



**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 Ruben Diaz Jr., Bronx Borough President

MS. EVONNE CAPERS
Board Chairperson

MR. JOHN SANCHEZ
District Manager

Transportation Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, September 16, 2021

Ms. Lisa Sanchez, Committee Chairperson

The Transportation Committee Meeting met on Thursday, September 16, 2021 via Zoom Audio and Video Conferencing. The following members attended the meeting: John Barczak, Evonne Capers, Marilyn Gurley, Julisa Hamilton, Magdamary Marcano, Matthew Martinez, Rosa Peraza, Divine Sikanku, Lillie Steed, and Jacquetta Whaley.

The following items were discussed:

- Presentation by the Department of Design and Construction and Department of Transportation on the Devoe Avenue and East 177th Street Project

The Department of Design and Construction and Department of Transportation on the Devoe Avenue and East 177th Street Project presented on the Devoe Avenue and East 177th Street project. The Bronx River Alliance - Greenway Master Plan involves a 23 mile trail. The path from the mouth of the East River to the border of Westchester County is divided into five segments. This project connects Bruckner Boulevard including East Tremont Avenue and Starlight Park (Segment B) to East Tremont including Pelham Park (Segment C). With the project, the agencies hope to improve pedestrian/vehicle movements, to make shorter pedestrian crossings with refuge medians, to complete the Bronx River Greenway Connection between Starlight Park and Bronx River Park and to upgrade infrastructure. Widening of the Sheridan Expressway Bridge in the vicinity of Tidal Wetlands poses a challenge but agencies will coordinate with the Department of Environmental Conservation and New York State Department of Transportation to determine environmental effects and consider designs that reduce the impact to Wetlands. Another challenge is the point of interference at the Sheridan Expressway Ramp and the agencies will add a 7 feet encroachment with a 35 MPH vehicle design speed to address the issue. There are design coordination challenges with stakeholders as well and because of COVID the project was delayed from March 2020 to July 2021. Restarting the project requires backtracking, additional review by agencies with turnover in staff and revisions to design due to updated standards. An additional challenge is the elevated subway at East Tremont Avenue and Boston Road and to tackle this issue, the agencies will not raise the roadway; curb design will be restricted by the existing column; they may also mount additional lighting and consider visibility issues so that drivers can see pedestrians. The last challenge is the street lighting. The agencies will incorporate Flushing Meadows Park Pedestrian Lights to enhance lighting. New York City Department of Transportation has already taken some

temporary measures, including, restriping to allow for better pedestrian pathways, changing the signal timing to improve the flow of traffic, adding bus shelters and relocating bus stops for better access from the subway to the buses, and upgrading the lighting to LED. There will be a project information card, advisories, weekly bulletins and quarterly newsletters to keep the community informed and notified. They hope to have a stakeholder meeting in October 2021 and secure the design plans by Summer 2022, so that they can begin construction by Fall 2023.

- Discussion of the street renaming of East 180th Street and Clinton Avenue in honor of Ms. Jannie Bell Armstrong by the Mary Mitchell Family and Youth Center

The Mary Mitchell Family and Youth Center is requesting to rename the northside corner of East 180th Street and Clinton Avenue in honor of Ms. Jannie Bell Armstrong. They are requesting this corner because that is where she owned her home. The street naming will honor Ms. Armstrong for all her community activism and support throughout her years. The Transportation Committee recommended that a letter requesting this street be renamed in honor Ms. Jannie Bell Armstrong be issued.

Ms. Jannie Bell Armstrong's biography is attached for your perusal.

- Discussion of the street renaming of Mapes Avenue between East 180th Street and East 181st Street in honor of Ms. Mary Mitchell

The Transportation Committee is requesting to rename the Mapes Avenue between East 180th Street and East 181st Street intersection in honor or Ms. Mary Mitchell. The committee recognizes that Ms. Mitchell served the community with relentless dedication and loyalty. Renaming this intersection will keep her legacy alive. The Transportation Committee recommended that a letter requesting this intersection be renamed in honor of Ms. Mary Michell be issued.

Ms. Mary Mitchell's biography is attached for your perusal.

REQUEST FOR STREET NAMEING

FOR JANNIE BELL ARMSTRONG

AT E 180 STREET AND CLINTON AVENUE BX NY

JANNIE BELL ARMSTRONG A SOUTH CAROLIAN IN AND A NATIVE OF THE BRONX NY.

WAS THE DAUGHTER OF THE LATE MAYBELLE CANTEEN THE THIRD CHILD OF

EIGHT CHILDREN. BORN JANUARY 18 1944 GEORGETOWN SC. SHE MADE HER TRANSITION

MARCH 26 2020 AT MONTEFIOR HOSPITAL BX NY. OF NATURAL CAUSES .

DURING HER EARLY AGED SHE ATTEND DUNBAR COMMUNITY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
GEORGETOWN SC AND GRADUATED FROM CHOPPEE HIGH SCHOOL 1962 WITH A ACADEMIC

DIPLOMA. SHE ATTEND A NURSING SCHOOL IN NY. FOR A BETTER LIFE SHE MOVED TO

THE BRONX NY TO LIVE WITH HER AUNT CARRIE ON BROOK AVE (ZIP CODE 10457).

SHE ATTEND NAZARATH AME CHURCH GEORGETOWN SC AND JOINED FIRST GLORIOUS CHURCH

2084 ARTHUR AVE BX NY UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF REV A B DUNCAN. SHE SUCCESSFULLY

COMPLETED THE PRESCRIBED COURSES OF STUDY IN THE TRAINING FOR SERVICE –SURVEY OF

THE BIBLE CLASS WITH A CERTIFICATE OF AWARDS INSTRUCTORS MINISTER RONALD HARE AND

EVANG HELLEN TAYLOR DEAN WHOM ARE THE PASTOR AND ASSIST PASTOR AFTER THE DEATH

OF REV AB DUNCAN. SHE WAS THE PRESIDENT OF THE USHER BOARD AND THE CELESTIAL CHOR

AS A LEAD SINGER HER FAVORITE SONG WAS “JUST FOR ME”. WAS ALSO ORDAINED AS ONE OF

THE MOTHERS OF FIRST GLORIOUS CHURCH.

MRS ARMSTRONG WAS EMPLOYED FOR COMMERCIAL ENVELOPE AND THE TELEPHONE
COMPANY.

1971 SHE BEGAN EMPLOYMENT WITH THE CITY OF NY HUMAN RESOURCES ADMINISTRATION

“SOUNDVIEW CENTER IN THE BRONX” SHE RETIRED JANUARY 2001 AND RECEIVED MANY AWARDS

IN APPRECIATION OF HER DEDICATED SERVICES TO THE HUMAN RESOURCE ADMINISTRATION OF
THE CITY. IN 1984 SHE PURCHASE A HOUSE IN THE CROTONA COMMUNITY OF THE BX NY. HER

VOLUNTEER DEDICATION AND COMMITMENT TO HER COMMUNITY WAS EFFORTLESS. EACH ONE CAME FROM HER HEART AND WAS UNCONDITIONAL. SHE ATTEND ALL OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE NWBC AND COMMUNITY COLITION MARY DAILY WAS THE PRESIDENT .

SHE ALSO ATTEND THE 48TH PRICENT MONTHLY MEETING ALL WITH HER SISTER MS ATKINS HER TRAVELING BUDDY. THE DEATH OF AUSTIN JACOBO MRS ARMSTRONG BECAME THE PRESIDENT OF THE CORTONA COMMUNITY COLITION SHE OVERSEE THE DISTRUBITION OF

SISTER BARBARA L. THORP FOOD PANTRY OUT OF THE CORTONA OFFICE (MAPES AVE) OVER ONE HUNDARD COMMUNITY MEMBERS . MRS ARMSTRONG WAS THE VICE PRESIDENT OF MARY

MITCHELLE FAMILY AND YOUTH CENTER BOARD . MRS ARMSTRONG SERVED AS THE SECRETARY AND TREASURER FOR DISTRICT BOARD 6 JOHN SANCHEZ DISTRICT MANAGER UNTIL HER TIME OF DEATH. MRS ARMSTRONG WAS A WEEKLY VOLUNTEER AT THE SDA CHURCH FOOD PANTRY UNTIL THE WEEK OF HER DEATH. SHE RECEIVED AWARDS FOR HER DEDICATED COMMUNITY SERVICE. SHE GAVE FOOD AND ESSENTIAL ITEMS TOO HER FMILY NEIGHBORS AND

CHURCH MEMBERS FROM HER HOME . MRS ARMSTRONG RECIVED A CITATION FROM THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NY FROM THE OFFICE OF THE MAJORITY LEADER JOEL RIVERA WE LOVE HER AND MISS

OUR AFTER CHURCH SERVICE DINNER AT HER HOME. SHE HAD LOVE FOR HER FAMILY CHURCH AND COMMUNITY THAT WAS AWESOME GOD LOVED HER BEST

OUR GRATEFUL THANKS FROM HER IMMEDIATE FAMILY

*Community Member
MMC Board Member
5/26/2021
Carol Atkins*

MARY MITCHELL BIOGRAPHY

Ms. Mitchell died in 1983 but her dream was championed by the neighbors she inspired. After a fifteen-year campaign, in 1997, the Mary Mitchell Center opened! The Center has developed after school youth programs, created The Food Justice Club and supports the effort of over 25 small, volunteer-run groups. Members of the Mary Mitchell Center Board have fought for thirty years to have vacant lots turned into ball fields and community gardens and to see local parks restored for soccer, tennis and football. Now, the Center provides many opportunities for youth and families during 2020 among the pandemic.

In the late 1970's Crotona, located in the South Bronx, was burning due to arson and property abandonment. Homes and buildings were reduced to rubble and the neighborhood had hundreds of vacant lots. While many people fled the devastation, some people insisted that they would not move, but improve their community. Mary Mitchell opened her home for families in need and engaged youth in sports and play activities on the street. She opened one of New York City's first Play Streets and had the vision to create a community center for youth and family activities to serve the Crotona community of The Bronx.