



**COMMUNITY BOARD 11**  
**1741 COLDEN AVENUE**  
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*Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr.*  
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- Housing*
- Land Use*
- Parks & Recreation*
- Public Safety*
- Sanitation & Environmental Protection*
- Transportation*

Public Safety Committee  
 October 25, 2021  
 Webex Meetings

**MINUTES**

PRESENT: Veronica Castro (Chair), Tasneem Aljayyousi, Maleny Lahoz, Yahay Obeid and Eliezer Rodriguez

STAFF: Jeremy Warneke (District Manager)

GUESTS: Crime Prevention Officer Tyrone Mederos (49<sup>th</sup> NYPD Precinct), Naomi Pemberton (BxCB11 Board Member) and Diana Finch and Sergio Marte (members of the public)

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

1. 49th NYPD Precinct Briefing  
 Officer Mederos reported the following:
  - a. Crime has increased about 14.6 % from this time last year
  - b. The total increase of crime for the past 28 days is 8.2%
  - c. The biggest drivers of crime for the last 28 days have been grand theft autos and robberies. Grand theft auto is up 53% for the last 28 days as compared to last year. 23 incidents as compared to 15 last year
  - d. Grand larcenies are up 11.4% for the 28 days compared to last year. 39 incidents compared to 35 last year

Eliezer asked about e-scooters and bikes.  
 Officer Mederos stated they are not allowed to ride on sidewalks. The Precinct is relaying back to the City DOT (Department of Transportation) any concerns related to e-scooters.  
 Naomi Pemberton asked if the e-scooters are supposed to follow the rules of the road.  
 Officer Mederos confirmed that they are held to the same rules as bicycles and vehicles.  
 Yahay relayed an incident involving an e-scooter blocking his personal driveway. After contacting 311, he received notification that person blocking driveway was no longer there, but the scooter had only been moved over 2 feet and was still blocking his driveway.  
 He contacted Bird, the scooter company, and they said to send it to them via email and they would respond right away.

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Naomi mentioned that people are starting to steal packages. She made two reports.

Theft is categorized under two categories grand larceny and petty larceny. Petty larceny is not given as high priority as other cases and can take longer.

Diana Finch asked what can be done about hostile and aggressive homeless people on White Plains Road and Pelham Parkway.

There is no longer a unit dedicated to homelessness nor can the PD move people from sleeping on the sidewalk or from using drugs. They can only offer help.

2. Issues and potential speakers or presentations for future committee meetings

Veronica asked the Committee if they have any thoughts about who should be co-chair of the committee.

No one volunteered.

Veronica said she'll consult the chairmen of the Board regarding the issue.

Veronica then asked both committee members and the public if there are any concerns or guest speakers that they would like at upcoming meetings.

Eliezer asked if a DOT representative can be invited to answer questions about the e-scooter program.

It was suggested the committee partner with the Health Committee to have someone come in to discuss booster shots and vaccinations for children.

Sergio provided a link in the chat from DOT where they talk about what is and what is not an e-bike. He talked about how someone had left an e-scooter on the train tracks, and it exploded when ran over. He was concerned that something like this could cause an auto accident.

Eliezer wanted clarification on when one is driving in the middle lane on Waters Place toward Eastchester Road, i.e. is one required to turn right on Eastchester Road or can they go left? There is no arrow indicating which direction one should go.

[According to the District Manager, he has tried have DOT address this issue in the past. They refuse to, claiming that there is no middle lane: only one right turn lane and one left turn lane. The District Manager recommends getting elected officials and the news media involved.]

Diana mentioned there is a similar situation at Pelham Parkway and Boston Road, i.e. the off ramp from the northbound land of the Bronx River Parkway, which she would like addressed.

Yahay suggested googling "contact NYC DOT commissioner." There is a dropdown menu, where one can give a suggestion.

Meeting adjourned at 7:57 pm

Minutes by Veronica Castro; edited and formatted by staff.