

**(Draft Pending Committee Approval)**

Minutes of the Traffic & Transportation Committee Meeting

Bronx Community Board 8

Thursday April 20, 2023, 7pm ET

Via Zoom Video and Audio Conference

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm

Committee Members Present: Sylvia Alexander, Kelli Buford, Christopher Calhoun, Mary Ellen Gibbs (CCM), Daniel Padernacht and Debra Travis

Committee Members Absent: David Gellman

**Opening Remarks**

Committee Chair Buford welcomed Committee Members, Elected Officials and the Community. She then outlined the meeting process.

**Chair's Report**

Ms. Buford informed the Community that the CB8 office receives notice of various closures within the District due to work being performed by city and state agencies as well as local utility companies and indicated information related to the closures are routinely posted to the CB 8 social media platforms and encouraged the Community to check the platforms for projects that may impact their neighborhoods.

**Approval Item: Minutes (March 16, 2023 Meeting)**

Ms. Buford referred the Committee Members to the draft minutes of the March 16, 2023 Traffic and Transportation Committee Meeting for review and approval. The Committee duly approved the March 16, 2023 meeting minutes as presented.

In favor: Sylvia Alexander, Kelli Buford, Christopher Calhoun, Mary Ellen Gibbs, Daniel Padernacht and Debra Travis

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

**Approval Item: SAPO Application: North Riverdale Block Party (June 11)**

Ms. Joanna Edmondson, Female Fight Club, presented the request on behalf of the Riverdale Main Streets Alliance for the full street closure of Riverdale Avenue from W 258th to W 259th Street to host a block party on Sunday, June 11, 2023. This one-day event was held in 2022 with a sidewalk closure only and full street closure is being requested in 2023. The closure will occur from 8am to 8pm, including setup and

breakdown. Responding to Committee inquiries, Ms. Edmondson advised that, to date, DOT approved sidewalk and side street closures and that plans for bus operations and a 15-foot emergency lane were not determined. The Committee requested that this information be provided by May 2, 2023 in order for the Committee to have sufficient time to review the plans and submit the SAPO permit request to the full Board for approval at the May 9, 2023 meeting.

After discussion an ON MOTION, the Traffic and Transportation Committee adopted the following:

**WHEREAS**, the Riverdale Main Streets Alliance (RMSA) presented its intent to hold a block party on Riverdale Avenue from W 258th to W 259th Street (the North Riverdale Block Party) on Sunday, June 11, 2023 from 8am – 8pm, inclusive of set up and breakdown; and

**WHEREAS**, RMSA held a similar event in May 2022 with a sidewalk only closure; and

**WHEREAS**, RMSA is requesting full street closure to host the 2023 event; and

**WHEREAS**, the Committee requested that the applicant provide plans detailing proposed bus operations and establishment of a 15-Foot emergency lane through the center to the Committee by May 2, 2023; and

**WHEREAS**, the North Riverdale Block Party received favorable feedback from the community in support of the issuance of a full street closure permit to allow the event to occur.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT**, subject to and contingent upon the receipt of adequate plans that address bus operations and establish a 15-Foot emergency lane, the Traffic and Transportation Committee of Community Board 8, Bronx, supports the issuance of a permit to the Riverdale Main Streets Alliance (RMSA) to hold a block party on Riverdale Avenue from W 258th to W 259th Street (the North Riverdale Block Party) on Sunday, June 11, 2023 from 8am – 8pm, inclusive of set up and breakdown, for the sole purpose of hosting a one-time block party.

In favor: Sylvia Alexander, Kelli Buford, Chris Calhoun, Mary Ellen Gibbs, Dan Padernacht, Deb Travis

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

**Approval Item: SAPO Application: Church Outside the Walls (July 2)**

Ms. Buford advised that the applicant was not present and recommended that the matter be tabled until the May meeting to afford the applicant, Fordham Manor Church, the opportunity to present the request to the Committee. The Committee concurred.

In favor: Sylvia Alexander, Kelli Buford, Christopher Calhoun, Mary Ellen Gibbs, Daniel Padernacht and Debra Travis

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

### **Discussion: Finalization of Proposed FY 2025 Capital and Expense Budget Priorities**

Ms. Buford advised that the recap of the recommended FY 2025 priorities was distributed to the Committee prior to the meeting. The Committee reviewed the capital and expense documents and ranked the corresponding items. Ms. Buford informed that she would submit the revised documents to the Budget Chair and thanked the Members for their input to date.

### **Old Business**

#### **Carshare Program**

Ms. Sylvia Alexander inquired about DOT's response to the Community's objections regarding proposed carshare sites discussed during the December 2022 meeting. Ms. Buford informed that DOT removed two of the proposed sites and replaced them with two additional locations. Members noted that they were not aware of any signage installed at the proposed sites and advised that they would visit the sites. It was also noted that the Committee could continue to monitor locations, express concerns and reach out to DOT accordingly.

#### **James Baldwin Learning Center SAPO for Farmers Market**

Committee Member Travis inquired about a street activity permit on behalf of the James Baldwin Learning Center (JBLC) to host a farmers market in early June at Goulden Avenue near Mosholu Parkway, adjacent to the Clinton High School campus. Ms. Buford informed that she was not aware of said application. Member Travis indicated she would contact the applicant and connect him with Ms. Buford.

### **New Business**

No new matters were presented for discussion.

### **Next Meeting**

Ms. Buford advised that the next meeting was scheduled for May 18, 2023.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 8:22pm.