



Hon. Vanessa L. Gibson
Borough President

BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD No. 10

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Joseph Russo
Chairperson

Matthew Cruz
District Manager

BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD #10 VIRTUAL DISTRICT SERVICE CABINET MEETING MINUTES March 15, 2022

Attendance: CB10: M. Cruz; N. Kilkenny; CCHR: O. Torres; DCPL: L. Davis; DCWR: A. Algabyali; DDC: L. Alfred; DEP: E. Ardizzone; DFTA: J. Melendez; DOB: E. Jarratt; DoHMH: K. Johnson; DOT: D. Cruz; DOT Bridges: A. Zhou, A. Bayer; DSNY: J. Falcaro; DSNY-E: Sgt. McKenzie; NYCEM: B. Fagnoli; NYPL: L. Brown, L. Marin; L. Velazquez; Parks: C. Acosta; K. Zagorski; Mayors' Community Affairs Unit: P. Caquias; St. Peters' Residence: F. Corronado; Office of Sen. Alessandra Biaggi: A. Conley; Office of Assemblyman Michael Benedetto: M. McKay; Office of Assemblyman Kevin Riley: K. Burton; Office of Council Member Marjorie Velazquez: A. Jadric; Office of Council Member Amanda Farrias: R. Nieves; Office of Sen. Jamaal Bailey: S. Morello; Office of Borough President Vanessa Gibson: I. Gonzalez; Office of District Attorney Darcel Clark: M. Tavaréz-Santana (31)

Mr. Cruz commenced the meeting at 10:05 AM by welcoming Cabinet members. Meetings will continue to be conducted remotely to facilitate attendance.

Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DoHMH) – K. Johnson

Mr. Johnson reported that the new Covid 19 Alert System which tracks community spread and impact is currently indicating low levels.

Masks continue to be required on public transportation, in healthcare settings, childcare and congregate settings. Masks are optional in K-12 Public Schools and businesses including restaurants and gyms.

In answer to Mr. Cruz's inquiry as to whether data from positive at-home test kits was being monitored, Mr. Johnson indicated that they once were but currently are not.

<https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/doh/downloads/pdf/covid/covid-19-at-home-testing.pdf>

Mr. Cruz indicated that representatives from the 45th Precinct were unavailable this morning. Community residents continue to report illegally parked trucks and tractor trailers. They can be reported to the 45th Precinct when parked after 9 pm. Towing is difficult due to limited resources for towing and storage.

New York City Emergency Management (NYCEM) – B. Fagnoli

Mr. Fagnoli reported that when large scale disasters such as the recent fire at 181st Street occur, cash or gift card donations are best. These options offer control to victims as they can purchase items that best meet their needs. Material donations are difficult to transport, store and distribute.

John D. Solomon Fellowship Program applications are due by March 21, 2022 at midnight. Nine Masters Degree students will be selected for a 9 month paid fellowship.

<https://www1.nyc.gov/site/em/about/john-d-solomon-fellowship-public-service.page>

New York City Emergency Management (NYCEM) (continued)

Ready New York preparedness presentations are available at intergov@oem.nyc.gov. Presentations can be requested in one of 13 languages and American Sign Language.

All are encouraged to sign up for the Notify NYC App.

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

Ms. Cruz reported that 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 was denied because it was deemed to not be a city street. Ms. Cruz will confirm with them because she believes they may not have evaluated the proper location.

Alcott Place at Asch Loop will be repaved to resolve drainage issues. It was added to the schedule, but a specific date is not yet available, Mr. Cruz requested an email confirmation of this result. This will probably be accomplished in May, 2022.

The request for removal of the City Bench at 1710 Crosby Avenue, which has become a gathering place for vagrants, is due in April 2022.

The agency is awaiting contract information concerning the approved street lighting study at Harding and Huntington Avenues, DOT-516990-X2S6. The Board will be updated when installation is scheduled.

The road opposite 905 Brush Avenue was repaired.

Request for resurfacing the street at 825 Vincent Avenue due to improper pitching at time of paving, DOT-537308-D3F7, is due in June 2022.

The requested street light repair opposite 2861 Barkley Avenue was completed on March 6, 2022.

The request for speed cameras on Bruckner Boulevard at the intersection of St. Joseph Way, DOT-536380-Q8V1. A mobile unit is being dispatched to determine if permanent cameras are needed at this location.

The dangling Alternate Side Parking sign at the corner of East Tremont Avenue and Lasalle Avenue was repaired.

The repaving request for St. Paul Avenue from Pelham Parkway South to Westchester Avenue was added to the repaving schedule and should be accomplished in May.

There should be an update next month on the request for placement of a crosswalk on Balcom Avenue at the intersection of Dewey Avenue.

The response to the request for additional street lighting on Bruckner Boulevard from East Tremont Avenue to Balcom Avenue, DOT-529222-B3Q1 is due next week.

Ms. Cruz requested all to please copy Interim Commissioner, Keith Kalb, and Holly Malone on emails. Ms. Cruz will be going on maternity leave sometime in May.

State Transportation Department (State DOT) – T. Bayer

Mr. Bayer provided an update on Project NYSDOT D264410, the entrance ramp from the Hutchinson River Parkway to Co-op City.

Preliminary work has begun at the first location, at Bartow Avenue at the shoulder of the Hutchinson River Parkway East. A new ramp from the Hutchinson River Parkway North to Bartow Avenue and the Hutchinson River Parkway East is being constructed. Traffic is not impacted by work at this time. Milling repaving and restriping of the Hutchinson River Parkway East into Bartow Avenue, at the curve, will take place at the end of the project and will require parking restrictions. This will probably occur in July, and restrictions will extend to Einstein Loop North.

Mr. Bayer responded to an inquiry of Mr. McKay of Assemblyman Benedetto's Office concerning the removal of jersey barriers. They will be removed to accommodate the work but will be restored upon completion.

Work is expected to begin at the 2nd location, the Pelham Parkway/I-95 interchange at the end of the month.

Mr. Cruz commented that this will be an extensive project. State Senator Bailey and Assemblyman Benedetto's offices can also be contacted for updates.

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

Westchester Avenue Overpass - Ms. Zhou reported that utility work is ongoing at the project during the overnight hours. One westbound lane closure at Westchester Avenue is required from 9 pm - 6 am. A double closure is required on the Hutchinson River Parkway in each direction from 10 PM to 5 AM. One lane will remain open in each direction at all times. The project is expected to be completed in approximately one year.

Unionport Bridge Project – Ms. Bayer reported that the project is progressing well and is not impacting traffic at this time. There were no updates. Ms. Bayer noted that she has not noticed illegal parking in the area. This is attributable to the completion of the adjacent project.

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

Burr Ave Project # SEX20047 – Ms. Alfred reported that the project is 80.93% completed. Work at the intersection of Westchester and Burr Avenues and other locations involving catch basin and shoot installation is underway. Warmer weather will allow the project to speed up. Project completion is anticipated in June 2022.

Ms. Alfred thanked the Board Office for assisting constituents.

Mr. Cruz complimented Ms. Alfred, Ms. Bayer and Ms. Zhou for being responsive, professional, liaisons on their respective projects.

Department of Buildings (DOB) – E. Jarratt

Mr. Cruz requested that a third attempt to gain access to 1432 Crosby Avenue be made. The Board received a complaint that the resident is charging a vehicle from an indoor electrical outlet. This may pose a significant fire hazard. Mr. Cruz requested possibly posting an electrical safety flyer at the site. Mr. Jarratt noted that it is undetermined if this is an illegal practice. He will update the Board when clarification is received.

Environmental Protection Dept. (DEP) – E. Ardizzone

The open work order at 181 Meagher Avenue for reconstruction of a catch basin will be addressed shortly. It is now in priority status and will be repaired.

The property at 178 Meagher Avenue has no sidewalk and no catch basin. There is nothing for the agency to address at this location.

Illegal car washes using fire hydrants as a water source can be reported to DEP and DCWP. The agency will advise offenders to procure a legal permit.

Please forward DOT's Corrective Action Request (CAR) number pertaining to the street depression on Bruckner Boulevard Service Road between East Tremont and the Hutchinson River Parkway entrance.

The agency is currently hiring rain garden maintenance workers: nyc.gov/careers: Job ID # 518491 — Rain Garden Maintainer.

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

Ms. Zagorski had no updates to report.

Mr. Acosta reported that the graffiti at Colucci Park was removed immediately. The park is staffed from 7:30 AM to 3:00 PM daily.

Mr. Cruz noted that Forestry had reported on tree issues.

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

Mr. Algabyali reported that the agency continues to perform outreach in the last month of free tax filing.

Next month delivery workers' rights are enacted. Workers must receive a weekly salary, with no fees charged to process payments, and other

A new agency commissioner was appointed by Mayor Adams, Vilda Vera Mayuga.

Inspectors are scheduled to inspect the illegal car wash at the new St. Raymond Cemetery on Lafayette Avenue at the Cross Bronx Expressway Serve Road. The Board will be provided results of that inspection when it occurs.

Mr. Algabyali referred Mr. Cruz to the *Open Data* website which provides information on permits issued to mobile car wash units in Board #10.

Restaurant delivery workers have new rights under the agency. Food aps must be licensed by NYC, tips must be disclosed, and provide bathroom access.

<https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/cchr/downloads/pdf/publications/Domestic-Workers-339-Fact-Sheet.pdf>

Department of Sanitation Enforcement – Sgt. McKenzie

Sgt. McKenzie had no announcements. She will visit Blondell Avenue from Westchester Avenue to St. Raymond Avenue to inspect for litter.

Department of Sanitation (DSNY) – Superintendent Falcaro

Agenda items were already addressed.

Dumped tires were reported on Zulette Avenue and Hutchinson River Parkway Service Road.

Mr. Cruz reported that FEDCAP assisted by collecting tires and piling them in one area.

Superintendent Falcaro can have them collected.

Superintendent Falcaro also reported that Mr. Caruso's request to clean litter at the soccer field on Balcom Avenue was accomplished.

Mr. Cruz requested photos of cleaned areas so that they can be posted on the Board's website.

Superintendent Falcaro reported that the department has also been cleaning on Blondell Avenue.

Mr. Cruz indicated that he will reach out to the Ponton Avenue Post Office staff to request that they clean the perimeter of their facility. One abandoned auto body shop was summonsed.

Superintendent Falcaro commented on the uptick in derelict vehicles. Mr. Cruz reported that he was informed by the NYPD that many people who passed away from covid have left cars on the streets.

Department for the Aging (DFTA) – J. Melendez

Mr. Melendez reported that last month Aging Connect had its 2-year anniversary. 114,000 service requests were placed in service to senior adults.

Aging Connect - 212-244-6469

Senior Centers are fully opened for all services including meals. Seniors are encouraged to participate and sign up for the agency newsletter:

<https://www1.nyc.gov/site/dfta/news-reports/newsletters.page>

Mr. Cruz noted that the Aging Connect Program is an effective tool in assisting senior residents.

St. Peters Residence – F. Corronado

Mr. Corronado reported that the facility has a new recreation specialist who will be planning community events in the near future.

Human Rights Commission NYC (CCHR) – O. Torres

Mr. Torres reported that as of Sunday, March 13, 2022, domestic workers are covered under CCHR protections. A fact sheet will be forwarded.

<https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/cchr/downloads/pdf/publications/Domestic-Workers-339-Fact-Sheet.pdf>

Workshops and outreach concerning new laws are available for the next two months.

<https://www1.nyc.gov/site/cchr/media/intro-339.page>

On March 24, 2022, CCHR will be presenting at the Health and Human Services Committee.

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

Ms. Marin of the Westchester Square Branch reported that the branch is open and in-house programing, including after-school tutoring from 3-6 PM, has returned. Masks are encouraged but not required.

Ms. Brown of the Baychester Branch encouraged all to return to in-person activities at the library. All services are free. On April 14, 2022, A Welcome Back Event is scheduled for her branch and five to six organization are needed to table at the event. Please contact Ms. Brown if available. Mr. Cruz volunteered to attend.

Ms. Velazquez of the Throggs Neck Branch added that both in-person and virtual programing are available. Masks are not required. NYPL is here to support the community.

Ricky, the new City Island Branch representative will be attending upcoming meetings.

Mayor's Office of Community Affairs – P. Caquias

Ms. Caquias was present, but in transit. She had no updates to report.

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

District Attorney Clark and Ms. Tavarez-Santana enjoyed participating in the Throggs Neck St. Patrick's Day Parade on Sunday, March 13th.

The Office is working on the 5th Annual Child Safety Event which will take place at PS5, The Port Morris School of Community Leadership, at 564 Jackson Avenue, Bronx, NY 10455. The event will provide programing and activities for children.

State Senator Alessandra Biaggi's Office – A. Conley

Ms. Conley had no updates. The office is available to anyone seeking assistance.

Office of State Senator Jamaal Bailey – S. Morello

On Saturday, March 19 at 11 AM, Senator Bailey is hosting a Women's Her Story Virtual Event.

Office of City Council Member Kevin Riley – K. Burton

Council Member Riley is sponsoring a Job Fair with the YMCA on April 22, 2022.

On April 2nd discussion panel is being planned in celebration of Womens' History Month.

Mr. Cruz announced that the Full Board Meeting of Bronx Community Board #10 will take place this Thursday, March 17, 2022, at 7 PM. All are invited to attend. It will be in-person at the Villa Barone Manor, 737 Throggs Neck Expressway Service Road.

Office of Council Member Marjorie Velazquez – A. Jadric

The 3040 East Tremont, Suite 108, office will be opening shortly.

Tomorrow the office is partnering with DCWP for a Free Tax Prep service at 1082 Edison Avenue.

Office of Council Member Farias – R. Nieves

Council Member Farias' Inauguration will take place on Saturday, March 26, 2022, at 11:30 AM, at JHS 131, 885 Bolton Avenue, Bronx, New York. All are invited.

Office of State Assemblyman Michael Benedetto – M. McKay

Assemblyman Benedetto's Office Free Tax Prep service has assisted many constituents and will be concluding at the end of next week.

Driver Safety Classes are offered on an ongoing basis. The upcoming class is on April 2, 2022, Please call to register: 718 892-2235.

Borough President's Office – I. Gonzalez

Mr. Gonzalez was present but had to leave the meeting due to a conflict.

Mr. Cruz thanked all for their attendance and service to the community. He noted that the next meeting is scheduled for April 19th at 10 AM. Meeting credentials will remain the same.

The meeting was concluded the meeting at 11 AM.