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Anatole Ashraf
Chairperson

May 5, 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 (PV)
Dr. Rosamond Gianutsos
Corey Hannigan

Committee Members Absent:

Ryan Smith

Public Members Present:

Patricia Pan

Committee Members Excused:

Osman Chowdhury
Randy Plemel

Guests

David Kuperberg
Charlton D'Souza
Philip Leff
Jack Nierenberg
Henry Smith, LIC Partnership
Samuel Nitz
Theresa Cottone, Council Member Won's office
Captain Armani, 108th Police Precinct
Maria
Bobby Preti, Families for Safe Streets
Tara Das, NYC EDC
Miriam Gitelman, NYC EDC
Nahomi Varona
Julia Varona
Ruby Benetiz, MTA
Jason Greenberg, MTA
Jordan Smith, MTA
Joseph Patti, NYC DOT
Craig Baerwald, NYC DOT

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

YouTube Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6Neo_RusUWo
Time (Approximate, from YouTube Video)

00:01:16 Reilly Owens, Chair of the Transportation Committee, welcomed everyone to the committee meeting.

00:03:25 Public Comments

David Kuperberg, Charlton D’Souza, Philip Leff, Jack Nierenberg, Henry Smith, and Samuel Nitz all provided public comments. Issues raised included opposition to relocating the Q32/Q60 bus stop from 39-01 Queens Boulevard. Other comments focused on requests to repave the Skillman Avenue bike lane and increase enforcement against illegal parking.

00:28:30 108th Police Precinct Update

Captain Armani of the 108th Precinct provided updates on the precinct’s efforts to deter and address illegal parking, including vehicles blocking bike lanes and vehicles parked on sidewalks throughout the district. Committee members raised concerns regarding illegal parking on 43rd Street, 42nd Street, and Greenpoint Avenue.

Captain Armani also shared the following statistics since assuming his role at the precinct in early 2025:

- There has been a 40% decrease in bicycle collisions.
- There has been an 86% reduction in traffic fatalities.
- The precinct has issued 51,000 parking summonses this year for illegally parked vehicles.

00:58:38 Street Co-Naming Request for Jael Zhinin

Jael Zhinin’s family, along with Bobby Preti, an advocate, attended the committee meeting to request a letter of support for a street co-naming proposal that would be sent to the office of Council Member Julie Won. The proposed street co-naming would be at the intersection of 47th Avenue and 46th Street.

The family shared that Jael Zhinin, a child from the district, died after she and her sister were struck by a truck while crossing a school crosswalk on the last day of school on June 26, 2024.

1:11:30 Hunters Point South Ferry Landing Replacement Presentation

The New York City Economic Development Corporation (NYCEDC) provided a presentation ([Click here to view](#)) regarding the Hunters Point South Ferry Landing Replacement project.

The presentation included locations studied as potential sites for the ferry landing, survey results, renderings of the proposed design, and the project timeline.

1:38:06 Street Co-Naming Request for Julian Corniell

Julian Corniell’s family requested a letter of support for a street co-naming proposal that would be sent to the office of Council Member Julie Won. The proposed street co-naming would be on 38th Street between Queens Boulevard and 43rd Avenue.

The family shared that Julian was tragically killed as a result of youth violence at that location. Since then, the family has worked with nonprofit organizations to advocate for youth violence prevention in the wake of his death.

1:48:30 Interborough Express Project

The Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) provided a briefing on the Interborough Express (IBX) project, which would provide a new transit connection between Brooklyn and Queens ([Click here to view](#)). The presentation outlined the proposed IBX stations, how the IBX project would connect to existing public transportation, and the potential impact on Queens Community Board 2's District.

Some of the information shared included:

- The IBX would introduce a stop at Roosevelt Avenue, providing residents with increased access to jobs, health care facilities, and higher education institutions.
- The project would be built along an existing rail corridor running from Sunset Park to Jackson Heights that is currently used solely for freight rail.
- The MTA expects to seek public feedback at three key stages over the next year:
 - To inform design decisions, including stations, urban realm connections, and vehicle layout
 - To receive formal comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) as part of New York State's SEQRA process
 - To inform draft design concepts developed during preliminary engineering

2:42:18 Borden Avenue Safety Improvement Project Update

The New York City Department of Transportation (DOT) provided a project update regarding the Borden Avenue Safety Improvement Project from Center Boulevard to Starr Avenue. The update included project goals, background information, cycling data, and an injury summary of the project corridor ([Click here to view](#)). The proposed changes include installing bike lanes, curb extensions, and altering the traffic network.

The following locations may undergo changes:

- Review Avenue, from Greenpoint Avenue to Laurel Hill Boulevard
- Starr Avenue and Review Avenue, from Borden Avenue to Van Dam Street
- Van Dam Street and Greenpoint Avenue, from Starr Avenue to Review Avenue
- Greenpoint Avenue and Review Avenue intersection
- Borden Avenue, from Review Avenue to Starr Avenue
- Borden Avenue, from Center Boulevard to Review Avenue

3:43:35 Motion in Support of QueensLink

Reilly Owens made a motion, and it was seconded by Corey Hannigan. All were in favor. The following motion was made:

WHEREAS Community Board 2 will need additional transit capacity in anticipation of the 14,700 new homes and 14,400 jobs expected to result from the OneLIC rezoning;

WHEREAS Community Board 2 currently has poor access to large-scale open spaces like Forest Park and Rockaway Beach; WHEREAS Community Board 2 is largely cut off from the

southeastern portion of our own Borough; WHEREAS a disproportionate amount of automobile traffic flows through Community Board 2 from neighborhoods without mass transit options, making our roads more dangerous and our air and environment more polluted; WHEREAS a 2019 MTA Feasibility study found that reactivating the Rockaway Beach Branch was feasible, including space for new parks; WHEREAS a 2025 NYU ridership study found that rail reactivation would free up capacity on the Queens Blvd Line, allowing G train service to be restored to Forest Hills and M train service to be extended to Rockaway Beach; WHEREAS this additional service is anticipated to attract over 75,000 riders per day and produce over \$9 billion in total economic output; WHEREAS Mayor Mamdani (as a former Assembly Member), Queens Borough President Richards, Assembly Member Valdez, Senators Gonzalez and Gianaris and many more elected officials all support advancing the QueensLink Proposal; and WHEREAS the 5-acre, \$43 million QueensWay Metropolitan Hub park has been designed so that adding transit would require destroying the park, thus wasting needed public funds and causing unnecessary strain on the community; now therefore be it RESOLVED that Queens Community Board 2 supports the advancement of the QueensLink Proposal, and requests that DPR, EDC, and the Mayor pause development of the QueensWay Metropolitan Hub park to convene a City/State interagency committee, with direct community representation, to review how to design the RBB corridor with parks and rail transit for the benefit of Queens and New York City and State, and ensure that the QueensLink subway extension with parks is included in the MTA's 2030–2034 Capital Plan.

3:56:45 Motion in Support of the Street Co-Naming Request for Jael Zhinin

Corey Hannigan made a motion, and it was seconded by Dr. Rosamond Gianutsos. All were in favor. The following motion was made:

WHEREAS Queens Community Board 2 has the highest rate of pedestrian injuries in Queens and the fourth highest citywide; WHEREAS traffic violence affects not only direct family but also the community at large; WHEREAS Jael Zhinin was killed in a tragic traffic crash at the intersection of 47th Avenue and 46th Street; WHEREAS this crash significantly impacted the adjacent middle school's population; RESOLVED that Queens Committee Board 2 supports a street co-naming request at that location in Jael Zhinin's honor.

3:58:30 Motion in Support of the Street Co-Naming Request for Julian Corniell

Corey Hannigan made a motion, and it was seconded by Reilly Owens. All were in favor. The following motion was made:

WHEREAS Julian Corniell was murdered on 38th Street between Queens Boulevard and 43rd Avenue in an instance of youth violence that devastated our community; WHEREAS his family has been working with nonprofit organizations to advocate for youth violence prevention in the wake of his death; and WHEREAS this is an instance where a person had an untimely death that led to a greater awareness of the cause of death and a concerted effort to address the problem of youth violence; now therefore be it RESOLVED that Queens Community Board 2 supports a street co-naming request at that location in Julian Corniell's honor.

4:02:33 Motion in Support of the Borden Avenue Safety Improvement Project from Center Boulevard to Starr Avenue

Corey Hannigan made a motion, and it was seconded by Reilly Owens. All were in favor. The following motion was made:

WHEREAS Queens Community Board 2 has the highest rate of traffic injuries in Queens and the fourth highest citywide; WHEREAS the traffic violence affects not only direct family but also the community at large; WHEREAS Borden Avenue connects our community to parks and existing bike facilities in the Borough of Brooklyn; WHEREAS there have been multiple cyclist fatalities on Borden Avenue; WHEREAS the community has requested the Blissville Greenway include protected bike lanes on this corridor; WHEREAS protected bike lanes offer safety benefits for all road users; and WHEREAS Borden Avenue is a large wide-open corridor with no clear delineation for different types of road users; now therefore be it RESOLVED that Queens Community Board 2 supports DOT's proposal for the Borden Avenue safety improvement project from Center Boulevard to Starr Avenue.

4:19:35 Motion in Support of Increased Enforcement of Overnight Commercial Vehicle Parking

Reilly Owens made a motion, and it was seconded by Corey Hannigan. All were in favor. The following motion was made:

The Committee is requesting stricter enforcement of overnight commercial vehicle parking on 44th Road, 44th Drive, 43rd Road, and 21st Street, which may include towing.

A motion to adjourn was made by Corey Hannigan, and it was seconded by Reilly Owens. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by,
Rafael Nava