



**THE CITY OF NEW YORK
BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD 6**

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New York State Department of Transportation

Bronx Community Board 6 Transportation Committee received a presentation from New York State DOT regarding the 5 Bridges Cross Bronx Expressway project and serious concerns about the proposal. We are confused as to why NYS DOT is a partner organization on the RAISE study to examine ameliorating the effects of the Cross Bronx Expressway and at is simultaneously moving forward with this project. We believe the RAISE study should preclude any further changes to the Cross Bronx Expressway. At our Transportation Committee meeting, residents and advocacy organizations expressed their opinion that this project is an expansion of the Cross Bronx Expressway for cars and opposed the project on principle. The diagrams shared by NYS DOT indicated the project was designed for cars, with pedestrian and bike lanes as an afterthought. The “multimodal connector” is a greenwashing of an additional service road, which will take away access and sunlight in a public park (Starlight Park) and increase air pollution in the neighborhoods around the Cross Bronx Expressway.

We have a series of questions we are hoping NYS DOT can answer:

Why is NYS DOT moving forward with the 5 Bridges project while the RAISE study is still pending? This project precludes any physical projects resulting from RAISE in the West Farms area of the CBE.

Has NYS DOT considered creating a “connector” that is only for pedestrians and bikes?

What is the plan for storm runoff as a result of this project?

What is the expected daily usage of the “multimodal community connector” roadway, listed by vehicle/pedestrian/bike/bus?

Which bus routes will be served by the “multimodal connector”?

How much faster will bus routes move, and what additional bus stops will be added with the “multimodal connector”?

How does this project affect the feasibility and timeline of the 15-year-delayed DDC street redesign project in West Farms Square?

What employment opportunities for Bronx residents will be part of this project?

What guarantees can NYS DOT provide that there will not be construction materials and pollution dumped into the Bronx River?

Can NYS DOT analyze the traffic caused by ambulettes lined up at the Metro Community Health Center? (979 Cross Bronx Service Road) These vehicles will back up onto the proposed service road

Can NYS DOT provide diagrams outlining Boston Road and the CBE, West Farms Road and the CBE, and E177 and multimodal roadway?

What traffic calming can be included at E 177th and Bronx River Avenue?

Can NYS DOT provide a diagram of the multimodal connector with actual bike lane and pedestrian lane width?

Will this project lead to the closure of any/all of Starlight Park?

What is NYSDOT doing to compensate for the loss of land and sunlight in Starlight Park as a result of this project?

What are the sources of the funding for this project? Please provide a breakdown by City, State and Federal.

Can NYS DOT conduct an Environment Impact Study to better understand the effects of this project?

Regards,

Evonne Capers

Chair

Bronx Community Board 6