



Hon. Vanessa L. Gibson  
Borough President

## BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD No. 10

3165 East Tremont Avenue • Bronx, New York 10461

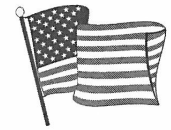
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Joseph Russo  
Chairperson

Matthew Cruz  
District Manager

### BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD #10 VIRTUAL DISTRICT SERVICE CABINET MEETING MINUTES January 17, 2023

Attendance: CB10: M. Cruz; N. Kilkenny; CCHR: A. Algabyali; Con Edison: E. Oliver: DEP: E. Ardizzzone; DFTA: J. Melendez; DOB: L. Szabados; DoHMH – A. McCausky; DSS – J. Bennett; DOT: J. Soto; C. Andrews, D. Garcia; DOT Bridges: A. Zhou, R. Zurita; State DOT: T. Bayer; MTA: M. Molina; NYCEM: K. Salomon; NYPD: P.O. H. Rivera; P.O. Federico, Det. W. Santiago; NYPL: L. Marin, L. Velazquez, R. Collado; Parks: C. Acosta; K. Zagorski; Office of Mayor Eric Adams: A. Dowe; Office of State Senator Jamaal Bailey: J. Rosenbaum; Office of Senator Nathalia Fernandez: J. Guerrero; Office of Council Member Amanda Farias: R. Nieves; Office of Council Member Marjorie Velazquez: S. Parish; Office of Council Member Kevin Riley: J. Yapp; Office of District Attorney Darcel Clark: R. Spencer, II (32)

Mr. Cruz commenced the meeting at 10:05 AM by wishing all a Happy New Year. He invited all to attend the upcoming full Board meeting of Bronx Community Board #10 on Thursday, January 19<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM at the Villa Barone Manor, 737 Throgs Neck Expressway, Bronx, NY 10465.

#### **New York City Police Department (NYPD)- P. O. H. Rivera, Det. W. Sanchez; P. O. Federico**

Officer Rivera reported on the 28-day period statistics. Crime is up overall by 81%. Robberies are up 115%, grand larceny auto (GLA) up 193%, grand larceny up 75%, felony assaults are up 10%, there were no murders, and no rapes.

The increase in robberies is a citywide problem. A pattern of armed perpetrators emerging from parked cars on unsuspecting pedestrians is on the rise. Three instances occurred in Country Club on January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> on McDonough Place, Outlook Avenue and Middletown Road. Victims are robbed of their valuables including cell phones.

Officer Federico, who specializes in crime prevention, noted that many Grand Larceny Auto incidents occur because drivers are leaving their vehicles unattended. Vehicles can be stolen even if the driver is carrying the key fob and it is not inside of the vehicle. Shop lifting and mailbox phishing account for the high number of grand larcenies. Residents are encouraged to deposit mail at the post office rather than at their local mailbox. He also encouraged a return to steering wheel locks and using online banking rather than writing checks which could be compromised.

Officer Rivera invited all to attend the Retirement Walkout Celebration for Detective John Souhrada on January 31<sup>st</sup> from 1-3 PM at the 45<sup>th</sup> Precinct.

### **New York City Emergency Management (NYCEM) – K Salomon**

Ms. Salomon reported that the agency recommends cash and gift card donations to disaster victims rather than clothes and supplies which are unsustainable.

The agency is focused on winter weather planning and recommends adding warm winter clothing to emergency supply kits. Kits should be equipped to sustain a person for seven days of hardship.

The Share Your Space Program is seeking participants with the ability to host large scale agency activities in the event of an emergency. Applications are available on the agency website.

CERT Team participants are currently being recruited. Applications can be found on the agency website. Applicants must be 18 years or older and will receive two training sessions beginning in February. Training will be hybrid, in-person and remote.

Community preparedness workshops for faith-based organizations and Disability Access Workshops are available.

All are encouraged to register for Notify NYC, a public announcement system which is activated during emergencies, and for special announcements.

<https://www1.nyc.gov/site/em/ready/ready-new-york.page>

<https://www1.nyc.gov/site/em/volunteer/nyc-cert.page>

<https://a858-nycnotify.nyc.gov/>

<https://www.nyc.gov/site/em/ready/winter-weather-prep.page>

### **New York City Department of Transportation (NYCDOT) – J. Soto, C. Andrews, D. Garcia**

Mr. Soto responded to agenda items as follows:

No available information on when the approved additional street lighting on Bruckner Boulevard from East Tremont Avenue to Balcom Avenue, # DOT-529222-B3Q1, will be installed.

The request for a left turn signal on the Layton Avenue overpass at Throgs Neck Expressway Service Road was assigned ticket number: DOT-578452C3B0

Repainting of angle parking lines at 100, 120, 140 Carver Loop is on the schedule and will be accomplished during the upcoming spring marking season.

Information on pothole repair on Waters Place at Fink Avenue was not available. Mr. Cruz noted that the 1B exit ramp off the Hutch needs repair.

No updates were available on the following speed hump requests:

Layton Avenue between Fairfax and Dean Avenues – DOT-523990-X8C6

Harding Avenue from East Tremont to Pennyfield Avenues – DOT-523994-K9Y8

No Updates were available concerning the repaving request for Co-op City Boulevard from Bartow Avenue to Bellamy Loop

The request for the return of the “Right Turn on Red” sign removed during construction at Westchester Avenue at the intersection of Hutchinson River Parkway East Service Road was assigned ticket number DOT-578433-R3K3.

No information was available on the request for street light repair at the southeast corner of Colonial Avenue at East 196 St. – sent to DOT to replace sweep obstruction on 10-28-22 - STOP TAG 111665, XE21004776.

The request to replace faded street signs at Willow Lane and Westchester Avenue. 311-12519698 was assigned ticket DOT-578431-J1B0.

The agency will follow up on the request for reinstallation of the street sign on Rawlins Avenue at Kearney Place and contact the homeowner who has the sign: 718-892-5827.

A CAR was assigned to DEP for repair of a sink hole at 955 Edison Avenue. 311-12879330.

### **New York City Department of Transportation - continued**

The request for a left turn signal at the intersection of East Tremont Avenue southbound at Throgs Neck Expressway Service Road was assigned ticket DOT-577826-Q5G0.

Mr. Soto requested that the Board submit in an email the request for repainting lane demarcations on E. Tremont Avenue between Bruckner Boulevard and the Cross Bronx Extension (Dewey) 311-13103321.

Mr. Soto visited the site of the compromised utility pole at the corner of Pennyfield Avenue and Throgs Neck Expressway Service Road (near 414 Pennyfield Avenue). It was made safe by the Emergency Response Team.

The requests for no U-Turn signage at the following intersections were assigned ticket numbers:

Crosby Avenue and Roberts Avenue - DOT-578162-C0K1

Middletown Road and Hobart Avenue – DOT-578163-J5M1

### **State Department of Transportation (S-DOT) – T. Bayer**

Mr. Bayer reported that Project NYSDOT D264410 continues to progress without issue.

Mr. Cruz noted that the project is moving smoothly with little disruption to traffic flow in the area.

Mr. Bayer indicated that he forwarded a request for the New England Thruway Authority to address maintenance needs in the vicinity of southbound Exit 8C.

Mr. Cruz indicated that the roadway is also in poor condition on the northbound portion of this area.

### **Transportation Dept. – Bridges - A. Zhou, R. Zurita**

Westchester Avenue Overpass - Ms. Zhou reported that the completion date for this project is now expected in late fall of this year. In February she expects to have further updates. There is no nightly work or lane closures scheduled for the remainder of January.

Ms. Zhou noted that Ms. Garcia and Ms. Andrews of NYCDOT are present on the call and asks that they bring Mr. Cruz' request for road repair to the attention of the DOT Road Maintenance Unit.

### **Unionport Bridge Project – R. Zurita**

Ms. Zurita provided the following report via email:

#### **Summary of work activities completed for Unionport Bridge:**

- *New bascule pier steel was delivered.*
- *Installed railing at West approach.*
- *Installed fender panels and railing along the channel.*
- *Constructed bus stop along Brush Avenue.*
- *Installed steel faced curb and sidewalk at Brush Avenue, Zerega Avenue & WB Bruckner Blvd.*
- *Installed street lighting, foundation and lamp posts at Brush & Zerega Avenue- as well as the East & West approaches.*
- *Placed concrete & asphalt at Brush Avenue, between EB & WB Bruckner Blvd.*
- *Painted overhead structures over the bascule bridge (north & south).*
- *Continued installation of operating machinery at the bascule pier & control house.*
- *Continued assembly of the bridge (bascule span).*
- *Continued conducting vibration monitoring.*

#### **The upcoming work to be done for Unionport Bridge is:**

- *Continue installation of operating machinery at the bascule pier & control house.*
- *Continue assembly of the bridge (south bascule span).*

*Work completed is at 73.42%. The contractor's completion date is 12/27/23.*

### **Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA) – M. Molina**

Ms. Molina had no updates to report and requested photos of the proposed new bus stop at Harding Avenue, just off Pennyfield Avenue.

**Department of Buildings (DOB) – L. Szabados**

Mr. Szabados reported that 155 Pilot Street received permit revocations and a Stop Work Order is pending.

Unsecured abandoned properties at 198 Huntington Avenue and 3240 Rawlins Avenue have not yet been inspected.

Mr. Szabados announced that the agency is accepting Code Revision Cycle Applications thru January 31, 2023:

[https://www.nyc.gov/assets/buildings/newsletters/DOB\\_BN\\_011323.html](https://www.nyc.gov/assets/buildings/newsletters/DOB_BN_011323.html)

The open restaurant structure at 2369 Westchester Avenue was issued ticket number DOT-5561737-T1H4.

**Consolidate Edison (ConEd) – E. Oliver**

Ms. Oliver reported that Mr. Infante is no longer with the agency. His position will be posted shortly.

[olivere@coned.com](mailto:olivere@coned.com)

**Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) - E. Ardizzone**

Mr. Cruz thanked Ms. Ardizzone for her efforts over the weekend concerning the water main break on City Island Avenue. Ms. Ardizzone reported that residents had temporary water service for intervals throughout the issue. Ms. Ardizzone will follow up with the CAR issued by DOT at 955 Edison Avenue.

**Department of Parks and Recreation – C. Acosta, K. Zagorski**

Mr. Acosta provided updates on agenda items via email.

The tree at 163 Meagher Avenue was pruned on 3/28/22.

Pruning of the tree at 1012 Brinsmade Avenue was added to the ITP pruning contract (July 2022 to June 2023).

The tree at 2857 Wilkinson Avenue received a sidewalk rating of 88/100 and is on the waiting list for repair through the Trees and Sidewalks Program.

Ms. Zagorski reported that construction fencing was erected around the elliptical buildings at Orchard Beach. Construction is scheduled to begin on Monday, January 23, 2023, with the removal of trees.

Friends of Pelham Bay Park will have a virtual open house tomorrow from 6:30 to 8 PM. To join, register at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMsd-GgrDsvGtIL60iNhkvrmD9neMyTlawJ>

**Department for the Aging (DFTA) – J. Melendez**

Mr. Melendez had no specific updates. The agency continues to encourage seniors to return to their centers for in-person activities.

**Department of Social Services (DSS) – J. Bennett**

Ms. Bennett requested that Kenneth Charles be added to our email contact list. He will be joining future meetings.

Mr. Cruz thanked the agency for providing weekly visits from SNAP representative, Edward Del Orbe, who services Board 10 constituents in our office on Thursdays from 10 AM to 4 PM. He is wonderful and a valuable asset to our team.

**Pelham Grand – K. Mann**

Ms. Mann reported that ten new tenants moved into the facility in the last three months. Seven residents moved out and unfortunately, three died.

Unfortunately, a water pipe burst on Christmas Day, but it was resolved expediently.

### **Citizens Commission on Human Rights (CCHR) – A. Algabyali**

Mr. Algabyali had no major updates. The agency continues to promote the Salary Transparency Act for Employers. Mr. Algabyali will be conducting in person outreach concerning the Act to businesses in the district and invited Mr. Cruz to participate. He will reach out when details have been finalized.

### **New York Public Library (NYPL) – R. Collado, L. Marin, L. Velazquez,**

Westchester Square Branch – Ms. Marin reported that Monday through Thursday from 3-6 PM After School Tutoring is available at the branch. Limited edition Spiderman library cards are still available.

Throggs Neck Branch – L. Velazquez reported that the Throggs Neck Branch no longer has Spiderman library cards available.

The branch is promoting *Be Creative*, a bilingual program for K to 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students featuring Spanish reading, art, and fun. It will be conducted in two sessions, the first on Wednesday, January 25<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 PM. The second will be in March. In person programming for teens, young adults and adults is also ongoing. Check the website for more information: NYPL.org

### **Community Affairs Office of Mayor Eric Adams - A. Dowe**

Ms. Dowe reported that the Mayor's Office filed two lawsuits against Landlords for failure to correct safety violations. The Mayor and Governor announced investment in NYCHA buildings through the PACT program. New elevators servicing 36,000 apartments at 196 developments will be installed. Mayor Adams is considering converting unused office space into housing to ease the housing crisis. A major taskforce is addressing the issue of unlicensed car washes.

### **Office of New York State Senator Jamaal Bailey – J. Rosenbaum**

Ms. Rosenbaum announced that on Friday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, Senator Bailey will host a Human Trafficking School Event.

On Saturday, January 28<sup>th</sup> Senator Bailey is teaming up with Lady Pamela Damon and Not On My Watch for a Human Trafficking Awareness Walk. A flyer will be posted on the Senator's Instagram (@jamaaltbailey36)

On February 7<sup>th</sup> Senator Bailey will host a Black History Month Art Exhibition at the Northeast Bronx YMCA. Local students are asked to submit artwork.

### **Office of New York State Senator Nathalia Fernandez – J. Guerrero**

No scheduled events for January. Senator Fernandez's Inauguration is tentatively scheduled for February 11<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 PM at SUNY Maritime. Invitations will be available shortly.

### **Office of New York City Council Member Kevin Riley – J. Yapp**

Mr. Yapp reported that the Discretionary Fund Application is open for Bronx Based Non-Profits. Councilman Riley and the Bronx Delegation are hosting a Virtual Discretionary Budget Workshop tomorrow Jan. 18<sup>th</sup> from 12-3 PM and on January 25<sup>th</sup>, from 6:30 to 8 PM.

Councilman Riley's Office is open to the public for constituent services. CUNY Citizenship Now services are also available for immigration issues.

Free notary services by appointment are offered at the Gun Hill Road Office: 718 684 5509

Mr. Cruz noted that when the weather improves another shredding event in the Main Greenway of Co-op City can be scheduled as well as neighborhood cleaning events. Mr. Yapp has been in contact with WildCat concerning cleanups.

Mr. Yapp indicated that Councilman Riley is interested in determining the best locations for additional security cameras.

**Office of New York City Council Member Marjorie Velazquez – S. Parish**

Ms. Parish congratulated the new police officers assigned to the 45<sup>th</sup> Precinct. Councilmember Velazquez worked with the administration to procure additional officers.

Ms. Parish saluted DOT on the City Island Gateway Project which is underway.

An NIDC representative is available at the office every Tuesday from 10AM to 4 PM for SNAP and other assistance. Scheduled appointments and walk-ins are welcome. 718 931-1721

There will be a hearing tomorrow at 10 AM on the proliferation of unlicensed smoke shops. To submit testimony: <https://council.nyc.gov/testify/>

Tomorrow, January 18 from Noon to 3 PM there will be a Discretionary Funding Budget Workshop:

<https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=SH9iCmVrfkWUN3M-Tf3b5jOy-PKfm6tlvPFObUtkWGZUOVbKMIJSTRKNVA2R0xGRU83UTIIWDIJSC4u&fbclid=IwAR1U5GpZjSpd2c0b1tuZ7YuHQ0aZpPUHn0D1IZZMBthimsoPolv9vr8c9ZM>

On the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of every month a mobile MTA van will be stationed at the Middletown Road Senior Center, 3033 Middletown Road, to process senior and other reduced fare metro cards.

**Office of New York State Assembly Member Amanda Farias – R. Nieves**

Ms. Nieves reiterated that the Bronx Delegation is holding its Discretionary Funding Budget 101 Workshop tomorrow from 12 – 3 PM.

On Tuesday Jan. 24<sup>th</sup> the Westside Campaign Against Hunger will be at the Assembly member's office – appointments for SNAP assistance may be scheduled by calling 718-792-1140

Mr. Cruz again invited all to the Full Board Meeting on Thursday January 19<sup>th</sup> at the Villa Barone Manor, 737 Throgs Neck Expressway, at 7 PM.

**Office of District Attorney Darcel Clark – R. Spencer**

Mr. Spencer had no announcements to report at this time.

**Office of New York State Assembly Member Michael Benedetto – M. McKay**

Mr. McKay reported that the Assemblyman is working on accelerating the Rodman's Neck Bill in hopes of baffling sounds emanating from the firing range.

Mr. Cruz extended the community's gratitude to Assemblyman Benedetto for his efforts to improve the sound quality in our area.

**Department of Health and Mental Hygiene – A. McCausky**

Ms. McCausky reported that she is covering for Mr. Johnson and did not receive the agenda.

There were no health updates to report.

The agency continues to urge using masks in crowded spaces and getting vaccinated and boosted.

Mr. Cruz concluded the meeting at 11:12 AM.