



Chairman Mohammed Mujumder - District Manager William Rivera

Public Safety & Transportation Committee Meeting Summary

December 5, 2024

Board Members Present: Shante Chamblee, Brent Woodie, Henry Pelayo, Juan Torres, Sarwar Jahan, Andrea McLeod (non-committee member), Lena Johnson (non-committee member)

I. Introduction

- A. Committee Description:** The public safety & transportation committee represents the community's interests with regards to sanitation, crime, fire-ems, quality of life, NYS liquor license application recommendations, street activity permit applications, street re-naming application, transportation and acts as a liaison between community members and the New York Police Department & Fire Departments, NYC Department of Environmental Protection, NYC Department of Sanitation, NYC Department of Transportation, & NYS Liquor Authority.

II. Speakers

A. Victoria Toro, Outreach Manager – Bronx River Alliance

Ms. Toro shared the perspective of the Bronx River Alliance regarding the Rehabilitation/Replacement of Five Cross Bronx Expressway Bridges between Boston Road and Rosedale Ave.

She informed the committee that this project is fully funded (900 million dollars) and that NYSDOT will be moving forward with this project regardless of feedback though considerations can still be made.

Ms. Toro shared that there is no argument that bridges need to be rehabilitated, however, the concern is that NYSDOT built into the funding a proposed elevated highway while construction is taking place (5-6 years of construction). This highway will take away parkland and build additional roadway that is being considered for permanent implementation.

This would create a whole new traffic pattern that incentivizes more cars and additional air pollution due to the additional roadway lanes.

Currently, Bronx River Houses Tenant Association cannot open windows due to hazardous air quality conditions.

Ms. Toro and the Bronx River Alliance are advocating that the Community Board pay attention to presentation scheduled for next month and be ready to ask questions and request additional walk throughs of the project.

Currently, NYSDOT has no live website for this project. This is a concern as well.

In addition, project should include input from the Bronx River Alliance, YMPJ and the Bronx River Houses TA.

An Environment Assessment was conducted upon insistence from the Bronx River Alliance, however, an Environmental Review was not conducted.

III. SLA Applications

A. Star Billiards LLC (1590 Westchester Ave Ave), Renewal

43rd Pct has no concerns regarding this renewal. Approved by committee.

B. La Clave Restaurant (1186 Evergreen Ave), All Night Permit for NYE

43rd Pct has concerns regarding this application and timeframe request of opening until 8am on NYE. Denied by committee.

C. La Vecina Corp (1142-1144 Castle Hill Ave), All Night Permit for NYE

43rd Pct has concerns regarding this application and timeframe request of opening until 8am on NYE. Denied by committee.

IV. Notifications

A. Construction Notice - Start of Construction for Replacement of Two Bridges on the Bronx River Parkway in Bronx

The New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) is advising the public that preconstruction will begin on the Bronx River Parkway between East Tremont Avenue and the Bronx Park in the Bronx on or about Monday November 25th 2024, as part of a \$517.5 million initiative. This preconstruction work will occur in both directions along the Bronx River Parkway (BRP), East Tremont Avenue, and Morris Park Avenue

B. Request to relocate the southbound bus stop on White Plains Rd and Gleason Ave to the other end of the block at the near side of Watson Ave (Denied by MTA)

As per MTA, "there is already a southbound bus stop on the far side of Watson Ave, and of course we would not put stops on both the near and far sides of the same intersection; Relocating the stop to Watson Ave would create an unacceptably long distance of about 1,700 ft between bus stops;...aerial photos from as far back as 1996 show a concrete bus pad on the street at this location, indicating that the bus stop has been there for at least 28 years, and probably significantly longer."

C. Request for Story Ave Bus Project Updates (# DOT-673133-D7V9)

D. Parking lot at Bruckner Commons is too dark after midnight due to limited lighting here. ADM Alonzo to email property manager to follow-up on this concern.

E. NCO Meetings require additional notice to the community, CB9 requested to have flyers sent to them for blasting

V. New Business

A. January Agenda Items

- Rehabilitation/Replacement of Five Cross Bronx Expressway Bridges between Boston Road and Rosedale Ave - Project Update

OFFICE INFO

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