

## **Transportation Committee Meeting Minutes** **Tuesday December 20, 2016**

Meeting called to order 7:30 pm

Attendance: Jesse Rosenbaum-Chair, Susan Cleary, Allen Eisenstein, Kevin Forrestal, Bright Dae-Jung Limm, Seymour Schwartz. Also present, Marie Adam-Ovide-District Manager CB#8, Jatna Reyes-CB#8, Anup Ramnauth-CB#13, Richard Gippetti-DOT Queens Borough Planner, Daniel Rosenthal for Councilman Rory Lancman, Rosie Moyano-NYC Board of Ed.

**I. PRESENTATION - Hillside Avenue Safety Improvement Project: 179<sup>th</sup> Street to Francis Lewis Boulevard.** *You may go to the link below for project details:*  
<http://www.nyc.gov/html/dot/downloads/pdf/hillside-ave-179-208-st-dec2016.pdf>

- A. DOT similar improvements to the rest of Hillside Avenue including island medians and safe street crossing zones. Medians have decreased pedestrian accidents by 46% and car crashes by 39% along other sections of Hillside Avenue.
1. No lane changes or changes in turning lanes will be shut during construction.
  2. DOT is requesting a letter of support for this project.

**LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THIS SAFETY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT HAS BEEN AUTHORIZED.**

### **II. CORRESPONDENCE**

A. CB6, Manhattan, wrote a letter of support to Gov. Cuomo for Assembly Bill No. A09633, MOVE NY Plan for fare tolling and improved transit (11/14/16). To include congestion pricing, increase surcharge for taxis in congestion zones. Revenues to be used to restore service cuts, additional pedestrian countdown boxes and increase ADA accessibility. Revenues will also be used for new MetroCard technology, ferry service, rehab and upgrade of tracks & signals, and decrease MTA debt. They anticipate that congestion pricing will decrease 15% of vehicle traffic = 100,000 fewer cars, reducing air and noise pollution. This program will provide fare relief and service improvement to residents of outer boroughs. They recommend periodic audits to ensure accountability of funds as stated above. **TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE IS OPPOSED TO ANY FORM OF CONGESTION PRICING. MEMBERS ARE CONCERNED AS TO HOW ADDITIONAL REVENUE WILL BENEFIT THE OUTSIDE BOROUGHES AND HAVE DOUBTS AS TO HOW LONG DECREASED FARES ON EAST AND HUDSON RIVER CROSSINGS WILL LAST. LETTER OF OBJECTION TO THIS PROJECT SHOULD BE SENT TO THE GOVERNOR. IT IS SUGGESTED THAT IT COMES FROM THE ENTIRE BOARD AFTER BEING PRESENTED TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.**

B. DOT Public Hearing to be held Thursday, December 29, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. at 65 Wall Street, NY. In regard to recently enacted Local Law 115 of 2016 – relating to pedestrian control signals. Public is asked for feedback on changing pedestrian countdown displays from Walk/Don't Walk signs to Hand Flashing signs. **TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE IS IN FAVOR OF UPDATING PEDESTRIAN COUNTDOWN TIMERS.**

C. MTA – Spring-2017 changes in L, J, Z, and M train service. Additional service will be brought to L line to bring it to peak capacity. All repair work must be done during off-peak hours. Implementation of additional services to the above stated lines will cost approx \$1.7 million annually. Proposed re-construction of the Myrtle Viaduct & NY/Atlantic Bridge has a projected cost of \$3.2 million. Proposed MTA schedule is available in CB8 office.

D. MTA – Spring 2017: Changes in 1, 7, 2, 3, 4, and 5 train service. Implement service changes for 1 & 7 will cost \$0.6 million. Change in weekend service on 2, 3, 4, & 5 lines will save \$1.3million annually.

E. DOT – Correspondence from Barry Grodenchik’s office to a constituent - DOT confirms there will not be any closures of the 188th Street Bridge. They are three (3) months ahead of schedule and anticipate completion of the project by June 2017.

F. DOT – Correspondence from Barry Grodenchik’s office to a constituent – Resurfacing 192nd Street between 67th & 69th Avenues, and 64th Avenue between 188th Street & Peck Avenue are both scheduled for Fiscal Year 2018. **DOT REPAVING SCHEDULE IS REQUESTED FOR FISCAL YEARS 2017, 2018 AND 2019 FOR CB#8**

G. DOT – Correspondence from Barry Grodenchik’s office to a constituent – North & southbound left turn signals on 188th Street at 73rd Avenue - Tracking #DOT-311581-M5M3. **EASTBOUND LEFT TURN SIGNAL FROM 188<sup>TH</sup> STREET ONTO 73<sup>RD</sup> AVENUE IS IN PLACE.**

H. DOT – Correspondence from Barry Grodenchik’s office to a constituent – Request for speed limit signage on 73rd Avenue between Clearview Expressway and Springfield Boulevard - Tracking #DOT-313418-P7R3. **THIS REQUEST IS OUT OF CB#8 PURVIEW AND IS A FRIVILIOUS REQUEST AS SPEED LIMIT ON ALL STREETS IS 25 MILES PER HOUR UNLESS OTHERWISE POSTED.**

I. MTA – Correspondence to Barry Grodenchik’s office on behalf of a constituent – They have investigated a complaint for inadequate service on the Q46 bus line that terminates at LIJ Hospital. It was determined that there were no missing buses, but have added additional service to the schedule after school resumed in September. They recommend utilizing a mobile device or computer to get “real time” bus arrival information.

J. DOT request from Barry Grodenchik’s office on behalf of a constituent – Sign designated “metered parking” be shifted north several feet along commercial setback on the north side of 188th Street (corner Union Turnpike) to include one additional parking space. **APPROVED**

K. DOT request from Barry Grodenchik’s office on behalf of a constituent – traffic-calming device along McLaughlin Avenue between Francis Lewis Boulevard & 188th Street. **THIS REQUEST HAS BEEN SUBMITTED TO DOT THIS PAST YEAR.**

L. DOT request from Barry Grodenchik’s office on behalf of school principal – NO U TURN signs near the front and back entrances of PS/IS 178Q. Motorists make frequent illegal U-turns. **NYPD ENFORCEMENT SHOULD BE REQUESTED FOR THIS LOCATION.**

M. DOT request from Barry Grodenchik’s office on behalf of a constituent – Additional lighting near his home at 196-31 Como Avenue. **THE REQUESTED LIGHT WOULD BENEFIT ONE INDIVIDUAL. IT SHOULD BE POINTED OUT THAT THIS HOME IS LOCATED ONE HOUSE FROM THE CORNER AND THAT THERE ARE LAMP POSTS WITHIN 2 HOMES ON EITHER SIDE. THERE IS A DENSE TREE CANOPY AT THIS LOCATION, TREE TRIMMING MAY BE A BETTER SOLUTION.**

N. MTA request from Barry Grodenchik's office on behalf of Transportation Committee Member Establish limited service on the Q88 bus line. Service would allow residents and tourists to take advantage of Q72 bus to La Guardia Airport in addition to expediting commutes to and from Western Queens and Manhattan. **THIS REQUEST WAS SUBMITTED BY TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE 6 MONTHS AGO. WE ARE AWAITING A RESPONSE TO THIS REQUEST.**

**IN LIGHT OF THE UNKNOWN INFORMATION IN THE ABOVE DOT REQUESTS BY COUNCILMAN BARRY GRODENCHIK'S OFFICE IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT A LETTER BE DRAFTED SUGGESTING THAT HIS CONSTITUENT REQUESTS BE FORWARDED FOR REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION BEFORE SENDING TO DOT.**

### **III. RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS REQUESTS**

A. NYC Department of Sanitation has forwarded request to DOT requesting replacement of street cleaning signs on the west side of Park Drive East between Union Turnpike & 77th Avenue. **NOT DONE**

B. DOT has approved alternate side parking on Parsons Boulevard to permit street cleaning. To be implemented by NYC Department of Sanitation by May 2017. **NOT DONE**

C. DOT request – daylighting at the intersection of Wexford Terrace & 188th Street (7/22/16). Existing NO PARKING ANYTIME signs will be upgraded to NO STANDING ANYTIME. **DONE**

D. DOT request – Ponding condition in front of 144-23 68th Road (6/1/16). Result of investigation indicates ponding is due to low driveway apron and that repair is the responsibility of the property owner. **ENTIRE STREET HAS LOW CURBS.**

E. DOT request – traffic control device at the intersection of Surrey Place & Aberdeen Road (7/19/16). Study indicates no additional controls are needed.

F. DOT request – NO PARKING 8:00 - 9:30 a.m. on 80th Road between 188th Street and Surrey Place. DOT indicates all appropriate signs are in good condition, therefore no changes are required. **RETURN REQUEST TO DOT. LETTER TO BE DRAFTED INDICATING THAT THE REQUEST DID NOT CONCERN CONDITION OF SIGNAGE. THE REQUEST WAS FOR NO PARKING M-F 8-9:30 AM.**

G. DOT request – daylighting (7/22/16) at the intersection of 81st Avenue & 170th Street. **DENIED** - visibility is adequate.

H. DOT request – speed hump 87th Road between 147th & 150th Streets. **APPROVED** - Community Board support is requested. *(See III. C)* **REQUEST DENIED BY AREA CHAIR. RESPONSE FROM POSTCARD SURVEY OF AFFECTED RESIDENTS DOES NOT SUPPORT SPEED HUMP. 50 CARDS SENT; 6 IN FAVOR, 4 OPPOSED, 1 NO NAME.**

I. DOT request – additional traffic control at 150th Street & 79th Avenue. **APPROVED** - To be installed by January 2017. **NOT DONE**

J. DOT request – *(Individual)* reconsideration of speed hump on Vleigh Place after CB8 Transportation Committee denial as a result of inadequate community response. Deadline for community response has expired. Article explaining pros and cons of speed humps were forwarded to individuals. **DENIED**

K. NYS DOT request - resurfacing eastbound GCP ramp off Clearview Expwy is behind schedule, but should be completed by December 20th. **PARTIALLY REDONE, ALMA**

**SPOKE TO DOT 12/28/16. THEY INDICATED AN OVERLAY WAS PUT DOWN ON ROAD BED TO KEEP IT SAFE. EXTENSIVE CONCRETE WORK NEEDS TO BE DONE IN THE SPRING WHEN TEMPERATURE IS ABOVE FREEZING FOR 7 DAYS.**

L. DOT request – City Bench has been approved for 182-15 Hillside Avenue. To be installed by January 15, 2017. **NOT DONE**

M. MTA request – to elongate bus stop on Hillside Avenue between 204th & 205th Street to accommodate additional buses. Study indicates there are no issues boarding/alighting buses.

**DENIED. TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS NYPD ENFORCEMENT FOR VEHICLES BLOCKING INTERSECTION AND BUS STOPS WHICH CREATES BACK UPS.**

N. DOT request – traffic control at the intersection of Cedarcroft Road & Kingston Place.

**DENIED** as unnecessary.

O. DOT request – curb and sidewalk installations to be determined by March 2017 have been assigned the following tracking numbers:

1. 170th Street between Goethals Avenue & Union Turnpike - #DOT-319533-H3R0. **AGREE WITH WEST SIDE EAST SIDE BY COLLEGE IS NEW**

2. Utopia Pkwy between 73rd Avenue & HHE - #DOT-319535-S8Z0. **APPROVED**

3. East side of 182nd Street between 69th & 73rd Avenues - #DOT-319539-P8P8.

4. East side of 185th Street between 64th & 67th Avenues -#DOT-319543-R2F7. **APPROVED NO SIDEWALK**

5. 171st Street between 65th & 67th Avenues - #DOT-319548-P2B2. **DENIED AS UNNECESSARY**

6. 181st Street between 67th & 69th Avenues -#DOT-319575-T7V0. **APPROVED**

7. 182nd Street between 64th Avenue & HHE - #DOT-319584-D3P4. **APPROVED**

P. DOT request – one-way conversion of 144th Street between Hillside Avenue and 85th Drive. Due to the narrowness of 144th Street, parking is only permitted on the east curb forcing residents to double park, contributing to cars being sideswiped and property damaged. Study results indicate one-way conversion is possible and parking on the west side would be implemented. (See IV. D) **RESPONSE TO AFFECTED RESIDENTS SURVEYED; 116 POSTCARDS SENT, 113 DELIVERED - RESPONSE 11 IN FAVOR, 17 OPPOSED. AS THE ISSUE APPEARS TO BE RELATED TO DOUBLE-PARKED CARS THAT RESULT IN SIDE SWIPING OF VEHICLES. TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE WILL REFER THIS ITEM BACK TO AREA CHAIR FOR REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION BEFORE MAKING A FINAL RECOMMENDATION.**

#### **IV. REQUESTS BY Marie Adam-Ovide, CB 8 District Manager, ON BEHALF OF RESIDENTS.**

A. DOT request – stop sign East/West Coolidge Avenue & 138th Street. **DOT REJECTED THIS REQUEST WITHIN THE PAST YEAR. SUGGEST THAT REQUEST BE RE-SUBMITTED AFTER 18 MONTHS.**

B. MTA request – additional bus service Q64. The bus stop on Jewel Avenue & 136th Street is congested during morning rush hours. **APPROVED**

C. Postcards sent to affected residents asking residents for input regarding **APPROVED** speed humps 87th Road between 148th & 150th Street. Responses due December 5th (See III.H)

D. Postcards sent to affected residents in regards to DOT **APPROVED** one-way conversion of 144th Street to northbound traffic. Responses due December 16th (*See III.P*)

## V. NEW REQUESTS

A. DOT request – speed limit signs Clearview Expressway to Springfield Boulevard (Councilman Barry Grodenchik) **NOT IN CB#8!!**

B. DOT request – additional street lights north side of 73rd Avenue along Cunningham Park to Francis Lewis Boulevard to Clearview Expressway. **APPROVED FOR NORTH SIDE OF 73<sup>RD</sup> AVENUE.**

C. DOT request – all-way stop sign at 147th Street & 77th Road. INDIVIDUAL – cars speeding past two schools. **DONE LAST WEEK**

D. DOT request – Citizens for a Safer Utopia Parkway proposed a redesign of Utopia Parkway between 26th Avenue & GCP. There have been 283 crashes between 3/1/15 and 2/29/16 resulting in 81 injuries and 1 fatality. Reduce speed limit, curb extensions at intersections, more frequent pedestrian crossings, parking protected bike lanes and upgraded bus stops and shelters. **SECTION NORTH OF LIE IS NOT IN CB#8! P.O. CAPOZZI OF NYPD REPORTS THAT UP UNTIL 12/14/16 THERE HAVE BEEN 9 COLLISIONS RESULTING IN 1 INJURY, 1 PERSON HIT TREE, AND 1 HIT LIGHT POLE. THE OTHER COLLISIONS INVOLVED CARS AND HAD NO INJURIES. DOT STUDY IS RECOMMENDED.**

E. DOT request – removal of speed humps (INDIVIDUAL) on Hollis Hills Terrace which runs from Union Turnpike to 73rd Avenue. There are 6 speed humps! Request is to remove 3 speed humps. **COMMITTEE IS AWARE THAT THE SPEED HUMPS HAVE RECENTLY BEEN REPAVED. IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT 3 OF 6 BE REMOVED.**

F. DOT request – speed hump between 68th Drive between 136th & 138th Street. Member CB#8. **REFER TO AREA CHAIR FOR REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION**

G. DOT request – left turn signal from Hillside Avenue on to Midland Pkwy. Transportation Committee Member. **APPROVED**

H. DOT request – NO ENTRY signs

1. Southeast & southwest corner 64th Avenue at 182nd & 184th Street. **APPROVED**

2. Northeast & northwest corners of 64th Avenue at 183rd & 185th Street. **APPROVED**

3. Northeast & northwest corners of 73rd Avenue & 185th, 183rd, 181st and 179th Streets. **APPROVED**

I. DOT request – daylighting on Parsons Blvd & 75th Road and 75th Avenue. **DENIED AS UNNECESSARY AS THERE ARE STOP LIGHTS ON BOTH CORNERS.**

J. DOT request – “Wait for Green Light” sign heading north on Parsons Blvd & GCP. Transportation Committee Member. **APPROVED**

K. DOT request – daylighting northeast corner of Smedley & Coolidge Avenues. **APPROVED**

L. TLC – Skyway Car Service requests renewal for hire license. 68-20 Fresh Meadows Lane. Letter of No Objection sent with provision that no vehicles parked on the street. **APPROVED**

M. TLC request renewal for hire license La Nueva Quisqueya Car Service, 87-38 148th Street. A copy of the lease to park unused vehicles in a lot 11/21/16 to 11/21/17 for 40 cars was contained in the application. **APPROVED**

N. DOT request – 4-way stop signs at the following locations: (I.S.250 Parent Coordinator)

1. 75th Avenue & 160th Street ... **APPROVED** .....162nd Street **HAS A FOUR WAY STOP SIGN**
2. 75th Road & 160th Street ..... **APPROVED** .....162nd Street **APPROVED**
3. 76th Avenue & 160th Street ..... **DENIED**.....162nd Street **DENIED**
4. 76th Road & 160th Street ..... **APPROVED** .....162nd Street **DENIED**
5. 77th Avenue & 160th Street ..... **APPROVED** .....162nd Street **DENIED**

**Meeting was adjourned 8:45 pm**

**TRANSPORTATION CHAIR REQUESTS FOLLOW UP WITH NYS DOT TO DETERMINE WHEN THEY ANTICIPATE THE WIDENING AND SUBDIVIDING OF THE CLEARVIEW EXPRESSWAY EXIT RAMP AT UNION TURNPIKE INTO EAST BOUND AND WEST BOUND LANES. TRAFFIC BACKS UP ONTO RIGHT LANE OF CLEARVIEW EXPRESSWAY SOUTH BOUND DURING RUSH HOUR CAUSING DELAYS AND A DANGEROUS MOTORIST CONDITION. THIS PROJECT WAS APPROVED BY NYS DOT.**