

CB8 Traffic and Transit Committee Meeting

February 21st, 2019
Amber Charter School

Committee Members Present:

Dan Padernacht, Chair
Sylvia Alexander
Eric Dinowitz
Margaret Donato
Diomarys Escano
Daniella Fuchs
David Gellman
Edward Green
Myra Joyce

Committee Members Absent:

Eric Bell
Georgia Santiago
I William Stone
Herb Young

Guests:

Miriam Allen
Elizabeth Forel
Teri Colon
Erica Noy
Ken Sheehan
Judith Kramer
Joshua Stephenson

Chair Dan Padernacht called the meeting to order at 7:10pm.

- 1) January minutes were approved unanimously.
- 2) Extension of hours of construction of the DDC Water Main Replacement Project on West 238th Street between Riverdale and Waldo Avenue was discussed.
 - Several guests stated that a 7:00am starting time for construction would create traffic congestion and hamper commuting for residents.
 - The possibility of temporary road closures were discussed. Chair Padernacht stated that a site meeting would occur on Tuesday

morning (2/26) to assess the situation and the site Contractor specified he would leave one traffic lane open.

3) Planning for proposed Community Board 8 Bicycle Safety Plan.

- Committee Members David Gellman and Daniella Fuchs stated that they had begun reaching out to various organizations to gather event-planning information.
- It was stated that the 50th precinct has committed to doing bicycle inscriptions at the event.
- It was informally agreed upon by T&T Committee Members that a Working Group (David Gellman, Daniella Fuchs, Ed Green, Margaret Donato), headed by David Gellman, would continue to organize this project with further research and development.
- Guest inquired about potential vendors for the event. DOT bicycle helmet giveaway event on Sunday was brought up as a good example of a possible option for the event.

4) Proposal to establish identification numbers for Step Streets in Community Board for NYC 311 and NYC 911 System.

- Committee Member Eric Dinowitz proposed naming steps in the manner that Public Parks are named, rather than by numerical identification. Committee and guests discussed this proposal.
- Committee unanimously approved Chair Padernacht's resolution that DOT be asked to investigate options and procedural process for naming of Step Streets (Sidewalk Staircases).

5) Discussion and approval of Committee Budget Priorities.

- Committee Member Ed Green suggested a Crossing Guard at the intersection of Sedgwick Ave and Hillman Ave be added to the budget request and stated that this has been an ongoing request of neighborhood residents to provide safe passageway, specifically for children of three separate schools in that immediate area.
- Committee Member Daniella Fuchs suggested that funding for additional street lighting between 249th & 252nd Streets on Henry Hudson Parkway be added to the budget.

- It was suggested that 5900 Arlington Avenue needs a Sidewalk Staircase (Independence Ave, between Arlington and 261st St.).
- It was suggested that a sidewalk be created at the NW corner of 254th St and Arlington Ave because cars that park in that area obstruct and create poor visibility for motorists. Chair Padernacht suggested area residents should be notified and have a say in the matter. It was recommended, and agreed upon, by the Committee that this issue be addressed at the next Board Meeting in March.
- Guest suggested that the corner of Kappock St and Independence Ave was an unsafe area and some type of traffic regulator should be imposed there. Chair Padernacht proposed a resolution that a DOT traffic study be conducted in that area to help determine what action, if any, should be taken. Proposal was unanimously approved by the Committee.
- A steep slope on the median between the highway and service road at Netherland Ave and Henry Hudson Parkway was cited as a potentially dangerous area. Committee agreed that DOT needed to be consulted on how to address this.
- Guest suggested that an additional bus stop for the Hudson Linkstop on Route J (NB) be added. It was determined that this was not a budget request issue but rather something for the Board to reach out to MTA and Rail Service about.

6) SAPO Application: Israeli Independence Day Event for May 9th, 2019.

- Committee unanimously approved resolution to grant application.

7) Discussion of street resurfacing list and timeline for submission by members.

- It was determined that a list of all streets needing resurfacing is needed by early June (Mid July deadline, as per Nivardo Lopez, BBC). Chair Padernacht asked Committee Members to begin looking for damaged streets in need of resurfacing.

8) Old Business / New Business

- Guest Erica stated that there was an area between 3616 Henry Hudson Parkway and Netherland Avenue that needed to be changed to a no standing zone because cars were parking there illegally. She stated that cars leaving the garage are being impeded and forced to enter blindly into street traffic, creating dangerous

situations. Committee agreed to put this issue on the upcoming T&T agenda and explore it thoroughly.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40pm.

Minutes submitted by Committee Vice Chair Ed Green, pending approval from Chair Dan Padernacht.