

CB12Traffic and Transportation Committee Meeting November 6, 2017

Committee Members Present – Chair, Yahaira Alonzo, Asst. Chair, Debby Nabavian, James Berlin, Anita Barberis, Robin Cruz, Gerard Dengel and Yosef Kalinsky.

Excused Absence – Mary Anderson

Community Board Members: Shah Ally, Richard Lewis, Ayisha Ogilvie, Richard Allman, Steve Schmidt

Public – Residents from CB12M

1) Meeting called to order at 7:15 PM.

2) Presentation on Haven Avenue Pedestrian Plaza, Sandra Harris, CUMC

a) CUMC returned after October meeting to present further on pedestrian plaza. CUMC addressed parking concerns with proposal of opening \$247 reduced monthly rate to residents for evening (after 6PM and out by 7AM) and weekend parking.

b) Committee Q&A and discussion:

- ◆ Further detail provided on freight plan for all the loading docks to include extended hours and moving more trucks from FWA.
- ◆ JB raised that FWA must work better than it does now.
- ◆ GD raised hiring locally for the increased staffing that will be associated with this project.
- ◆ GD made case for CUMC to consider offering vacant night spots in lot to public as they are not currently revenue generating anyway.

c) Public comments:

- ◆ Do not close Haven for this b/c this pushes more parking further away, and it is too busy to handle.
- ◆ CUMC projects have reduced a cumulative amount of area parking and it is now very difficult to find parking.
- ◆ (AO) Has CUMC offered the reduced rate to all its employees, and for employees who can't afford the lot, what is CUMC doing so they are not taking street spaces.
- ◆ Project Renewal raised concerns about what happens to homeless.
- ◆ There are community spaces elsewhere that community and organizations who do programming are not getting sufficient access to, and some of these organizations, would prefer this space (e.g. Armory) than the outdoor plaza.
- ◆ Need proper follow-up on promises made
- ◆ 60 Haven, immediately to north of Plaza, is already a choke point with drop-offs at.
- ◆ DoT needs to do full scale traffic study
- ◆ What good things will we get with the Plaza, and what sorts of programming?

- b) Committee discussion: YA: Need to incorporate more to sufficiently address community concerns and for there to be a positive relationship. Table and get more information.
 - ◆ All in favor, 6. Abstain: 1
 - ◆ CUMC will do more work on the lot parking ideas.
- 3) **PS 48 request for support for DOE vehicles only zone in front of school on Broadway (186th/187th).** Teachers and Assistant Principal present.
 - a) Committee: All in favor, 6. Abstain: 1. CB12 In favor: 3
- 4) **Restore the George Update presentation.** Veronica Smith for PANYNJ
 - a) This will be part of what will be quarterly updates on 10 year Restore the George Project that will keep the bridge in state of good repair and improvements for the next 100 years.
 - b) Everything will be touched, including Trans Manhattan Expressway overpasses (particularly Amsterdam and St. Nicholas), bike and pedestrian paths, W. 178th & W. 179th exit and entrance ramps, Palisades Parkway helix, support cabling, suicide fences, roadways and painting.
 - c) One can view info at the PANYNJ website on the GWB landing page where one can link to project video, and sign up for GWB e-alerts.
 - d) Committee discussion: JB: suicide fences are ugly, look to Highbridge for design ideas.
 - e) June 2017, PANYNJ gave permission to DoT to do milling and repaving on TME overpasses.
- 5) **WHEELS proposed Play Street, 182nd Street between Audubon & Amsterdam, 8:30AM - 2:30PM.**
 - a) K-12 school has students in two buildings. Elementary does not house gyms and other things, so students, some as young as 4, have to be crossed at least twice a day, which is very time consuming. School has applied to make the block a Play Street.
 - b) Tabled until more info on what Play Streets will entail (i.e. must parked cars move, etc.)
- 6) **Meeting adjourned at 10:42PM.**