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Anatole Ashraf
Chairperson

Rod Townsend
District Manager

September 15, 2026

Transportation Committee Meeting Minutes

This meeting was held in person and teleconferenced on Zoom

Committee Members Present:

Reilly Owens, Chair
Isabella Bustamante
Morry Galonoy
Corey Hannigan (PV)
Randy Plemel (PV)
Ryan Smith
Corey Hannigan

Committee Members Absent:

Osman Chowdhury

Public Members Present:

Patricia Pan
Jonathan Suarez

Committee Members Excused:

Dr. Rosamond Gianutsos

Guests

David Kuperberg,
Ozzy Stone
Kevin Slazinski
Haley Collins
Chris Ferrero
Laura Heffron
Joby Jacob
Claudia Chan
Amin Saeed
Dirk McCall de Palomá
Joseph Patti, DOT
Zachary Wyche, DOT

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

Time (Approximate, from YouTube Video)

[September 15, 2026, Transportation Committee Meeting Recording](#)

00:02:58 Reilly Owens, Chair of the Transportation Committee, welcomed everyone to the committee meeting.

00:03:53 Public Comments

Ozzy Stone, Kevin Slazinski, Haley Collins, Chris Ferrero, Laura Heffron, Joby Jacob, and Claudia Chan all provided public comments. Comments included support for safety improvements on Thomson Avenue, where a student fatality occurred in 2013, and reference to a previously allocated \$17 million capital project for safety improvements. Other comments focused on requests for traffic calming measures on 5th Street between 46th and 50th Avenues, daylighting intersections on Vernon Boulevard, connections between the waterfront and bike corridors, and additional crosswalks on Woodside Avenue and near Doughboy Park. Additional concerns included a faded crosswalk near the Long Island Rail Road station, unsafe electric vehicle operation on city streets, and drag racing on 48th Avenue.

0:53:24 Thomson Avenue and 44th Drive Project Update

The New York City Department of Transportation (DOT) provided a project update on Thomson Avenue and 44th Drive. The update included existing conditions, proposed conditions, and a summary. [Click here to view the presentation.](#) Proposed changes include expanding pedestrian space, adding a two-way bike lane, removing rush-hour lanes, and installing barriers to restrict bus access.

The following locations have proposed changes:

- **Thomson Avenue, Van Dam Street to Skillman Avenue**
- **Thomson Avenue, Skillman Avenue to 44th Drive**
- **Bike Crossing at Thomson Avenue and Skillman Avenue**
- **44th Drive, Thomson Avenue to 23rd Street**
- **Van Dam Street to 32nd Place**

1:44:10 Fresh and Save (Greenpoint/46th St) Loading Zone Request

Amin Saeed, owner of Fresh and Safe grocery store, requested a temporary loading zone on Greenpoint Avenue from 7 AM to 4 PM, Monday through Friday, to accommodate large delivery trucks while ensuring pedestrian safety.

1:53:44 Request for ZipCar parking space relocation – Parrot Coffee

Additionally, Dirk McCall de Palomá presented a request from Parrot Coffee to move Zipcar locations from in front of their stores to underneath the 7 train, as the current placement has significantly impacted their business due to elevator construction and reduced parking availability. The committee agreed to revisit this specific location request with DOT.

1:59:43 DOT Updates

Borden Avenue Project: DOT has been visiting the location and noted that many of the project markings have already been installed.

Center Boulevard Improvement Project: The project remains in progress.

43rd Avenue and 49th Street: The request for a traffic light remains in progress.

43rd Avenue and 51st Street: DOT's pedestrian ramp team reviewed the location. Since 51st Street was recently repaved, the location may be eligible for pedestrian ramp installation.

43rd Avenue and Skillman Avenue: The pedestrian islands have been installed.

Dutch Kills Green Maintenance: Maintenance was expanded from two to three days per week, with ongoing coordination with the Long Island City Partnership. The goal is to have full-time maintenance.

37th Street in Blissville: Engineers are willing to study a request related to Wanton Foods and converting the street to one-way operation. DOT requested that the proposal come formally from the Community Board.

2:31:57 Budget Request Discussion

The Committee reviewed potential capital and expense budget requests, including items carried over from the previous year. Potential requests discussed included accessibility improvements at 7 Line stations, pigeon deterrent measures, and additional electric vehicle charging stations under the 7 Line.

Reilly Owens also shared that he attended a briefing on the Flushing Line State of Good Repair project. [Click here to view the presentation.]

Q&A

Motions

2:52:05 Reilly Owens made a motion to support DOT's Street Improvement Project on Thomson Avenue and 44th Drive as presented to the Committee. The motion was seconded by Morry Galonoy. The Committee also requested additional safety measures, including protected vertical elements at 44th Drive and Thomson Avenue, rumble strips near the Queensboro Bridge, and clearer pedestrian signage. All Committee members voted in favor, and the motion carried unanimously. [Click here to view the letter of support.](#)

3:02:00 Reilly Owens made a motion to support an application for a truck loading zone on the north side of Greenpoint Avenue near the northeast corner of 46th Street. The motion was seconded by Randy Plemel. All Committee members voted in favor, and the motion carried unanimously. [Click here to view the letter of support.](#)

3:06:16 Reilly Owens made the following motion: Whereas Parrot Coffee, a destination retail establishment on 48th Street and Queens Boulevard, has struggled due to limited parking availability associated with the 46th Street subway station elevator project, and whereas the nearby Wendy's has on-site parking and relies less on street parking, Queens Community Board 2 should issue a letter of support for Sunnyside Shines' proposal to relocate the Zipcar location at 48th Street and Queens Boulevard to a location under the 7 train viaduct on Queens Boulevard between 44th and 45th Streets. The motion was seconded by Morry Galonoy. Following discussion, Isabella Bustamante made a motion to table the item, which was seconded by Patricia Pan. All Committee members voted in favor of the motion to table. The item was tabled and no vote was taken on the original motion.

3:24:30 Reilly Owens made a motion to issue a resolution urging the New York City Department of Transportation (DOT) to accelerate and prioritize safety projects on Northern Boulevard, Roosevelt Avenue, and 69th Street. The motion was seconded by Morry Galonoy. All Committee members voted in favor, and the motion carried unanimously.

[Click here to view the resolution.](#)

Meeting summary generated by Zoom and edited by,

Rafael Nava