

THE CITY OF NEW YORK

BOROUGH OF THE BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD 7



RUBEN DIAZ, JR., BOROUGH PRESIDENT

JEAN HILL, CHAIRPERSON

ISCHIA BRAVO, DISTRICT MANAGER

Public Safety & Quality of Life Committee

Chair	Dilletta Pina
Meeting Date:	Thursday, January 10, 2019
Meeting Time:	7:00pm
Meeting Location:	Bronx Community Board 7 Office
Members (Check	✓ Dilletta Pina ✓ Yajaira Arias Stanley Richards Helene Redd
Those In Attendance)	Adaline Walker Santiago Tiffany Wheatland-Disu
Minutes Done By:	Dilletta Pina

Minutes:

- I. Introductions
- II. Review of last month's minutes
- III. Follow-up from previous month
 - a) At the problem spot at the grocery store on 3052 Valentine Avenue the main problems are noise complaints and people smoking weed. These have abated somewhat due to police work and the cold weather.

IV. New Business

- a) Edgar Ramos informed us of another spot where the MetroCard swiping crime is occurring openly at the #4 train station on Kingsbridge Road and Jerome avenue
- b) Officer Frank Pacella invited Detective Inspector Tom Alps to our meeting and it was a welcomed surprised by all attendees. DI Alps told us that transit crime went down from 278 to 261, but there is still more to be done. DI Alps also informed us that the man that was shot at Jerome Avenue and 208 Street was actually shot in the area of the 49th Precinct and was driven to North Central Hospital by a friend. So the 49th Precinct is handling that investigation. He continued, there were only 5 sex crimes and 14 lewdness transit crimes in the 52nd Precinct last year
- c) Transit Officer, Shauna Smith came to the meeting to answer questions from the community residents.
 - 1. Some of the things the Transit Division is doing are using its Anti-Crime, Response, and Condition Teams to address and reduce transit crimes. She explained that there are no more warrants



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given for fare evasion only summonses. The Committee Chair stated that due to the laws, our Police Officers are constrained in what they can do when trying to arrest perpetrators, they have to obey the law. Officer Smith stated that some of the MetroCard swipers were arrested. The problem is that they are not held in jail and once they get out they go back to the swiping scheme. Some of the tactics that the riders can use to prevent transit crimes are:

- Not sleeping on public transportation buses or trains
- Staying alert to their surroundings, not being immersed on their cell phones or books, etc.
- If noticing someone looking at you intently or at what you are doing (going through your purse, for example), put your things away, that person may be assessing an opportunity to rob you
- Keep your children away from suspicious characters. Better
 to keep your child standing than to sit them next to someone
 who could molest them. Try to sit in the end of the cars twositter seats so you can protect your child from sex crimes
- d) Committee Member Yajaira Arias suggested that we invite someone from the Bronx DA Office to discuss giving our officers more tools to make arrests, when needed, for transit crimes
- e) The Committee Chair praised the NCO's for the good work they are doing in the community and stated that the community residents are very happy with the NCO Program and its work.

V. Suggestions for next month's agenda

- a) Invite someone from the Bronx DA's Office
- b) Invite the Community Emergency Response Team CERT
- VI. Next month's meeting date: Thursday, February 14, 2019, at 7 pm
- VII. Adjournment