, # DOT-529222-B3Q1, is due in March 2022.

New York State Transportation Dept. (NYState DOT) – T. Bayer

Mr. Bayer reported that the I-95/Hutchinson River Parkway Exchange project which will provide a new ramp to Section 5 of Co-op City, has been awarded and is in the construction phase. Permitting and establishing a staging area are underway. Construction activity on the project is estimated to begin in approximately two months.

Transportation Dept. – Bridges - A. Zhou, A. Bayer

Westchester Overpass – Ms. Zhou had no updates to report other than that crews are working with Con Edison on providing utility service to the overpass. Ms. Zhou invited anyone with a question or issue to email her at azhou@samschwartz.com. Mr. Cruz requested that Ms. Zhou reach out to newly elected representatives to familiarize them with the project.

Unionport Bridge – Ms. Bayer had no updates to report. The project is progressing steadily without issue. Mr. Cruz requested that Ms. Bayer please reach out to newly elected representatives in our district to familiarize them with the project.

Design & Construction, Dept. of (DDC) – L. Alfred

Ms. Alfred did not have updates to report other than that sewer excavation was ongoing on Colonial Avenue and that the project is ahead of schedule despite some weather delays.

Mr. Cruz requested that Ms. Alfred contact newly elected officials to apprise them of the Burr Avenue Sewer and Watermain Replacement Project in Pelham Bay.

To representatives, he noted that Ms. Alfred is our wonderful liaison and can answer any questions concerning the project.

Mr. Cruz reported that the City Island Watermain Project, HED564, has been successfully completed and representative Caminero will no longer be attending meetings.

Department of Buildings (DOB) - E. Jarratt

Mr. Jarratt reported that there was no update on the request for the Immediate Emergency Demolition (IED) Order at 235 Robinson Avenue. The issue is transitioning from the Buildings Department to Housing Preservation and Development (HPD). Mr. Jarratt will provide an update when available.

Consolidated Edison – R. Infante

Mr. Infante stated that he will reach out to new representatives and update them on ongoing neighborhood projects.

Mr. Infante reported that the agency was prepared for a significant storm last Saturday, and were pleased that it was averted except for high winds and some coastal flooding.

The agency is offering safety presentations in the wake of the tragic Bronx fire which claimed 17 lives. The agency continually provides electrical safety reminders.

Mr. Cruz inquired about a boot hanging on utility lines at 535 Hollywood Avenue. Mr. Infante will check to see if it is agency equipment.

Environmental Protection Dept. (DEP) – E. Ardizzone

Ms. Ardizzone reported that the workorder for the catch basin at 181 Meager Avenue is still open, 311-07684225. She will update the Board once additional information is available.

Major watermain breaks at the New England Thruway and the Hutchinson River Parkway were repaired, but unfortunately caused severe traffic issues. Watermain breaks are an ongoing issue during the winter months. Those interested in procuring a waterline protection plan for their property can call 718 595 7000.

A defective manhole cover at 3232 Schley Avenue was removed and the casting will be replaced shortly.

Department of Parks and Recreation – C. Acosta, V. Davis-O’Neal, K. Zagorski

Mr. Cruz indicated that the Parks Committee would like to discuss the RFP process for Ferry Point Park Concessions. Chris will work on arranging for a representative to attend a meeting. The Parks Committee meets the 2nd Thursday of every month.

Ms. Davis-O’Neal announced that the Lifeguard Training Program began in December. Due to Covid 19, lifeguard candidates must be vaccinated to participate. Posters will be sent to the Board Office.

Mike Ortiz will review our request for sidewalk repair around the perimeter of Bufano Park on LaSalle, Edison and Bradford Avenues.

Department of Consumer and Worker Protection (DCWP) – A. Algabyali,

Mr. Algabyali announced free tax prep will be provided for those with a single income of \$50,000 or less, or joint income of \$72,000 or less. An official announcement will follow.

Mr. Algabyali reported that New York City Paid Sick Leave Law and Special Covid 19 Leave is extended to all regardless of immigration status. All are permitted to take time off to get their children vaccinated. Employers cannot punish workers requesting sick leave for this purpose.

Delivery workers are now covered under New York City Department of Consumer and Worker Protection regulations. Third party providers (Grub Hub/ Uber Eats) must disclose tip amounts. Delivery personnel must be provided bathroom access when performing deliveries. The agency can schedule a presentation on the new ruling if requested.

Department of Sanitation Enforcement (DSNY-E) – Lt. Ratliff

Lt. Ratliff reported that the agency continues efforts to keep our community clean.

Mr. Cruz indicated that complaints have been received concerning the deli on Crosby Avenue at the corner of Zulette Avenue.

Department of Sanitation (DSNY) – Superintendent Falcaro

Superintendent Falcaro introduced himself as the new Superintendent of Board #10. He has been a lifelong resident of Board #10.

Superintendent Falcaro reported that CB10 continues to be #1 in cleanliness in the Bronx.

Mr. Cruz requested that Superintendent Falcaro communicate with newly elected officials to keep them apprised of the agency’s efforts in the area.

Department for the Aging (DFTA) – J. Melendez

Mr. Melendez wished all a Happy New Year.

The agency continues its public service announcement campaign promoting vaccinations for vulnerable seniors. 10,000 tablets were donated to senior centers for their members to stay connected remotely during the pandemic.

Those requesting at-home Covid 19 testing may call (929) 298-9400.

The Aging Connect Hotline also offers a variety of senior services: 212-244-6469

Mr. Cruz indicated that seniors are experiencing high wait times when calling to schedule an at-home test. Mr. Melendez will investigate the matter and whether the agency can intervene.

Department for the Aging (DFTA) continued

A Department of Homeless Services representative was not present; however, Mr. Cruz indicated that two homeless centers are scheduled to be opened along the perimeter of Bronx Community Board #10. Both facilities would accommodate beds for 200 single adult men. A contract has not yet been awarded for the Blondell Avenue location, which may indicate that the project may not move forward.

Human Rights Commission NYC (CCHR) – O. Torres

Mr. Torres introduced himself as the new agency representative and reviewed the agency's mission to enforce New York City's Human Rights Law in many areas including employment and housing.

As of March 2022, Human Rights Laws will be extended to protect domestic workers for hire. Workers cannot be discriminated against for race, religion, sexual orientation, etc. Those hiring are now liable as employers. Mr. Torres indicated that training in this or any part of Human Rights Law is available.

Public Library NY (NYPL) – L. Brown, M. Lugo; L. Marin; L. Velazquez

Ms. Lugo of the Pelham Bay Branch reported that in-house programming was suspended until the end of January due to the spike in Covid-19. Virtual programming remains available.

Ms. Brown reported that the Baychester Branch is also pausing in-house programming during January; however, they are focusing on welcoming patrons back to the library. A *Welcome Back* event was held in December which provided free giveaways to patrons that visited the branch. On February 18, 2022, the branch is hosting a *Day of Resources*. The branch welcomes agency participation. Attendance numbers must be limited in order to follow Covid-19 distancing guidelines. Ms. Brown noted that it is important that the library be present in the community as a resource for all.

Ms. Velazquez, of the Throggs Neck Branch and Ms. Marin, of the Westchester Square Branch had no updates and wished all a Happy New Year.

State Senator Alessandra Biaggi's Office – A. Conley

Ms. Conley reported that the eviction moratorium has lapsed and that the Emergency Rental Assistance Program will be awarded additional funding. Those who qualify can apply on the program portal which has been reopened, or contact Senator Biaggi's office directly: 718-822-2049.

State Senator Jamaal Bailey's Office – S. Morello

Mr. Morello reported that the Senator's Office is working on procuring at-home test kits for an upcoming give away.

On Saturday, January 29th a Virtual human trafficking event will be held. For more information call: 718-547-8854

Office of State Assemblyman Michael Benedetto – M. McKay

Mr. McKay reported that the Assemblyman's Office is scheduling a home test kit giveaway in Co-op City. Additional information will follow when finalized.

Office of Bronx District Attorney Darcel Clark – M. Tavarez-Santana

Ms. Tavarez-Santana reported that the District Attorney's recent gun buyback event in the 47th Precinct was successful and yielded 70 firearms.

Additional events are being planned and information will be emailed when finalized.

Borough President's Office – I. Gonzalez

Mr. Gonzalez reported that the Hon. Vanessa L. Gibson is the new Bronx Borough President.

There were no other updates to report. Mr. Gonzales provided his contact information for anyone in need of assistance: 347-259-8073, IGonzalez@bronxbp.nyc.gov.

Mr. Cruz thanked all for their attendance and concluded the meeting at 11:15 AM.