

**MINUTES OF THE  
TRAFFIC & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE  
HELD DECEMBER 14<sup>TH</sup>, 2009  
AT THE BOARD OFFICE, 5676 RIVERDALE AVENUE**

**PRESENT**

**AFFILIATION**

Anthony P. Cassino	Committee Chairman
Sylvia Alexander	CB 8
Warren S. Dolny	CB 8
Thomas Giallorenzi	CB 8
Yael Levy	CB 8
Saul Scheinbach	CB 8
I.W. Stone	CB 8
Jose Acevedo	
James Abenante	
Kristin Baisley	
Douglas Bamordier	
Gloria Borren	
Natiuidad Cabrera	
David Claudio	
Hilda Deleon	
John Deluaguardia	
F. Diaz	
Chris Dolan	
Pete Dolan	
Scott Dolan	
Paul Elston	Friends of Hudson
Ramon Fabian	
Wanda Fabian	
Isabella Fitzpatrick	
Tim Fitzpatric	
Beu Fontay	
Ann Healy	
Joseph Healy	
Edwin Hererra	
Walter Hickey	MTA Bridges &Tunnels - Henry Hudson Bridge
Jeff Hill	
Stalin Hunt	
Joseph Irizarry	
Diane Jirak	DOE
Seth Kaplan	
Elizabeth Lennon	
Sheila Lennon	
Christopher Lim	
Jack Lim	
Joseph Lopez	
Billy Maccio	
Melissa Marquez	
Philip McDonnell	FIPNA

Odymer Morel  
Geraldine Muranelli  
James Muranelli  
Joyce Mulvaney  
Allie Nestrav  
Kevin O'Keefe  
Andre Ortiz  
Luis Osor  
Danica Osorjo  
Michael Padernacht  
Pamela Padernacht  
Steve Padernacht  
Lissett Peralta  
Robert Press  
Brendan Probst  
Maura Probst  
Elizabeth Quarentu  
Janet Rivera  
Eduardo Rodriguez  
John Ryder  
Andrew Sandler  
Carmen Sarate

MTA Bridges & Tunnels – Henry Hudson Bridge

MTA Bridges & Tunnels - Henry Hudson Bridge  
rep. Councilman Koppell

1. Henry Hudson Bridge repairs – Walter Hickey, John Ryder and Joyce Mulvaney of the MTA Bridges and Tunnels/Henry Hudson Bridge, provided an update on the ongoing renovation of the Henry Hudson Bridge. Renovations have begun on the southbound roadway (lower level) portion of the bridge. There were a number of questions from committee and local residents concerning the walkway on the lower level. The walkway is being restored at its original 4.5 feet width. It should be completed in May of 2010. Under its current configuration, cyclists must walk across the bridge. Paul Elston inquired as to whether the lane can be enlarged to accommodate cyclists or whether any other plan is in place that would accommodate riders as per the plans being developed for the Greenway. One possibility mentioned would be the creation of a roadway along the outer portion of the west side of the bridge. The cost for such a plan would be approximately \$16 million. It was agreed that the committee would follow-up with (name of person) to ensure that they are aware of the proposals being developed for the Greenway.

2. 3515 Henry Hudson Parkway proposal -- representatives of the co-op at 3515 Henry Hudson Parkway presented a proposal to pave the sidewalk along 235th between Henry Hudson Parkway and Independence Avenue. There is currently no sidewalk along the north side of the street and constant flooding. Cars often avoid parking there because of the flooding situation. The Co-op proposes to incur the cost of improving the area by providing a sidewalk and proper drainage and lights in exchange for use of the portion of the property between the sidewalk and their garage for outdoor parking. It would require that this area with grass and trees be paved and used for parking for building residents. This presentation to the committee was very preliminary, and designed to get the reaction of the committee. A number of members of the committee expressed interest in the proposal but would want to see more developed plans before making any recommendations to the Board. The Co-op will be reaching out to City officials next to determine the feasibility of such a proposal and to determine which approvals would be needed by which City agencies. They agreed to keep

the committee informed of their progress, and to meet with representatives from the Whitehall building, which is directly across from this location.

3. Request to add Howard E. Padernacht to the Giles Place street sign -- Chairman Cassino began this portion of the meeting by reviewing the Board's rules for Street Naming Changes. He advised that the rules preclude the Board from requesting a street sign change prior to 2 years after the death of any individual. The Chairman advised that under the rules the earliest date that the committee could consider this request for Mr. Padernacht would be December of 2010. However, given the large number of people who attended to support the proposal (more than 40), the Chairman invited them to speak on behalf of the application and their comments would be preserved for the record. The first speaker was Daniel Padernacht, who is Mr. Padernacht's son. He read a statement about the good work of his father, and that statement is attached hereto. He also provided a copy of a petition that was signed by dozens of people in favor of the street name change. Nearly a dozen other speakers also spoke movingly about the tremendous generosity and good work of Mr. Padernacht over the decades. Many of the stories were very personal reports about how Mr. Padernacht had helped neighbors with personal problems, and how he helped to maintain the neighborhood and the Shalom Alechem Houses in beautiful condition (his biography is attached). Chairman Cassino mentioned that he had also received support letters from Church of the Visitation, Our Lady of Angels School, and Councilman Oliver Koppell. The Chairman asked Daniel Padernacht if he could help to collect a written set of comments from community members so that their sentiments could be preserved for the meeting in December when the committee could formally take a vote on the matter. He agreed to do so. Members of the committee were moved by their presentations and expressed appreciation to the guests for attending in support of the application.

4. Report on Pedestrian Street Application for Johnson Avenue -- the Chairman reported that he and the Chairman of the Economic Development Committee Bob Fanuzzi have been reaching out to businesses on Johnson Avenue to explain the program to them and get their feedback. The next committee meeting in January will be held at a site near Johnson Avenue and a slide presentation that outlines the program will be shown. Local businesses and residents will be invited to participate and provide input on whether the program should proceed.

5. Update on Kappock Underpass -- Chairman Cassino reported that he toured the Kappock Underpass with the District Manager, Randy Martos from Assemblyman Dinowitz's office and representatives from DOT and Design and Construction. The project is nearly completed, and the railing along the eastern portion of the walkway needs to be installed. It was noted that the roadway on the very western portion is in disrepair, and it is believed to be the responsibility of the contractor so a letter was sent to the contractor to request that it be properly paved.

6. Report on Sedgwick Avenue Con Edison Project -- Chairman Cassino reported that Con Edison had eliminated parking along a large stretch of streets along Sedgwick Avenue near Giles Place while it installed new power lines. The Board had received numerous complaints and worked with Con Edison to limit the period of time for no parking to weekdays so that residents could park nights and weekends. The site will be monitored for further concerns.

7. New Business -- Yael Levy discussed a proposal she is working on with Chairman Cassino and members of the Greenway initiative to create a River Festival to celebrate the waterfront and educate people about the importance of waterfront access. It is hoped that this event

could happen during the early summer of 2010, and that it would help to keep the attention on the efforts to develop the Greenway along the waterfront in the Bronx. Mrs. Levy will report to the committee in the future on the progress of this initiative.

Anthony P. Cassino  
Chairman  
Traffic & Transportation Committee

APC:db (January 6, 2010)