

THE CITY OF NEW YORK BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD 6

1932 Arthur Avenue, Room 403-A, Bronx, NY 10457

Telephone: (718) 579-6990 Fax: (718) 579-6875 Email: bronxcb6@bronxcb6.org
Honorable Vanessa L. Gibson, Bronx Borough President
Honorable Oswald Feliz, New York City Council Member

MS. EVONNE CAPERS Board Chairperson MR. RAFAEL MOURE-PUNNETT District Manager

December 28, 2022

Commissioner Ydanis Rodriguez NYC Department of Transportation

Bronx Community Board 6 would like to raise concerns regarding DOT's proposed Fordham Road Bus Plan. The board would like to echo the concerns raised by the Fordham BID, Council Member Oswald Feliz, Fordham University, and the Belmont BID. In particular, the Belmont BID represents long-standing business that rely on out-of-state visitors, who travel via car. We believe that the Belmont BID raises valid concerns about their customer base being able to access the neighborhood without the vital east-west connection from Fordham Road. Proposed plans B & C appear to be the most problematic for customers who drive to Belmont to shop and dine, and Board 6 is in opposition to these proposals.

The Board would like to express concern regarding how Bronx DOT came to the decision to propose the three potential plans. The board's office was invited to and attended a Community Advisory Board meeting but CAB members not aware that DOT was considering a redesign of Fordham Road as a result of the meeting. A similar CAB meeting held for East Tremont did not include any information on expected proposals for redesign.

The Board asks that DOT take steps to inform the public about CAB meetings. The recent Tremont CAB meeting was only attended by government representatives, no members of the public. The Board asks that DOT inform CAB members what are the potential solutions being considered, not simply convene a meeting without the public present, and then announce dramatic redesigns after several months, with no updates in between to CAB members.

An issue raised from both the Fordham Road stakeholders and at the recent Tremont CAB was the lack of NYPD participation in planning. We recommend that NYPD participate in CAB meetings to provide data on traffic enforcement – a key part of improving traffic flow. If NYPD does not enforce bus lanes for buses, double parked cars and cars in bus stops will slow travel speeds.

Regards,

Evonne Capers

Chair

Bronx Community Board 6

Rafael Moure-Punnett District Manager

Bronx Community Board 6

Rafael Momes