



*Donovan Richards*  
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# Community Board No. 2

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*Anatole Ashraf*

*Chairperson*

*Debra Markell Kleinert*

*District Manager*

**November 12, 2024**

## **Transportation Committee Meeting Minutes**

***This meeting was held in person***

### **Transportation Committee Members – Present**

*Reilly Owens, Osman Chowdhury, Morry Galonoy, Dr. Rosamond Gianutsos (PV), Thomas Mituzas, Oumaya Saab (PV), Laura Shepard*

### **Transportation Committee Members – Absent**

*Danielle Brecker*

### **Transportation Committee Public Members – Present**

*Corey Hannigan, Patricia Pan*

### **Community Board 2 Staff**

*Debra Markell Kleinert, District Manager, MaryAnn Gurrado*

### **NYC Department of Transportation**

*Joseph Patti*

### **Guest**

*Fanny Chang, Andy Yllanes, Autum Bosco*

Public Comments – Comments by Community Members (1 Minute) up to ten minutes

### **UPDATE FOR THE 108TH POLICE PRECINCT**

Reilly Owens provided the following update:

*“Serving the Communities of Long Island City, Sunnyside, Woodside, and Maspeth”*

The 108th Police Precinct and Sanitation have now a new recently created Interagency Task Force to address vehicles parked on the street with no license plates or improper license plates. The Community can report these type of vehicles by reporting it to 311. The Police Department and Sanitation will investigate. The resolutions can be either a summons issued or removal if deemed necessary.

In the last 28 days there have been 59 vehicles removed off the streets of the 108th Precinct. For the year they have removed 79 vehicles.

They will continue to investigate and get information from 311 complaints. It may take a week or more for the unit to respond and investigate.

### **Motorcycles/Mopeds**

The 108th Precinct is also aware of the problem with parked and driving motorcycles/mopeds. The Precinct has seized 16 motorcycles/mopeds for the last 28 days. The Precinct has seized 354 motorcycles/mopeds for the year.

Complaints of blocked driveways or sidewalks by two wheel devices can be reported via 311 or calling the Precinct.

### **Parking at 108 Precinct**

The 108 Commanding Officer has designated a Lieutenant to oversee parking conditions. He ensures that vehicles are not fully blocking the sidewalk. The Precinct Desk Officer must also conduct regular checks to ensure compliance. Officers have received discipline for non-compliance.

Reilly Owens provided an update on the Press Conference held concerning the completion of the bike lanes on Queens Boulevard.

### **Public Comment**

Joseph Patti, provided the following update:

- Discussed the completion of the bike lanes on Queens Boulevard.
- DOT will be starting capital improvements east of Roosevelt Avenue next year.

### **REQUEST UPDATES FROM DOT**

#### **Blissville**

- The Blissville community has long sought a comprehensive review of our Streets in the Blissville section of Long Island City that would consider the safety of all roadway users

of all ages and abilities: including pedestrians, bicyclists, public transportation riders and motorists. Specific items include but not limited to:

- Construction and implementation of the Blissville Greenway should include previously requested items: a widened and paved path that can be shared by pedestrians and cyclists and lined with trees on Laurel Hill Boulevard and Review Avenue west to Blissville; safe pedestrian-and cyclist-protecting redesign of the 12-lane intersection at the base of the Greenpoint Avenue Bridge (Review/Van Dam/Greenpoint); install a proper sidewalk at the corner of 35th, Starr and Van Dam - with curbs, daylighting, and pedestrian accessible ramps; and DOT-581065-J1R6 - cars and trucks park over the newly painted lines at Greenpoint and Starr and there is need to install bollards or an actual bulb out DOT-581065-J1R DOT-614185-D189.
- Reconsideration of request to install "No thru truck traffic signage" on 35th and 37th. There are only 4 streets in Blissville that are designated as truck routes (1) review avenue (2) Greenpoint Avenue (3) Borden Avenue and (4) Van Dam. All other streets should only have truck traffic for local deliveries, yet trucks travel through these streets on a daily basis to other destinations. DOT-581076-X9W1.
- Green Asphalt – Seeking a follow up from DOT on NYC DOT's use of Green Asphalt Co LLC located at 37-98 Railroad Avenue in the Blissville section of Long Island City that has been charged by the NY State Department of Environmental Conservation on January 11, 2024, with a violation of New York State Air Pollution Control Law.

DOT reported a letter will be going out concerning the Green Asphalt issue regarding the violations that have been happening. Part of the plan may be upgrading the smokestacks going higher. There is a commitment by DOT to not use Green Asphalt until it has been done.

### **Court Square**

- Crescent Street request to change the diagonal markings and expand the sidewalk. case number DOT-516190-R6K9. Request update. Scheduled to be done this year on their list for 2024.

### **Sunnyside**

Request for a Feasibility Study for Safety Improvements at 43<sup>rd</sup> Street and Laurel Hill Blvd at the entrance to the Kosciuszko Bridge Pedestrian and Bike Pathway. (CB 2 Sent Letter to DOT on September 7, 2022)

### **Woodside**

- Request to DOT for a One-Way Street conversion on 51<sup>st</sup> Avenue Between 65<sup>th</sup> Place and 61<sup>st</sup> Street. Provide an update. (DOT-464313-T7R8) Open and being evaluated, please provide an update.
  - 51<sup>st</sup> Avenue between 65<sup>th</sup> Place and 61<sup>st</sup> Street was reversed 63 Street to NB operation from 50<sup>th</sup> avenue to Laurel Hill Blvd and converted 65<sup>th</sup> Street to one-way NB from 48<sup>th</sup> Avenue to Laurel Hill Blvd., both changes have helped curtail the cut through traffic that was using 51s Avenue and at this point unless the CB or residents feel there is another issue, we don't have any future plans for additional changes.
  - 50<sup>th</sup> Avenue between 69<sup>th</sup> Street and 65<sup>th</sup> Place. We were waiting on the Queens Bus network redesign since that would remove the Q18 bus from 50<sup>th</sup> Avenue and most likely negate the need for a conversion.
- Request for a Feasibility Study for Safety Improvements on Broadway and 37<sup>th</sup> Avenue and on 63<sup>rd</sup> Street to 69<sup>th</sup> Street near the BQE Exit (DOT-565073-X3Q1) Study still active requesting update. DOT reported some LPI's installed – 65<sup>th</sup> Street and Broadway, existing one at 37<sup>th</sup> Avenue
- 60<sup>th</sup> Street and 37<sup>th</sup> Avenue (Existing Study Open (DOT-577572-V1S1) DOT reported still active and being studied. DOT reported this is still active and pending.
- Request for a Traffic Study on 39<sup>th</sup> Road between Woodside Avenue and 52<sup>nd</sup> Street (CB2 Letter sent to DOT July 10, 2024). DOT is looking into markings at the moment and it is still with geometric design unit.
- Request for an All Way Stop Sign or Speed Bump to be installed on 50<sup>th</sup> Avenue between 65<sup>th</sup> Place to 60<sup>th</sup> Street (DOT-665092-FSHB). DOT reported this is still pending.

DOT reported on bike rack installations at the following locations:

- 47<sup>th</sup> Avenue between 30<sup>th</sup> Place and 31<sup>st</sup> Street (11 bike racks installed)
- Skillman between 29<sup>th</sup> Street and 28<sup>th</sup> Street (13 bike racks installed)
- Van Dam between and Thomson Avenue and 47<sup>th</sup> Avenue (5 bike racks installed)

DOT reported more will be coming for the eastern portions of Queens Boulevard in and around the Sunnyside BID Area.

DOT reported on a signal upgrade at 11<sup>th</sup> Street and Jackson Avenue.

The committee discussed the issue of 48<sup>th</sup> Street and the curb cut under the viaduct. There is no clear signal phase for when it is safe to go and no clear way to go south and to turn left on Queens Boulevard.

DOT will investigate this location.

The Committee discussed the issue of bus stops and dedicated bus lanes.

The Committee discussed the issue of signal timing changes on Queens Boulevard.

DOT provided an update on Thomson Avenue which will be complicated and there will be more of a design next year.

The Committee discussed the Blissville Greenway.

DOT provided an update on the Queensboro Bridge South Outer Roadway.

The Committee discussed 43<sup>rd</sup> Avenue and if there could be hardened infrastructure there. DOT reported they will meet with the Bike Team concerning this matter.

DOT provided an update on the walk don't walk sign at Jackson Avenue. DOT will follow up.

The committee discussed the issue of food trucks parking in the parking lane. DOT will follow up.

The committee requested follow up on the traffic light on 49<sup>th</sup> Street and 43<sup>rd</sup> Avenue. DOT reported this is still pending.

The committee discussed 44<sup>th</sup> Street and 47<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Greenpoint Avenue intersection it is very chaotic intersection. Can the Dot look at safety improvements at the location. DOT is looking into this location.

### **Long Island City**

- Request for Quality-of-Life sign, no overnight parking on Center Boulevard between 50<sup>th</sup> and 47<sup>th</sup> Avenue.
- Center Blvd north of 47<sup>th</sup> Road transfer of property from State to City. Please continue to provide update. 47<sup>th</sup> Road and N Basin Road. Paving stones collapsing in intersection at Center Blvd. north of 47<sup>th</sup> Road. Provide update.
- 51<sup>st</sup> Avenue Pedestrian Bridge (also known as the 21<sup>st</sup> Avenue Pedestrian Foot Bridge) Request an update on a letter from DOT to send to CB 2 to close this project. DOT Tracking number needed.
- Request for the Redesign of Vernon Mall on Borden Avenue, Vernon Boulevard, Jackson Avenue, and the Northern Boundary of 51<sup>st</sup> Avenue (Letter sent to DOT) Tracking number requested. Pending, capital project.

- Request for New York City DOT Proposals Include Seniors, the Disabled and those with Different Physical Disabilities and Needs (Letter sent to DOT) DOT 599194-D6Q7, please provide an update.
- Request for dedicated bus lanes for G Train shuttle buses.

#### **Old Business:**

- Street Plan
  - The Committee discussed the street plan and that they identified Community Board 2 and all the different communities as being equally attended to. The concern is they are not and in 2025 a law will go into effect requiring DOT to come to the table with a plan for the underserved areas. The committee would like DOT to come into compliance with this law and to have a conversation about how they will come into compliance with the law and identify underserved neighborhoods.

Transportation Committee Focus on Equity in the District. We must reset our goals to include under-served neighborhoods, including Blissville, Woodside and Sunnyside south of Queens Boulevard.

Request safety redesigns on 47<sup>th</sup> Avenue between Skillman Avenue and 51<sup>st</sup> Street and 48<sup>th</sup> Avenue between 30<sup>th</sup> Street and 49<sup>th</sup> Street.

#### **New Business:**

The Committee discussion on DOTs commitment to preserve existing green infrastructure owned by DOT and **NOT** play a role in destroying it.

I.E. - City of New York to the business located on Van Dam whose intent was to level the trees and cement over the land (October Full Board Meeting Public Hearing on ULURP 49-39 Van Dam Street – (C229305MMQ).

DOT flagged this with the team.

Thomas Mituzas made a motion, and it was seconded by Morry Galonoy to send a letter to pressure the DOT asking to preserve the green space. The vote was all in favor of the motion with none opposed and no abstentions.

- Heart of the District: Community Priorities for Northern Boulevard and Roosevelt Avenue

Reilly Owens reported Council Member Julie Won has released the Heart of the District Survey for Northern Boulevard and Roosevelt Avenue.

Laura Shepard made a motion, and it was seconded by Corey Hannigan to request public seating street furniture on Skillman Avenue and 47<sup>th</sup> Avenue by Smiling Hogshead Ranch as there is a lack of public seating. All were in favor of the motion with none opposed and no abstentions.

The committee discussed the following issues:

- Sammy's Law.
- The need for red light cameras in certain areas of the district
- A discussion concerning mopeds took place.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by:  
MA Gurrado

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