

Meeting Minutes of Traffic & Transportation Committee
Bronx Community Board 8
Thursday, September 17, 2026 @ 7:00 PM
Board Office, 5676 Riverdale Ave, Suite 100, Bronx, NY 10471
[Meeting Recording](#)

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM.

1. Introductory Remarks by Chairperson of the Committee. Interim-Chair Debby Allen introduced herself, welcomed the community guests in attendance and reviewed guidelines for participation in the meeting. ADA guidelines also reviewed.
2. Roll Call.
Present (3): Debora Allen, Sylvia Alexander (ADA via Zoom), Kevin Klobocishta
Absent (3): Yngrid DeLeon, Sergio Villaverde, Daniel Nunez (On Zoom)

There was no quorum.

Zoom Guest: Andrew Klein, Jakel, Jacob L., Deborah and Bart Schiavo, Ed Green (Board Member), Wyldon King Fishman, Miriam Hoffman, MD, Sadam, Orlando, Kross, Bianca L, Ann Golden, Caleb Auerbach (CM Dinowitz), Hannifa Barnes- Riverdale Country, School (SAPO), Shari Hall KRVC (SAPO), Mauricio, Anna Purves, Savitri Devi, Deborah Shapira, Steven Froot (Board Member), Eric Solomon, Darisa Cruz (DOT), Rene Luciano (DOT), Daniella Fuchs, Kenneth Rosen, Mary, Shawn i-phone, Tammy C, Susan Chevlowe,

Guest In Person:

Ruth Kraus, Larry Levine, Robin Schwartz, Glenn Perz, Mike Weguelu, James Jaffe, Elzbieta Black, Gerald Riger, Lily Dulaj, Joney Dion, Chima Monday, Michael Donohue, Joe BenMeir

3. June 18, 2026 Committee Minutes were tabled due to lack of quorum.
4. **SAPO Applications**:
 - a. ***Riverdale Country School Event 10/3/2026 8:30 am – 6:00 pm***
5250 Fieldston Road - West 253 Street Between Post Road & Fieldston Road - Full Street Closure

Ms. Hannifa Barnes, the representative for the event, reviewed the application and explained the need for a full-street closure. Ms. Barnes stated that the closure is being requested to ensure the safety of children participating in the event.

A clarification was requested regarding the scheduled time of the event. Ms. Barnes also reviewed the event's safety plan and explained how she plans to notify community members and neighbors who may be impacted by the street closure.

Chair Allen informed Ms. Barnes that, due to the absence of a quorum and because the event is scheduled to take place before the October 2026 Community Board meeting, the Community Board Office, in coordination with input from the 50th Precinct, will issue a response letter to SAPO defer to NYPD approval for the event scheduled for October 3, 2026.

b. KRVC BOO Event On Mosholu Ave 10/24/2026 10:00 am – 6:00 pm
Mosholu Ave Avenue between West 256th Street & Tyndall Avenue - Full street closure.

Shari Hall, the representative for the event, participated in the meeting via Zoom. Ms. Hall explained that the event is being organized to provide children in the community with a safe environment to participate in trick-or-treating.

Committee Member Alexander noted that the event was held last year and was successful.

District Manager Rubin raised a concern regarding complaints received from homeowners following last year's event. Residents had reported that they were not adequately informed in advance about the street closure.

Ms. Hall was advised that homeowners who will be directly impacted by the proposed street closure must be notified prior to the event. Ms. Hall stated that she would notify the affected neighbors in advance.

Chair Allen explained that the committee would not be voting on the application that evening because a quorum was not present. The event application will be voted on at the full-board meeting on October 13, 2026.

5. Petition to restore Parking on Arlington Avenue from West 252nd Street to West 254th

Ms. Cruz (DOT) reviewed that DOT received a petition from homeowners regarding safety concerns. DOT assessed the street along with the Borough President topographic team. Based on that assessment and using street safety criteria. Arlington Avenue between West 252 street – West 254 street did not meet the safety criteria and that is why parking was eliminated on one side of the street. Therefore, no standing signage on one side of the street was implemented.

Chair Allen asked if there is any consideration or other interventions that could be used instead of No Standing Anytime?

Cruz (DOT) It is possible to convert the road to one way street, but it will impact the traffic flow and homeowners would need to agree to that change.

Chair Allen: Is it possible to have signage during certain time periods for parking?

Cruz (DOT); No, it is not possible

Question: Can the street be widened?

Cruz (DOT): It would take several years to widen the street.

Chair Allen Asked if there is a standard to inform the public of signage changes?

Cruz (DOT) No we do not need to inform the public with change in street signage.

Chair Allen Asked Is it possible to re-store a portion of parking due the street width is variable in some areas?

Cruz (DOT) No they will not be able to re-store parking on certain sections.

Cruz (DOT): DOT stated they will be evaluating other streets in Riverdale for safety concerns in the future.

Residents: Against No Standing

Resident Concerns Regarding Parking Elimination on Arlington Avenue

1. Impact on Quality of Life: Residents expressed serious concerns that the elimination of parking on Arlington Avenue has significantly impacted their quality of life.
2. Request for Immediate Restoration: Residents reported that parking is essential to their daily needs and are requesting that the eliminated parking spaces be restored immediately.
3. Request for DOT Documentation: Residents are requesting a copy of the NYC Department of Transportation (DOT) report, study, and/or criteria used to

determine that parking should be eliminated on Arlington Avenue between West 252nd Street and West 254th Street. Residents have expressed concerns regarding the accuracy and completeness of the information used to support the decision.

4. **Impact on Seniors and People with Disabilities:** Residents reported that the removal of parking creates hardships for elderly individuals and people with disabilities who may depend on nearby parking for access to their homes and transportation.
5. **Notice and Community Engagement:** Residents expressed concerns that they were not adequately informed or consulted before the parking restrictions were implemented. They believe the lack of notice negatively affected their ability to understand and respond to the proposed changes.
6. **Consistency With Similar Streets:** Residents questioned why parking was eliminated on Arlington Avenue between West 252nd and West 254th Streets when there are several streets in the surrounding area with similar characteristics where parking has not been eliminated. Residents are requesting clarification regarding the criteria used to distinguish Arlington Avenue from these other streets.
7. **Longstanding Safety Record:** Residents reported that many have lived on the block for more than 35 years without experiencing accidents or significant incidents and are questioning what specific safety concerns or documented conditions prompted the parking elimination at this location.

Requested Follow-Up

Residents are requesting that DOT provide the documentation and criteria supporting the parking elimination, explain the rationale for treating Arlington Avenue differently from comparable streets, address the concerns regarding notice and accessibility, and review whether the parking restrictions can be reconsidered or modified.

Residents: in Support of No Standing Signage

1. **Improved Street Safety:** Residents reported that the street is safer since the installation of the No Standing signage, allowing cars, garbage trucks, and buses to travel through the street more safely and efficiently.
2. **Improved Pedestrian Visibility:** Residents reported that the removal of parked vehicles has improved visibility for both drivers and pedestrians, making it easier to see pedestrians crossing or walking along the street.

3. Improved Fire Hydrant Access: Residents reported that the No Standing signage provides improved access to fire hydrants, which they believe is important for emergency response and public safety.

6. Unfinished Business:

Leaning Bar at Van Cortland West 242 Street by the 1 train north bound side (Street Furniture by DOT Public Realm Unit).

Ms. Cruz stated that she is familiar with the site and stated there are leaning bars at the location. There is no need for more leaning.

7. New Business:

MTA Construction – 225th Street and Broadway

Residents expressed concerns regarding the ongoing MTA construction at 225th Street and Broadway. Residents reported that the construction was expected to be completed by this time; however, the work remains ongoing.

Residents reported that the prolonged construction and resulting access issues have negatively affected local businesses. According to residents, several businesses have experienced significant hardship due to limited access and, as a result, seven businesses on 225th Street and Broadway have closed.

A meeting is scheduled for next week with the MTA and the contractors to discuss the status of the construction, the continued impact on local businesses, and the anticipated timeline for completion.

Poor Street Lighting – Henry Hudson Parkway

Residents expressed concerns regarding inadequate street lighting along the Henry Hudson Parkway South service road between West 238th Street and West 246th Street.

Residents reported that multiple City-owned streetlights have been out of service for more than six months despite repeated requests for repairs. Residents stated that the lack of adequate lighting has contributed to concerns about vehicle vandalism and theft and has created broader public-safety concerns in the area.

Ed Green, Safety Chair, requested immediate action to inspect and repair the multiple City-owned streetlights that are out of service on both the northbound

and southbound service roads of Henry Hudson Parkway between West 238th Street and West 246th Street in the Riverdale section of the Bronx.

Residents are requesting that the responsible City agency provide an update regarding the outstanding repairs and a timeline for restoring all affected streetlights.

a. Streetlight Concerns – Riverdale Avenue Near West 235th Street

Residents also expressed concerns regarding a streetlight outage on Riverdale Avenue near West 235th Street. A resident reported that the streetlight had been out of service for more than six months and stated that the outage had previously been reported through 311.

b. Streetlight and Highway Lighting Outages

Ms. Cruz of the NYC Department of Transportation (DOT) recommended that reports concerning highway lighting outages be sent directly to her so that they can be tracked and followed up on accordingly.

Ms. Cruz stated that she would follow up with the appropriate lighting team and Con Edison regarding the reported outages and provide a response to the Board Office by close of business on Friday, September 18, 2026.

Abandoned Vehicles – 236th Street and Broadway

Resident expressed concerns regarding abandoned vehicles on the street between West 236th Street and Broadway.

Chair Allen directed the resident to the Public Safety Chair for assistance with addressing the abandoned vehicles and coordinating the appropriate removal process.

Obsolete Street Signs

Resident expressed concerns that certain street signs in the area are obsolete and should be removed.

Ms. Cruz of DOT stated that she was unclear about which signs the resident was referring to and requested additional clarification regarding the specific signs and locations in question before the matter could be investigated.

Garbage Behind BJ Store – W. 238th Street

Residents expressed concerns regarding garbage accumulating behind the BJ Store on 238th Street.

Residents were advised to report the issue through 311 and obtain a service request/ticket number. The Board Office will use the ticket number to follow up with the appropriate agency regarding the complaint and its resolution.

8. FY29 Budget Priorities were tabled

9. Meeting adjourned at 8: 30pm

Debby Allen, Interim Chair