

Minutes of the Traffic & Transportation Committee Meeting

Bronx Community Board 8

December 21, 2023, 7pm ET

Via Zoom Video and Audio Conference

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm

Committee Members Present: Sylvia Alexander, Kelli Buford, Ingrid DeLeon, Mary Ellen Gibbs and Joshua Land

Committee Members Present (Extraordinary Circumstances): Christopher Calhoun

Committee Members Absent: David Gellman, Eliane Lobos, Theodore Morris

Opening Remarks

Committee Chair Buford welcomed Committee Members and the Community and 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.

Chair Buford informed that the Committee did not have at least five members present in-person and, thus, did not have quorum and could not vote on the minutes or the pending SAPO application.¹ She explained that, given the timing, the SAPO matter would be presented to the full board at the January 10, 2024 meeting and that the Board Office would update the representative of SAR Academy accordingly. Chair Buford invited Mr. Nick Fadda to present the request for a street activity permit on behalf of SAR Academy.

Approval Item: SAPO Application: SAR Academy, 55th Anniversary Gala (Feb 3, 2024)

Mr. Nick Fadda presented the request on behalf of the SAR Academy (the Academy) for curb lane parking restrictions along W 259th Street between Riverdale Avenue and Netherland Avenue; Netherland Avenue and 259th Street; and the dead-end street of Netherland Avenue. Mr. Fadda informed that the restrictions were being requested to aid with logistics related to the school's 55th Anniversary Gala to be held on February 3, 2024. He indicated that the Academy was also working with the 50th Precinct

¹ Quorum achieved following arrival of Committee Member J. Land and Committee discussed and voted on the minutes and SAR Academy SAPO application.

regarding details and further advised that the Academy also contacted Skyview Shopping Plaza management regarding the use of parking spaces.

Chair Buford thanked Mr. Fadda for presenting the matter and informed that the matter would be presented to the full board at the January 10, 2024 meeting and that the CB 8 Board Office would update the Academy accordingly.²

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

WHEREAS, the SAR Academy (the Applicant), 655 W 254th Street, Bronx, NY 10471, presented its request to obtain a Street Activity Permit (SAPO) in connection with its 55th Anniversary Celebration to be held at the campus located at 503 W 259th Street, Bronx, NY 10471 on Saturday, February 3, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Applicant requested to restrict curb lane usage on W 259th Street between Riverdale Avenue and Netherland Avenue and Netherland Avenue and 259th Street and the dead-end street of Netherland Avenue on Saturday, February 3, 2024 from 7:00am to 11:30pm; and **WHEREAS**, the Applicant has not requested to restrict vehicular traffic.

WHEREAS, the Traffic and Transportation Committee of Community Board 8, Bronx, unanimously supports the issuance of a permit to the SAR Academy for the curb lane restrictions on W 259th Street between Riverdale Avenue and Netherland Avenue and Netherland Avenue and 259th Street and the dead-end street of Netherland Avenue on Saturday, February 3, 2024 from 7:00am to 11:30pm.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, Community Board 8, Bronx, supports the issuance of a permit to the SAR Academy for the curb lane restrictions on W 259th Street between Riverdale Avenue and Netherland Avenue and Netherland Avenue and 259th Street and the dead-end street of Netherland Avenue on Saturday, February 3, 2024 from 7:00am to 11:30pm.

In favor: Sylvia Alexander, Kelli Buford, Christopher Calhoun, Ingrid DeLeon, Mary Ellen Gibbs and Josh Land
Opposed: None
Abstain: None

Approval Item: Minutes (November 16, 2023 Meeting)

Ms. Buford referred the Committee Members to the draft minutes of the November 16, 2023 Traffic and Transportation Committee Meeting for review and approval. She informed that the dead end streets referenced under *New Business* should read West 236th and Verveelen Place and not W 231st and W236th Streets as written. Following discussion, the Committee duly approved the minutes with the noted corrections.

In favor: Sylvia Alexander, Kelli Buford, Christopher Calhoun, Ingrid DeLeon, Mary Ellen Gibbs and Josh Land
Opposed: None
Abstain: None

² Quorum achieved following presentation and Committee further discussed and voted on the matter.

Old Business

Citi Bike Program

Chair Buford advised that on December 19, 2023, she, Committee Member Gellman, Council Member Eric Dinowitz, Assembly Member Jeffrey Dinowitz, CB 8 Board staff, DOT Borough Commissioner, Anthony Perez, and NYC DOT staff participated in a walking tour of the Van Cortlandt Village neighborhood in response to installation concerns expressed during the November 2023 T&T meeting by Amalgamated Houses residents and staff and St. Patrick's Home for the Aged and Infirm staff. She informed that alternate locations, including the usage of current daylighted space to reduce the loss of parking, were discussed and indicated that DOT would review the requests and revert accordingly. Chair Buford also conveyed that installations along Marble Hill Ave at 225th and 227th Streets were also discussed and reiterated the Committee's request to expand the program to locations west of Irwin Avenue, including the Spuyten Duyvil and Riverdale Metro North Stations. She further informed that DOT indicated that the agency would provide usage data of all locations within the district.

Intersection Oxford Avenue/W 235th Street

Committee Member Alexander asked if the study of the intersection was received and Chair Buford informed that it was not and indicated that she would follow-up with NYC DOT.

New Business

No Standing Signs at Netherland Avenue and 232nd Street

Committee Member Gibbs indicated that the No Standing signs on Netherland Avenue behind 3220 Arlington Avenue were no longer there and indicated that they should be reinstalled.

FY 2026 Budget Considerations

Chair Buford advised that budget planning season was approaching and asked the Committee to come to the January meeting with budget ideas.

Adjournment

With no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 7:45pm.