

**Brooklyn Community Board 9**  
**890 Nostrand Avenue**  
**Brooklyn, New York 11225**

**Transportation Committee**  
**April 15, 2026**

Chair: Ethan Norville; Vice Chair: Andrew Magnus; Secretary: Paco Abraham

**Attendance (Board Members):** Ethan Norville; Andrew Magnus; Felice Robertson; Khurshid Abdul-Mutakabbir

**Attendance (Community Resident Members):** Paco Abraham

**Absent (Board Members):** Hasaan Qazi

**Absent (Community Resident Members):** Vadim Gaboys, Valerie Fleming; Calista DeJesus;

**Guests:** David Kupferberg (NYC Passengers United), Rod Hebert, Kenya Johnson (President, Brooklyn Alumni Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.), Leah Cooper (Chair, Heritage & Archives), Annette Robinson (Former NY State Assembly Member), Additional community members and Union Street residents

**CB9 Staff:** Allison Henry, Community Associate

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**Agenda:**

- I. Welcome/Greetings
  - a. The meeting is called to order at 7:20 pm.
  - b. Chairman Norville asks for the presentation to begin but points out the committee will not vote on any item until more committee members join to reach quorum.
  - c. Quick introductions are offered.
- II. Street Co-Naming Request
  - a. Edith Mott Young Street Co-Naming Request (Union St. b/w Albany & Kingston Ave)
    - i. Presented by:
      1. Kenya Johnson (President, Brooklyn Alumni Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.)
      2. Leah Cooper (Chair, Heritage & Archives)
      3. Annette Robinson (Former NY State Assembly Member)
      4. Additional community members and Union Street residents
  - b. Summary of Presentation suggests that Edith M. Young was recognized as
    - i. Educator and civic leader
    - ii. Founding figure connected to Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
    - iii. Active in suffrage-related civic engagement
    - iv. Longtime Brooklyn resident (Union Street)

- v. Legacy includes family members with military and educational contributions (including Tuskegee Airmen)
- c. Sorority highlighted ongoing community programming:
  - i. Annual scholarships (~\$76,000 to Brooklyn students)
  - ii. Health outreach (including mammogram access initiatives)
  - iii. Civic engagement and international participation
- d. Community testimony suggests that residents and sorority members value the historical significance, seek preservation of her legacy, and believe there is an educational value of street naming.
- e. Committee discusses raises questions that ask about →
  - i. Timing of application (why 2026)
    - 1. Application initiated following archival research identifying residence history
  - ii. Whether prior commemorations exist elsewhere
    - 1. No known existing street commemorations were confirmed.
  - iii. Documentation and historical visibility of Edith M. Young
    - 1. Supporters emphasized the need for recognition of overlooked historical contributors.
- f. Felice Robertson moves to approve the co-naming as requested. Ethan Norville seconds. **Passed by unanimous consent.**
  - i. Supporters ask about next steps and Chairman Norville tells them the motion would go to the full board. Community support there would also be useful, but the entirety of the group need not attend or present there, though the space could accommodate.

### III. Approval of March Minutes

- a. Review of past meeting minutes.
- b. Khurshid Abdul-Mutakabbir raises concern. He flags the wording which reads Mr. Mann “walks in fear for himself, his dog, and his neighbors. He says, “I don't know how we can quantify fear” and goes on to flag “it says vehicles blowing through lights. What does blowing through lights mean?” He says, “this is beneath us as a committee” and urges it to be rewritten.
- c. Committee discussion about specificity and full agreement that specific quotation marks could be more useful in summaries and otherwise notes should be more neutral in official record. Agreement to revise previous mentions as needed.
- d. Rod Herbert asks for clarification on what the Remsen Avenue item was on the minutes because the project that happened there is now closed. Paco and Andrew respond that the committee was simply seeking any data in the five years since implementation to show that things had improved, or not, and if it were possible for DOT to give us any type of postmortem.
- e. Andrew Magnus moves to approve the minutes with corrections needed as discussed.
  - i. March 2026 Minutes New Business, section A will revise from Marc Mann’s paragraph from →

1. He notes there is a substantial increase in pedestrian foot traffic in the last half decade and walks in fear for himself, his dog, and neighbors by the amount of vehicles blowing through lights.
- ii. to →
  1. He notes there is a substantial increase in pedestrian foot traffic in the last half decade and *“I’ve literally been, it’s weekly that I am almost run over with my dog crossing that street.”* He notes vehicles at the traffic light by 231 Ocean *“they just blow through them. They blow through them. I’ve seen emergency vehicles blow them. I’ve seen cop precinct vans blow through them. Everybody else blows through them.”*

f. Paco Abraham seconds. **Passed by unanimous consent.**

#### IV. Open Street Notification (Franklin Ave between Atlantic & Eastern Parkway)

- a. Chairman Norville shares notice that the board received an Open street program happening just north of our district, along Franklin Ave, similar to a program run by the Franklin Ave Merchants Association there last year.
- b. There is no current press release or listing of the specific hours on the DOT website.  
<https://www.nyc.gov/html/dot/html/pedestrians/openstreets.shtml#locations>

#### V. Review of DOT Speed Limit Reduction Locations to 15mph, via implementation of Sammy’s Law

- a. Existing approved zones:
  - i. Eastern Pkwy, between Troy Ave and Schenectady Ave (K396 (D75) at the Parkway Campus; New Bridges Elementary)
  - ii. Union St, between Bedford Ave and Rogers Ave (Aspirations Diploma Plus High School; W.E.B. Dubois Academic High School)
- b. New School Slow Zones:
  - i. Kingston Ave, between Winthrop St and Rutland Rd (P.S. 36; High School for Public Service Heroes of Tomorrow; Brooklyn Institute for Liberal Arts; League School)
  - ii. Rutland Rd, between Brooklyn Ave and Albany Ave (P.S. 36; High School for Public Service Heroes of Tomorrow; Brooklyn Institute for Liberal Arts; League School)
- c. Rod Hebert asks for clarity about...
  - i. Criteria used to select school zones
  - ii. Perceived gaps in prioritization, since schools along existing priority corridors are not on this list
  - iii. Lack of clarity regarding enforcement mechanisms (including speed cameras)
- d. Community Concerns Raised about the following →
  - i. Transparency in prioritization process
  - ii. Whether implementation is 24/7 or time-based
  - iii. Data-driven justification for selected locations
  - iv. Enforcement effectiveness and signage clarity

- e. Khurshid Abdul-Mutakabbir asks if we put in writing something to have DOT “come before the community board and explain the scope and scale of these new cameras that they're installing in school zones in our community.” He clarifies that he does not want a general chat on Sammy’s law but rather the specifics of implementation... “Are there going to be cameras? And if we do have cameras, what time will be the hours?”
- f. Andrew adds in wanting to hear more about the decision matrix used for the prioritization of schools selected.
- g. Ethan asks if all agree on these questions to make an informational request.
- h. **Passed by unanimous consent.**

#### VI. Old Business

- a. Bus network redesign item briefly discussed.
- b. Item tabled for future meeting due to time constraints and ongoing planning processed

#### VII. New business

- a. Lefferts Ave Community Request - Matt Brumbeck raises concerns about street safety and vehicle speeding on Lefferts Avenue, specifically at Lefferts and Washington Avenue. He notes
  - i. High vehicle speeds on wide corridor
  - ii. DOT previously identified location as “good candidate” for intervention
  - iii. Lack of follow-through despite prior engagement
- b. Matt says two actions have happened in the last decade... some striping of the parking lane and speed cameras. Neither have truly changed behavior though of vehicle speeds. He also presents a petition signed by over 30 residents on the block and surrounding blocks that desires CB9 support for some sort of traffic calming. He does not specify any single treatment but alludes to the possible success of elements from DOT’s typical toolkit that could include Gateway treatments, Mid-block crossings, Street narrowing / road diet elements, and/or Visual traffic calming measures.
- c. Rod notes a previous mention from Matt had asked about speed humps but his familiarity with the technical specs of the road suggest the street may not be suitable for that treatment.
- d. Khurshid Abdul-Mutakabbir says we would be better off making suggestions rather than relying on DOT’s collaboration. When Matt says raised crosswalks could be one element, Khurshid also asks if parking would be eliminated. Chairman Norville notes it might be possible but is not certain. Paco notes the north side of the street has a hydrant at the corner and already has no parking. Khurshid notes that residents on the block should know if parking were to be taken.
- e. Rod suggests a short-term item, in tandem with long term investment in street design, could be enforcement, even with just the visual of a police car stationed on the street for a designated amount of time.
- f. Group discussion about a potential committee motion / letter and if it should include short term fixes (returning the missing boulders across the street near the

gas station) and reference the long-term solutions (visioning and speed management) from DOT's November walkthrough

- i. **Paco makes a Motion for a site-specific letter** for Lefferts blvd between Washington and Bedford avenues, outlining elements of concern raised by residents, including signage, raised crossings or narrowed 'gateway' features. The letter should also include immediate actions such as DOT returning the missing boulders back. **UNANAMOUSLY APPROVED.**
- ii. Felice Robertson raises concerns about the lack of response by DOT regarding Washington Avenue actions taken by the committee. A request to make a specific location letter of support for Washington is tabled for future follow-up. In the meantime, the board office will again request an update on DOT's status.
- g. Brooklyn bus network redesign (MOVED TO MAY MEETING)
- h. Comprehensive traffic planning (MOVED TO MAY MEETING)

## VIII. Adjournment