

Traffic and Transportation Meeting
April 25, 2017
Kelly Ryan's
5790 Mosholu Avenue

Committee Members: Sylvia Alexander, Eric Bell, Margaret Donato,
Daniella Fuchs, Joseph O'Brien, Dan Padernacht,
Georgia Santiago, Steven Sarao

Community Committee Member: Myra Joyce

1. Review of Minutes.

No changes. Minutes were approved.

In Favor: Sylvia Alexander, Eric Bell, Margaret Donato, Daniella
Fuchs, Myra Joyce (CCM) Joseph O'Brien, Dan
Padernacht, Georgia Santiago, Steven Sarao.

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

2. Chairman's Report

No report.

3. SAPO Application - Amalgamated Nursery School Spring Bazaar.
Full street closure on May 21, 2017 to be held on Gale Place between
Van Cortlandt Park South and Orloff Avenue. This event has been
held previously. Robin Spiegel addressed the Committee. Event is a
fundraiser and celebration. Activities for kids. Cooperators from the
Amalgamated mostly attend the event. Has been occurring for over 25
years. Close Gale Place from 9am -4pm.

In favor: Sylvia Alexander, Eric Bell, Margaret Donato, Daniella
Fuchs, Myra Joyce (CCM) Joseph O'Brien, Dan
Padernacht, Georgia Santiago, Steven Sarao.

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

4. SAPO Application - Build A Better World: Summer Reading Party. Full street closure on June 8, 2017 to be held at 118 Eames Place. This event has been held previously. Clea Counts spoke on behalf of the applicant. She is the librarian at Jerome Park Library. NYPL hosts summer reading party. Face painting and other activities for kids. Event has been held since library has been opened. It has been inside for the last two years.

In Favor: Sylvia Alexander, Eric Bell, Margaret Donato, Daniella Fuchs, Myra Joyce (CCM) Joseph O'Brien, Dan Padernacht, Georgia Santiago, Steven Sarao.

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

5. Cayuga Avenue Block Party with full street closure on June 24, 2017, to be held on Cayuga Avenue between West 246th Street and dead end. This event has been held previously.

No appearance.

6. Status of inspection and plans to remedy major ponding conditions at Northeast corner of West 235th Street and Independence Avenue (3515 Henry Hudson Parkway; Installation of sidewalk). DOT will get back to the committee with further information.
7. NYCDOT traffic calming proposal to narrow the width of Broadway along Van Cortlandt Park by consolidating the extra roadway space against the park to create a two-way protected bike lane with bus boarding islands. Existing travel lanes will be maintained.

Chair Padernacht stated that the DOT will present a proposal for changes to the streets and traffic flow on Broadway from West 242nd Street to the City Line this evening. This proposal covers a large traverse of our Community Board and contains a lot of information. As such, there will be no vote on the proposal by the Traffic and Transportation Committee tonight. DOT will make its presentation, the Committee members will ask questions and then the community will ask questions. At the May Traffic Meeting, there will be a Public

Hearing on this proposal in which the Public will be able to ask questions and make statements about the proposal. That will be followed by questions of committee members and a possible vote of the Committee on the proposal. We understand it will be a lot of information to process and DOT may not have all of the information needed this evening, so you will have time to think about your questions or statement. In addition, DOT will have time to take any feedback from tonight's meeting to change its design or incorporate changes in the plan.

Chair stated that the Board has received 218 emails from individuals associated with Transportation Alternatives since the first week of April. All emails are exactly the same and appear to be copied and pasted. However, the Community Board has received emails from this special interest group detailing specific items appearing on a proposal in which the Community Board did not receive until 5pm today. It appears that the details of the plan have been made available to Transportation Alternatives before the Community Board. The Chair stated he didn't know what motive one would have for giving information to a special interest group before the Community Board who is charged with presenting a forum for the community and a review of this type of proposal.

The Chair invited DOT to make its presentation which is attached to these minutes and made a part hereof.

NYCDOT Bronx Commissioner Nivardo Lopez introduced himself. He gave background on project. Received complaints of speeding on Broadway. Process of this proposal started in Fall of 2015. Stated that DOT has been working with Council Member Cohen.

Patrick from DOT took stage to give presentation. Patrick is with the Bicycle and Greenway unit of DOT.

DOT installed two traffic lights on Broadway in November 2016. DOT cannot study the effects of these traffic lights for at least one year.

The proposed changes includes corridor improvements and changes to targeted intersections. DOT states that between 2010-2014 12 people,

including 10 pedestrians were killed. Most accidents occurred between West 242nd Street and Mosholu Avenue.

8 different bus lines use Broadway going both North and South. Bee Line. Two express buses. MTA city bus. 900 – 1200 cars travel south on Broadway during peak. 600-900 cars northbound during peak.

Amount of width on Broadway (70 feet wide) leads to speeding. Six travel lanes. Two parking lanes. Edge condition on park. Wide parking lanes create room for bikers.

1st Corridor - Westchester to West 246th Street. Bus islands. Shifts parked vehicles off the curb. See attached presentation for further details.

2nd Corridor - West 246th Street to West 242nd Street. Transition to conventional bike lanes on opposite side of street. Bus islands. See attached presentation for further details.

Targeted Intersections - Mosholu and Broadway. Long Crossing. Two pedestrians killed at this intersection. Change to Southbound Broadway which will only allow turn to Mosholu Avenue north of Sheridan Plaza. Parking spots will remain same because triangle is made bigger. See attached presentation for further details.

Targeted Intersections - West 254th Street and Broadway. Fatality on 254th Street in 2015. Proposal is to shorten pedestrian crossing. Angle the crossway so pedestrians are not exposed to traffic as long. Cars will have to enter roadway slower. This is exit from northbound Henry Hudson Parkway. Square off entrance to Henry Hudson Parkway North. See attached presentation for further details.

Targeted Intersections - Manhattan College Parkway and Broadway. Proposal is to close slip lane. Flex wedge and yellow paint. Using wedge on island where parking exists. Pedestrian refuge islands will make it easier for pedestrians. See attached presentation for further details.

Targeted Intersections - West 242nd Street and Broadway. Proposal is for bus boarding islands from current stop sign for 100 feet back towards Manhattan College Parkway. Buses will stop in middle of street. Service lane will be blocked when car or bus stops at island. See attached presentation for further details.

Questions and Comments from the Audience:

Laura Spalter. Questioned whether this needs MTA approval. Car doors opening into traffic with much narrower lanes. Need to get out of car without getting hit. If people are removing items from car then it is not enough room. Buses stop and traffic will stop behind it with traffic. No room to go to other lane. Pinch points with buses.

DOT stated that bus islands allow buses to stop quickly. Proposal is not a final plan.

Bob Bender. Southbound on bike lane. How do you see car making left turn on lane?

Paul Ellis. Cars double-parked in front of Van Cortlandt Park. By narrowing parking lane, it appears to be a more dangerous scenario. If you narrow those lanes, double parked cars will make even more dangerous situation. Will it exacerbate condition? Disconnect between problem and solution. Cars moving too fast on Broadway. Expect to see what you do to address speeding. This appears to be about the installation of a bike lane. If DOT wants a bike lane, they should present alternatives and we should have a discussion on the bike lane which is separate from safety concerns.

Ed Nolan. Active cyclist. TA member. Dedicated pedestrian lanes. Mandate vehicles come to complete stop at intersection. Pedestrian crossing is that an option? On demand pedestrian crossing.

Bob Spalter. Wouldn't staggered lights slow down traffic? No striping on Mosholu and Broadway for crosswalks. Eight foot lane is smaller than ambulance and Broadway is truck route for delivery.

DOT: Traffic signals do not slow down traffic. Broadway works for cars but want to make it work for everyone. It is in standards for

roadways. Not worried about it being too narrow. Speed humps cannot be installed because of buses. Cameras are not an option because we are only allowed 140 and must be close to school.

Barbara Velez. Lights have slowed traffic. Parking has been taken. This will add more traffic to Post Road and Manhattan College Parkway.

Tournaments/buses. Not enough people to use bicycle lane. Also, this plan will lead to a pedestrian being hit by car or bus or biker. There should be traffic light next to 6141 Broadway.

Tara McMaster. When they built senior housing on Broadway. Traffic was slowed. Post Road became truck city. The extra few feet is all that saved the traffic to move. There will be residual damage to the smaller streets. You cannot pass truck on Post Road. Concerned about ancillary streets. Safety issue when there is triple parking as emergency vehicles will not be able to get through on Broadway.

Eifa Walsh. Pedestrian crosswalks with traffic lights are awesome. Live just off Lakeview place. When will you get results? They can do another study.

After January for that study.

Standard size spaces. National standard. If there is commercial activity, then it would be 9' parking lane. 8" parking lane.

Behir Hustafah. Two lanes going north and two lanes going south. Yes. When there are events the issue will be double parking. There is huge park with a lot of space. Can DOT work with parks for buses to go someplace in park?

New building on Broadway now. There are two additional empty lots. And there will be more cars and less parking when developed.

Pamela Prado. No parking anymore. Can you put bike lane in park? When there is accident on Broadway, lanes are tied up.

Concern about lighting. Pedestrians and Bikes need lights. Street lights are going to LED. After conversion is done, another study.

Tony Creaney. Was picture of 242nd Street taken 4am on a Sunday? The picture does not show the true activity of that street.

Tom Galgado. Can there be a railing installed to protect pedestrians?

Susan Brenner. Lighting under Henry Hudson Parkway is needed.

Leslie Hogan. Living here 43 years. West 231st and 238th traffic is slowed because of extended sidewalks. Nice to get to 242nd Street to start moving again. Staggered lights more productive to slow traffic.

Get snowed in by plows. Snow will completely cover cars and will narrow roads and stop traffic. Real mess when you have a blizzard. Narrow will be counter-productive.

Bob Press: Bus bulb on Manhattan College Parkway was not approved by this committee with CM Koppell.

Daniel Rannell. Volunteer With TA. Likes proposal because he bikes on Broadway.

DOT: Curbside is best for bikes at this time.

Laurie Hogan. Double parking at Broadway. Can we contact Manhattan College to use spots in the neighborhood?

Steve Sarao. Suggested placing angle parking along Van Cortlandt Park in order to create more parking for residents and those who use the park. Narrowing Road through angled parking could help. It does not appear that DOT is listening to ideas.

Sarah Hughes: Sharper turn into highway. Need new signs to alert drivers.

Gary Wartels. NRMA. Similar plan in draft for North Riverdale Avenue and Mosholu Avenue. What is overall cost of plan? How is it funded?

Tough to give figures. Thermoplastic is 50 cents a linear foot. Concrete is more expensive. Do you estimate hundreds of thousands? They have plan for Riverdale Avenue and want to give to DOT to study. Their plan focuses on Yonkers border south to Mosholu Avenue to Broadway. More people are using it as a traffic corridor.

DOT: Couple of hundred thousand dollars.

Eric Bell. Part of visioning session. Suggested that more signage for Broadway express and Broadway local. Most trucks go under elevated train. Can we have more signage?

There is freight study citywide.

Allen Dillon. Parkview sports. 242nd Street. Lou Broadway Joe's Broadway Cleaners. Subway. One lane going there now. It is very wide. Can hold three lanes. Top of stairway still being fixed. Buses don't wait. 15 businesses will die if there is one lane. DOT is creating Bike lane and using safety to do it. There is no reason to narrow the service lane with so much traffic going in. 5 or 6 businesses deliver on block. Someone wants to pick up they can run into store while someone waits in car standing on service lane. Plan will cut off traffic to service lane. Push bus stop north from where it is.

Lights have been installed and it is getting slower.

DOT: We do not use traffic lights to slow people down.

Rosemary Ginty: So much going on at 242nd Street and Broadway. Street is so peculiar. I do not see visually and do not see a solution for each of those elements going on in that intersection. What will it do to these stores?

Will create a bottleneck through one lane. No one will be able to get to Broadway. You're making it smaller. Buses need to move in to the curb. Needs enforcement. No Standing. Making it one lane is not safe.

Louie. Broadway Joes for 48 years, We need more parking there. People have to deliver food/supplies. People can't stop there.

Stagg Construction has taken parking. Has nothing to do with Construction.

Why remove slip if it covers overflow to Broadway? Slip Road. It is a good thing. Taking it out will create traffic. It is also removing parking.

Eifa: Did you consider a roundabout with lights on Broadway at Manhattan College Parkway.

DOT: Did not consider.

8. Reaching out to the community event with full street closure on August 19, 2017, to be held on Eames Place between Claflin Avenue and University Avenue. This event has been held previously. Victoria Kuiles appeared on behalf of applicant. No sale of items. 4 years having event.

In Favor: Sylvia Alexander, Eric Bell, Margaret Donato, Daniella Fuchs, Myra Joyce (CCM) Joseph O'Brien, Dan Padernacht, Georgia Santiago, Steven Sarao.

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

9. Old and New Business. No old or new business.