

CITY OF NEW YORK MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD 10

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Transportation Committee _Vision Zero Taskforce Minutes

Wednesday, November 19, 2014 – 6:30 PM 215 West 125th Street, **3rd Floor Conference Room**

Hon. Maria Garcia, Chair

AGENDA

- 1. Welcome/Introductions
- 2. Presentations/Discussions:
- 3. November Agenda Item Request Updates:
 - a. Improvements and progress on Adam Clayton Powell Blvd. (ACP)
 - b. M60 SBS updates in January as per NYCDOT

Transportation committee Meeting November 19 2014 Begins 6:31 pm Introductions

Committee Members:

Daniel Clarke
Karen Horry_ Chair Parks and recreation Committee
Camille Edelen
Maria Garcia_Chair Transportation Committee

Board members: Barbara Nelson_Co-Chair Housing Committee Lupe Moreno

NOTES:

Josh Orzeck

Community Coordinator

DOT Manhattan Borough Commissioner's Office

Provided updates for the Adam Clayton Powell Boulevard (ACP) **Median Improvements** Plan. This involves the constructing out (extension of) the tips of the medians into the crosswalk area of intersections from 139th to 151st streets.

Formally were temporary extensions denoted by flexible delineators which are now being constructed in concrete.

Overview

30 overall extensions in total is a goal in concrete

12 completed so far

20 goals to be complete these by the end of the year 2015

10 have issues that need to be revolved that will be carried over to next year

Issues are related to infrastructure: Building around sewers, and ponding of water around these areas which needs to be addressed before continuing this work.

Josh will provide a list of the specific medians that have been completed:

Southern end at 139th street –Southern tip

140th street – northern and southern tips

146th street – northern and southern tips

147th street– northern and southern tips

148th street northern tip

149th street northern tip

150th street northern tip

151st street – northern and southern tips

Hope to complete eight more locations before the end of the season for laying concrete; however concrete pours are subject to freeze thaw cycles and when the temperature drop below approximately 32 degrees it would be too cold to place any concrete. It is getting cold very quickly and this is a factor that affects the schedule for laying the medians.

Issues and concerns:

Chair Garcia -148th street station: The current placement of the curb cuts and tactile strips has not been aligned with the placement of existing curb cuts in this location. This is a concern for persons with ADA issues. Chair requested if this issue could be addressed in future locations; is this a capital cost issue? Should CB10 request more monies to address this item at the Borough Budget consultations and place this item in the district needs statement for the budget? Photographs and a description about this issue was emailed to Nina Haiman NYCDOT Deputy Manhattan Borough Commissioner. Chair: Requesting to discuss strategies for future placement of curbs so that they can be more compatible with existing curb cuts. Will refer to Christina Curry to possible discuss this issue on a future conference call.

Josh Orzeck- 148th street station:

It may not always be feasible to place the curbs cuts in a direct straight line (pedestrian ramps) for geographic or infrastructure reasons such as catch basins; sewers, conduits or electrical/utility plate which may be in direct line with this placement. NYCDOT then sometimes places Apex ramps at the corner which are not at a right angle or perpendicular. Josh verified that this is a capital cost issue but does not think that this is the only reason why this is an issue. By law CDOT is only required to provide one ramp without stating in which direction. Follow-up: Josh advised that CB10 follow up with Nina Haiman concerning this issue. This will be discussed internally with the borough commissioner to look into the reason for this. This is a citywide initiative that right now is beyond NYCDOT's scope for cost and movement of utilities. Currently four locations that were scheduled

to be completely are being delayed in order to address construction or capital conflicts that must be looked and to try to resolve by next year.

Karen Horry_ Chair of Parks and Recreation

Question Median Improvements Plan: When was the decision made to make those areas permeant and was the community consulted for input? Does not think that the committee was aware of this action.

Question: The flexible delineators were not experimental and were not get to placed and moved forward once you got community input to see how the community felt about it?

Josh Orzeck- Median Improvements Plan:

The permanent placement was always part of the plan. Construction of concrete medians was part of the safety initiative because the crosswalks were actually out in the roadway and did not serve as refuges for people to stop and were only outlined with paint. **Response:** The flexible delineators were only temporary until they could be constructed.

Daniel Clarke:

Question: Curious about when the season ends since the plan is weather driven? Does the plan get wrapped up if it's too cold as the weather has been colder than normal lately?

Josh Orzeck- Median Improvements Plan:

It is a matter of being flexible but is getting close to the time around the end of the season. NYSDOT is trying to accomplish the plan before it would get cold on a constant basis.

Community Members:

Dr. Samuels: Friends of Macomb's Statement: Requesting that NYCDOT stop disrespecting this community and essentially maneuvering to get what they want for what they want and not what the community has said they want. This would not have happened on Park Avenue. The community expressed what they wanted but NYCDOT wanted a little bit more for the plan. NYCDOT solicited support from churches when community members expressed dissatisfaction and DOT could not get at the board. Requested that a letter be sent out by CB10 regarding what happened on ACP regarding this project.

Chair Garcia

Requested that Dr. Samuels provide concerns in writing to in order to place recommendations and inputs on file.

The vision zero task force requests input of strategies regarding implementation of projects. The transportation and vision zero committees are being merged to address this in the fashion that is done in the taskforce. This change is integral to the new approach for how to address the transportation committee.

Chair Garcia: Asked for two minute inputs to give everyone a chance to speak. Barbara Nelson: Co Chair Housing and Board member

Median Improvements Plan Median work is being done in pieces. Orange cone (drums) are not being moved out of the roadway which is causing vehicles to veer into traffic in the right lane and narrows the path unnecessarily. These cones are there when people are working but when they are not working the cones are still sitting out and 149th street is a heavy cross street where kids are going to school and kids are travelling to and from the subway entrance

causing a hazard. Request: remove the cones and place smaller cones and place them closer to the medians. Cones are still in the roadway during none work hours.

Chair Garcia:

Median Improvements Plan Does work occur 9-5 during the work week and on weekends? Can this schedule be verified? **Follow-up: Requested the work schedule.**

Josh Orzeck- Median Improvements Plan:

Some work does occur on Saturday and prior to 9am on weekdays.

Bradhusrt Paza Proposal Presenation 6:55pm

Public input comment sheet was distributed with a request from the chair to provide comments in writing from participants in the room, name email address and organization must be legible to provide feedback from the meeting. Are also taking verbal comments.

Overview provided by project team The applicant Herban Farmers Market. Inc and the project team Harlem Community Development Corporation (harlemCDC), Harlem Congregations for Community Improvement (HCCI), Bardhurst Merchants Association (BMA), and the HERBan Farmers' Market have prepared a proposal for a pedestrian plaza on Macombs Place for the NYC Department of Transportation's (DOT) Plaza Program.

Herban Farmers Market. Inc. goals include the following:

- Provide access to affordable, healthy fresh, local and regional farm foods to residents of underserved and lower-economic communities
- Feature fitness, nutrition, and wellness education classes holistically
- Offer a space for local artists and artisans, crafts person, and entrepreneurs to sell their homemade, handmade, and sustainable goods.
- Address major health concerns of community residents in the neigborhood
- Create employment opportunities for local residents and student

CB10 has some outstanding concerns as to how the sponsor will address the following items:

- How will traffic be re-directed as a result of the plaza placement
- Making drop off deliveries five days per week
- Maintence agreements with regard to addressing garbage pickup and rodent control which are a serious concern in the northern manhattan area and furniture for the project

<u>Petition presented by Mr. Bobby Jones Acting Vice President of the Dunbar Tenants Association</u>

PETITION

AGAINST THE PLAN TO PERMANTLY CLOSE THE STREET IN FRONT OF 2816 8TH AVENUE (149th/150TH ST) FOR A "PLAZA"

We, the residents of Harlem DO NOT support Harlem Community Development Corporation ("Harlem CDC"), Bradhurst Merchants Association (BMA), HERBan Farmer's Market, New York City Department of Transportation (NYCDOT), Harlem Congregations for Community Improvement, Inc. (HCCI)'s plan to close the street located in front of the Dunbar entrance of 2816 8th Avenue (149th/150th St.) for a plaza. This is the same proposal for a plaza that was presented by some of the same organizations and rejected in 2008 by the residents in the area for the same reasons listed below.

- The elderly and disabled will have an extremely difficult time accessing the 2816 entrance to The Dunbar via Access a Ride, cabs and other vehicles due to the permanent closure of the street. With the planned closing of all the entrance gates throughout the Dunbar, forcing all tenants through two entrances adds to more difficulty in navigating to the entrance for tenants with bags or groceries via the street if it is closed.
- The maintenance and sanitary conditions of the plaza would be difficult to maintain. Presently the area is barely kept clean
 and will attract more vermin and pests in addition to those that are already roaming out of control throughout the Dunbar,
 the present area in question and surrounding area.
- The plaza would also attract off hour congregating in the area which may put Dunbar tenants and Harlem residents safety at risk. The parking situation in the area is bad now and will get worse with spots eliminated for the plaza.
- The Farmers Market can function very well with more space steps away on Bradhurst Avenue along the park where there is a continuous sidewalk from 145th to 155th streets and not close a 100+ year old street and inconvenience residents and cause a parking and congestion nightmare.
- The NYPD traffic accident data used to suggest that the intersection is unsafe with many accidents has been presented to the public in a way that is not accurate. An accident that occurs a block away cannot be used as reasons to permanently close an intersection.
- Plaza supporters or so called "Community Stakeholders" tend not to be from the area where the closing of the street negatively affects those residents who do live and utilize the street.
- NYCDOT's Plaza Program guidelines state that the proposed plaza should be in an area with low open spaces. This area
 has 5 parks within 10 minutes walking distance with ample open space for all activities including a market and seating.
 - *By signing this petition you WITHDRAW your support of this plan to permanently close the street and add a plaza.

Bradurst Plaza Proposal Presentation

users along with school children and their parents.

Participants agreed that the Access A Ride user population concerns would need to be addressed via a walk thru process. A survey of questions would need to be developed. 7am was determined to be the apppropriate time to connect with the assess a ride

Street Co-Naming: Grant Harper Reid Presentation approved unanimously by committee to be sent to full board vote.

Street Co-Naming: Apostle Brown Way Proposal applicant was requested to provide more documentation.

Voting Items:

- a) Bradhurst Plaza Proposal In progress and to be drafted for the December Committee meeting with a goal obtaining a full board approval for January 1st week of the month.
- b) Street Co-Naming: Grant Harper Reid Resolution to be presented at the Decemebr General Board meeting for full vote

c) Street Co-Naming : Apostle Brown Way – Resolution requested but applicant must return with further requested documentation.

Adjournment 8:45pm