



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: All Community Board Members

From: Paul DiBenedetto, Chair, Parks Committee

Date: September 26, 2019

Re: Phase 2 Capital Reconstruction of Vanderbilt Motor Parkway

On Thursday, September 26, 2019, at 7:30 p.m., Community Board's 11 Parks Committee held a joint meeting with Community Board 8's Parks Committee to discuss a proposal by the NYC Department of Parks and Recreation to finish reconstruction of the Vanderbilt Motor Parkway from Community District 11 into Community District 8.

Present at the meeting from CB11 were Board Chair Eileen Miller, Mary Donahue, Akshar Patel, and District Manager Joseph Marziliano. Present from CB8 were Committee Chair Bhitihara Martha Fulton, Robert Block, Susan Cleary Gallagher Jr., CB8 Community Associate Jatna Reyes, and District Manager Marie Adam-Ovide. Representing the NYC Department of Parks and Recreation was Gabriel Echevarria, James Mituzas, Bryan Cartwell, and Martha Burgess. Also in attendance were Council Member Barry Grodenchik, and Joby Jacob representing the Eastern Queens Greenway.

Chairperson Fulton called the meeting to order and the joint Committee was given a brief PowerPoint Presentation by Ms. Burgess. Phase one of this project is nearing completion. Tonight's meeting is in regards to Phase 2. This project is fully funded by Mayor de Blasio. The purpose of the project is to repave the Motor Parkway, widen it, and fix drainage issues. The portion of this phase in Community District 11 spans from Springfield Boulevard to Hollis Hills Terrace. The stretch is very straight and requires no special considerations. The reconstruction will include a new asphalt top course, a consistent 18' width (increased from 16'), and new timber edging on both sides to replace the current concrete and missing curbs.

Council Member Grodenchik stated that he is happy to get the ball rolling on completing this project. He also asked if the entire stretch needs to be closed. Ms. Burgess stated that, yes it will be closed complete the project faster.

Ms. Cleary asked if the Motor Parkway will be ADA compliant. Ms. Burgess stated that yes, it will be.

Ms. Donahue asked if the Motor Parkway is just for pedestrians and bicyclists, or if someone can take a motorized scooter for disabled persons. Ms. Burgess stated that they are allowable.

Mr. Gallagher asked if lights would be added to the Motor Parkway, as it gets very dark there at night. Ms. Burgess stated that it is very dark there, but the park closes at dusk and too much lighting can attract park-after-dark issues.

Mr. Jacob stated that the section past the ballfields at Cunningham Park is a high conflict section because the Parkway is up against the backstop. People stand on the Motor Parkway and poor drainage floods the opposite end. Ms. Burgess commented that the project includes a drainage fix there to utilize the entire width.

Eileen Miller moved to accept the proposed capital reconstruction of the Vanderbilt Motor Parkway Phase 2 on behalf of CB 11's Park Committee, seconded by Mary Donahue. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted by
Joseph Marziliano
District Manager*