



Ruben Diaz, Jr.
Borough President

BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD No. 10

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Joseph Russo
Chairperson

Matthew Cruz
District Manager

Municipal Services

January 13, 2021 7:30 p.m.

Present: M. Velazquez, J. Landi, P. Del-Debbio, D. Noble, R. Bieder, T. Accomando, I. Guanill, S. Woods, M. Sajous, M. Morris, N. Rosario, M. Bufano, R. Baez, H. Acampora, J. Russo

Absent: M. Ali, A. Chirico

Guests: Noel Ellison, Bernard Cylich, Marie Smith, K. Vishnu, M. Varghese, N. Basta, Tania, Glorimar, J. Gale, Candance McCalla, Katherine Dewkett, Charmaine Champagne, T. Bayer, Amelia, B. Klehammer, Leah, W. Krule, E. Ardizzone, Nelson, H. Overman, J. Washington, S. Morello, T. Doherty, E. Koester, S. Jones, Tori, A. Bridges Matthews, Dr. Bedell, L. Peterson, A. Shats

**Some participants did not disclose their last names on CISCO WEBEX. Many joined by telephone after the meeting had already commenced.*

Chairperson Velazquez commenced the meeting at 7:30 P.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Tonight's discussion began with a New York State Department of Transportation presentation on the Bruckner-Hutch Mobility Project in Co-op City. State DOT began with introduction of its staff. Mr. Kevin Vishnu discussed the project and its facets. The southern area is the I95 and the Bronx Pelham Parkway. The northern area of project is Section 5 of Co-op City. Project is needed due to high congestion rates at I95/Pelham Parkway interchange area. No signalized intersection for bike path which poses safety concern. There is no direct access to Co-op City from northbound Hutchinson River Parkway. Three project goals are to improve access to Co-op City, improve bike path safety and overall reduce congestion. State DOT wants to remove three ramps at Pelham Parkway/ I95 interchange. Pedestrian bike paths is part of project as well as more signalized intersection. Parkland will be improved. It will be returned as park land in the form of more greenspace and tree plantings. There will be a new ramp at southbound I95 at Pelham Parkway interchange. Signalized intersection will be on Bartow Avenue where current guardrails are placed. Noise surveys were conducted. It showed it will not increase by no more than three decibels. Many agencies are involved. NYCDOT, NYS Thruway Authority, NYS Historic Preservation Office on the Bronx Victory Memorial and Memorial Grave and Riverbay Management of Co-op City. Construction will be done in stages. All three lanes will be maintained on the I95 and on Pelham Parkway. All local streets and bike paths will be opened. All work will be done in the daytime to minimize construction at night. If lane closures occur, it will help at off-peak hours to minimize impact to traffic. Construction is set to begin in Summer 2021. The project should be completed by Summer 2023.

Several residents spoke out against the project due to the addition of traffic signals and the season traffic congestion at Bartow Avenue and "Killer Curve." Some asked about a round about mechanism, but State DOT said there was not enough spacing and that it would review once more.

Theresa Doherty from the Trace and Test Core was joined by Dr. Jane Bedell and Anna Shats. Dr. Bedell expressed her concern on the ever-rising infection rates in the Bronx. Dr. Bedell reiterated COVID 19 protocol and guidelines. There are listings of mobile vans offering testing throughout the borough daily. Dr. Bedell spoke on the coordination of the city and state vaccine distribution. Now, it is not running smoothly but the city and state will ultimately get it right. The vaccine is safe. Dr. Bedell reiterated that anyone able to receive should do so.

The meeting ended by a unanimous vote of adjournment at 9:30PM.