

**BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8**

**MINUTES OF THE TRAFFIC & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE  
MEETING HELD NOVEMBER 20, 2012  
AT VLADECK HALL – 74 VAN CORTLANDT PARK SOUTH**

**PRESENT**

**AFFILIATION**

Daniel Padernacht	CB8
Sylvia Alexander	CB8
Bob Bender	CB8
Michael Heller	CB8
Maria Khury	CB8
Robert Press	CB8
Georgia Santiago	CB8
Andrew Cohen	CB8
Robert Fanuzzi	CB8
Rosemary Ginty	CB8
Patricia Mullen	CB8
Commissioner Constance Moran	NYC DOT
Yuriy Bykhovskiy	NYC DOT
Keith Kalb	NYC DOT
Maria Centeno	DDC
Ali Mallick	DDC
Mohammad A. Rab	DDC
Alimuy Raltman	DDC
Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz	
Michael Blaustein	rep. State Senator Jeffrey Klein
Daniel Johnson	office of Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz
Andrew Sandler	rep. Council Member G. Oliver Koppell
Tom Finnill	Croton WFP
Martha Holstein	Croton
Abdulah Alazab	
Sahad Alazab	
Lari Frisch	
Maria Gonzalez	
Erin Guire	AECOM
Kristin Hart	FIPNA
Ann Komnenic	
Janis A. Kreslins	
Eugene Teperman	URS
Darryl Moore	
Lisa Moore	
Miawling Lam	Riverdale Review
Doris Spencer	
Jack Spiegel	
Carl Stein	
Dart Westphal	
Ed Yaker	

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chair Robert Press at 7:30 PM. Chairman Padernacht arrived shortly after the start of the meeting.

### **Cannon Place Retaining Wall Project**

The DDC gave a presentation on the Cannon Place retaining wall replacement project. The location of the retaining wall project is approximately 100 feet south of Cannon Place and West 238<sup>th</sup> Street. The wall overlooks Fort Independence Street. There are two bulges that are significant in the wall which are missing stones and mortar in wall joints. There is separation of the wall from the sidewalk and the water main needs to be replaced. The new wall will be made of pre-fabricated reinforced concrete. New parapets, a new sidewalk and a new water main will be installed. The estimated cost of the project is three million dollars. The anticipated start date is the fall of 2013.

### **Construction is to be done in three phases:**

Phase A - Relocate the current water main and put the temporary parking on the street.

Phase B - Shore up the roadway and remove the existing wall that is to be replaced.

Phase C - Construct the new wall, parapet, sidewalk, install the water main and return all parking as existed before the construction.

Questions ensued about the work including the closing of Cannon Place during construction, loss of street parking, damage to houses on the street and notice to residents of the construction. DDC said that Cannon Place would not be closed. DDC would try to replace parking spaces lost during the construction with parking in areas that are not currently permitted. Photos will be taken of homes before and after construction. There will be an onsite DDC office to give notification to residents of activity during construction.

Residents also questioned the effect of construction at the vacant lot at 3469 Cannon Place would have on the new retaining wall. The representatives of DDC stated that DDC will receive notice of any intended construction in the vicinity of the retaining wall and will have the ability to comment on the proposed construction prior to permits being issued.

### **Eames Place Direction Change**

The New York City Department of Transportation (DOT) Bronx Commissioner Constance Moran presented a proposal to change the traffic direction of Eames Place from Webb Avenue to University Avenue from a two-way street to a one-way street running eastward from Webb Avenue to University Avenue. DOT surveyed P.S. 307 on Eames Place and has a safety concern during school bus unloading and loading due to the two way traffic. Commissioner Moran added that there is also a public library next to the school furthering DOT's reasoning for the change. No parking will be lost as a result of the directional change.

A vote by the committee was taken for the support of the directional change:

7 in favor: D. Padernacht, S. Alexander, B. Bender, R. Press, M. Heller, M. Khury, G. Santiago

0 Abstentions

0 Opposed

### **Driving Lane Closure on Sedgwick Avenue**

The New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) presented its plan for the lane closure of one of the two lanes of eastbound Sedgwick Avenue at the intersection of Goulden Avenue. The purpose of the lane closure is for construction inside the Mosholu

Pumping Station below the intersection. DEP will be removing the existing pumps, piping, and valves in order to install high pressure equipment that will connect to the Croton Water Filtration Plant. The current left lane of eastbound Sedgwick Avenue, approximately 50 feet before the intersection, will become a left turn only lane. After the intersection, there will be one 15 foot wide lane traveling eastbound towards Mosholu Parkway. There will be a five foot pedestrian pathway maintained through the work area and along Goulden Avenue so that individuals can travel on that side of the street. Traffic agents will be provided by DOT to assist in the flow of traffic. DEP will be providing a copy of its traffic study to the Board office for the public to view.

Residents questioned the amount of parking in the area and were displeased with the loss of parking in the construction area. There was a request to have a closed area by Dewitt Clinton High School remarked to allow parking during the construction.

DEP also announced that Goulden Avenue will be closed again due to DEP work from July through August of 2013.

### **Old Business**

Chairman Padernacht presented a resolution regarding applications for street closures that are submitted to the Street Activity Permit Office (SAPO). There was discussion by the committee regarding the street closure applications at the previous month's meeting whereas a general consensus favoring the resolution was passed. However, the Chair held off on voting on the resolution in the October meeting so that the public had additional time and notice to comment on the resolution.

There was a question by the new committee member Bob Bender (transferred into the Traffic & Transportation Committee in November) as to why the resolution was being presented. The Chair answered that the practice regarding these applications has been that the Chairperson of the Community Board or the District Manager of our Community Board has been signing off on applications submitted to the Board office. This has been without the application going to a committee or to the Community Board members. Committee Member Michael Heller stated that Community Board No. 10 sends applications for these permits to the proper committee.

A question was raised regarding the timing of these applications. The Chair stated that the Board has procedures in place to handle the timing of these applications and noted last year, when the matter of the Ice Rink was before the Parks Committee, and the issue was time sensitive, the Community Board authorized the Parks Committee on several occasions to vote on behalf of the Board with respect to the Ice Rink. Further, the Community Board voted that every Board member, even though they may not be a member of the Parks Committee, would be entitled to vote at that Parks Committee meeting with respect to the Ice Rink.

The resolution was passed:

5 in favor: D. Padernacht, S. Alexander, R. Press, M. Heller, G. Santiago

1 Abstention: B. Bender

0 Opposed

**New Business**

The new MTA Bus Time Program was discussed. This program allows residents to look on the internet and see how many minutes away their bus is from their bus stop. After several questions, the committee asked to invite the MTA do a presentation on the program.

A resident from Kingsbridge Avenue stated that there is not enough Bike and Running Lanes in Community Board 8.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 PM.

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Dan Padernacht  
Chairman

Minutes submitted to the Chair by Vice-Chair Robert Press.