



The City of New York

## Queens Community Board 11

Serving the Communities of Auburndale, Bayside, Douglaston, Hollis Hills  
Little Neck and Oakland Gardens

**Eileen Miller Chairperson / Joseph Marziliano District Manager**

### COMMITTEE REPORT

TO: Board Members  
FROM: Victor Dadras, Transportation Committee Chair  
DATE: October 30, 2019

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On October 30, 2019, the Transportation Committee met to discuss various issues. Present were Victor Dadras, Committee Chair and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair, Eileen Miller, Board Chair, Christine Haider, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair, Henry Euler, 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Chair, Board Members, Joan Garippa, Barbara Gillespie, Roy Giusetti, Bernard Haber, Allan Palzer, Stephan Popa, Benjamin Turner and Ed Doster, Community Non-Board Member. Also present were District Manager, Joseph Marziliano, Community Associate, Christina Coutinho and resident Sena Jordan.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm. An update was given regarding the school safety request for P.S. 98 and 94. Mr. Dadras said as agreed at the last Transportation Committee meeting, that detailed letters were to be sent to the Dept. of Transportation requesting safety improvements for P.S. 98 and 94. The office will follow up with the DOT. The Members discussed the role of a school crossing guard and to what level of assertiveness they can display. A member asked if a meeting with the school's principal could be arranged to discuss. Mr. Dadras stated that it was a good idea but wasn't sure if this was the Board's role. The Committee discussed that many of the safety issues were poor behavior by the persons dropping the students off. Mr. Marziliano suggested that this topic be discussed at the next Public Safety Committee meeting on Nov 8<sup>th</sup>.

Next discussed was the draft of the proposed resolution advocating railroad to subway price one-swipe equity for residents of eastern Queens. Mr. Dadras explained that this proposal was tabled at the October Public meeting. Stephan Popa presented a proposed revised draft, that he had prepared for discussion. The Committee Members discussed that Mr. Popa's draft needed to be condensed, to a much shorter (one-page) with footnotes. Mr. Dadras said that a revised draft will be presented for further discussion, at the November Committee meeting. A motion was made to give an update to the full Board at the November meeting. The Committee voted unanimously in favor.

An update was given on the Bus Service Redesign Meeting sponsored by Senator Liu and Councilman Grodenchik. Mr. Dadras said several Board Members attended the meeting, which well represented our Community Board 11. Benjamin Turner and Barbara Gillespie were quoted in the Bayside Times. Mr. Turner said at the meeting, he suggested more select bus service on major routes and car-free streets in areas like Main Street, downtown Flushing. Ms. Gillespie said at the meeting, she discussed that there needs to be a more integrated plan than just bus service.

The fourth topic was traffic safety at 56<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Luke Place. Luke Place is a street that connects to 56<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Ms. Miller said that this area has been addressed as a hazard for several years. The DOT and Parks Dept. are in talks regarding the closure of the one-way portion of Luke Place to 56 Avenue. This would avoid two vehicles rushing to 56<sup>th</sup> Avenue at the same time.

The fifth topic discussed was how individuals, as well as, civic associations are going directly to the City Agencies (especially DOT) with complaints. Ms. Miller explained that civic association should be contacting the Community Board with complaints for submission to the appropriate agency. Mr. Marziliano stated that the CB Staff follows up by forwarding monthly spreadsheets with open complaints and correspondence to the City agencies for updates. Mr. Dadras said that letters should be sent to the civic association explaining how the CB can be their advocate, in requests to all City agencies, in order to coordinate the effort(s), and best represent the larger Community.

The sixth topic was the DOT's new speed bump policy of not requiring the community's input for the installation of a speed bump. There were eight requests for a speed bump and one for a one-way conversion that were canvased (locations below) prior to the DOT's new procedure. Mr. Marziliano stated that each location was canvased three times with a low response each time. The Community Members agreed to forward letters to the DOT stating that the locations were canvased and a low response was received, therefore, no position by the Community Board.

#### Speed Bumps

- 1) Peck Avenue between 219 Street and 86 Avenue
- 2) 220 Street between 56 Avenue and Horace Harding Expressway
- 3) 220 Street Between 56 and 58 Avenues
- 4) 82 Avenue between 210 and 211 Streets and 213 and 214 Streets
- 5) Peck Avenue between Union Turnpike and 218 Street
- 6) 202 Street between 32 and 33 Avenues
- 7) 232 Street between 64 and 67 Avenues
- 8) Kingsbury Avenue between Hartland Avenue and 223 Street

#### One Way Conversion

- 1) 35 Avenue between Francis Lewis Blvd. and 191 Street

The last topic discussed was the Northern Blvd. Greenway from 223 Street to Douglaston Parkway. Prior to the topic, the Community Members spoke regarding setting up a workshop with the DOT to discuss complete street design requests. Mr. Dadras said that 223 Street between Douglaston Parkway on Northern Blvd. was well documented as the most dangerous stretch of roadway in our district. The protected bike lane, as installed, is only one part of a larger Vision Zero project for this area. He strongly suggested that the Committee should work together to make it a positive, larger Greenway project, as has been suggested, and not simply a “jersey barrier lane”, which has issues. He said elected officials are interested in helping support a better Northern Blvd. Greenway. Mr. Dadras said this would be a positive evolution/continuation of the efforts of the CB11 Transportation Committee (previously under Bernard Haber and Christine Haider). The other portion of the bike lanes, in this same Vision Zero project, were also briefly discussed. Mr. Marziliano said that DOT has made several changes, over the past recent years, to help improve the greenways on East Hampton Blvd. and Cloverdale Blvd.

The meeting adjourned at 9:47 pm.

*Respectfully submitted 11/01/19*