



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

Transportation Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, June 22, 2023

Lisa Sanchez, Transportation Committee Chairperson

The Transportation Committee met on June 22, 2023 via Zoom Audio and Video Conference and in-person at the district office. The following board members were present: Magdamary Marcano, Rosa Peraza, and Monique Williams.

The Transportation Committee discussed the following information:

- **Informational presentation by the New York City Department of Transportation on the Citi Bike Expansion Phase 3**

The Transportation Committee was informed of the Citi Bike Expansion Phase 3 by the New York City Department of Transportation. This expansion will create a network of shared bicycle lanes to increase mobility within the area. Along with the development of new roads, there will be an increased amount of Citi Bike station locations to retrieve or return Citi Bike bicycles. The New York City Department of Transportation will continue to promote the cycling plan and will return in September to present an updated draft plan. The Transportation Committee raised concerns about the loss of parking, DOT's community engagement efforts, and reiterated the desire to place Citi Bike stations on sidewalks instead of streets.

- **Informational presentation by the New York City Department of Transportation on the Fordham Road Better Bus Plan**

The New York City Department of Transportation informed the Transportation Committee about the Fordham Road Better Bus Plan. The New York City Department of Transportation is committed to working with the Metropolitan Transportation Authority and the New York City Police Department to improve buses citywide, ensuring that New Yorkers have service that they can depend on. The Better Buses Action Plan is focused on improving bus speeds citywide by 25% and reversing downward bus ridership trends. This will be accomplished through New York City Department of Transportation projects using their priority toolkit, increased camera and enforcement of bus lanes, and service management initiatives and bus network redesigns by Metropolitan Transportation Authority. The Fordham Road Better Bus Plan is being proposed because Bx12 is the busiest bus route in the Bronx, and second busiest in New York City after the M15. The Bx12 bus route is along the Fordham Road corridor and currently only curbside bus lanes exist on Fordham Road. Curbside bus lanes are a less efficient means of balancing bus priority and curb access. In addition, deliveries are only permitted during a 2- hour window in the midday when the bus lanes are not in effect on Fordham Road. There are three proposed alternatives to improve and address the traffic conditions on Fordham Road - Offset Bus Lanes

in Both Directions, Eastbound Busway from Morris Avenue to Webster Avenue, and Two-Way Busway between Jerome Avenue and Webster Avenue.

- **Discussion on the Southern Boulevard Safety Improvement Project**

The Transportation Committee discussed the Southern Boulevard between East 182nd Street and Fordham Road Safety Improvement Project that was implemented by the New York City Department of Transportation in 2021 after the Board expressed their concerns with the proposals of the project and issued a letter of objection. As a result of this project, the Community Board has received numerous complaints in regard to the safety of pedestrians and bicyclist, the significant loss of parking, and traffic congestion. Therefore, the Transportation Committee is requesting data and a study to determine the project's results. The Transportation Committee unanimously agreed to issue a letter to the New York City Department of Transportation to reconsider the Southern Boulevard between East 182nd Street and Fordham Road Safety Improvement Project and to provide data of the project.

- **Update of the Café Building and Kiosk 2 at Fordham Plaza**

The Transportation Committee was informed that the New York City Department of Transportation has not provided the Community Board with an update in regard to the Café Building and Kiosk 2 at Fordham Plaza even after letters have been sent to Commissioner Ydanis Rodriguez and news articles have come covering this issue.

- **Update of the Devoe Avenue, Boston Road and East 177th Street Project**

The Transportation Committee was informed that the New York City Department of Design and Construction issued a letter to the Community Board apologizing for the delay in the reconstruction of the Devoe Avenue, Boston Road and East 177th Street Project. The New York City Department of Design and Construction will be presenting at the Transportation Committee in the fall to provide an update on the project.

- **Informational presentation from Michael Whitfield of JED Engineering PC on Safe Routes To Schools in The Bronx**

The New York City Department of Design and Construction informed the Transportation Committee about the Safe Routes to School in The Bronx Project that is projected to address the poor street conditions of the East Tremont Avenue corridor. This project will host construction that involves ground work such as fire hydrant relocation and relocation of water mains, but also involves above ground elements such as upgrading traffic lights, street markings, and sidewalk curbs. In doing so, pedestrian sidewalks will be maintained but will require some streets to be restricted as the installation process and reinvigoration project undergoes.