

CB12 Traffic and Transportation Committee Meeting
February 1, 2021, at 7:00 PM

Committee Members Present –Chair, Debby Nabavian; Assistant Chair, Omar Tejada; Richard Allman, Mary Anderson, James Berlin, Gerard Dengel, Mariela Graham, Jay Mazur, Edith Prentiss, Bruce Robertson.
CB12:

Public: Natalie Espino MBPO; Assemblyman Taylor; Dario Quinsac, State Senator Jackson’s office; Evelin Collado, CM Rodriguez office; Mariel de la Cruz, Comptroller Stringer office. **DoT:** Joennene Kidder, Huascar Robles, Kyle Gebhart, Deborah House, Lyle Blackwood, Kimberly Rancourt, Michael Soliman. **MTA:** Howie Levine, Joe Chiaramonte, Rob Joseph, R. Thompson. Jon Greenfield, YU; Dmitris Koutoumbas, Leslie Day, Tony Lopez, Phanindra Kuruganti, Ira Gershenhorn, Dennis Biegel, Bernard G, Adam Fran.

1) Call to order at 7:05 pm

1. **DOT Presentation – 191st 1 train Tunnel Rehabilitation Project** - Presented by Michael Soliman, the consultant. About 1,000’ tunnel. The scope looks to address low ceiling entrance, non-ADA compliant steep ramp, cracks in walls, water leaks & flooding, electrical and mechanical components. Final design review expected winter of 2022/Spring 2023. Construction likely 2025.
 - DKN: What is the closure status at this point in the design? DOT: We expect the tunnel will probably be closed with shuttle service provided, rather than keeping partially open at times. Looking at pedestrian volumes.
 - JB - Agrees with the ramp adjustments. Cyclists use it and security needs to be addressed. Also, lots of precedent for the shuttle.
 - GD - For water filtration has the cause been identified? Are mechanical ventilation improvements being considered? DOT A/ Water will be sampled first, but expect it to be groundwater. Does not seem to need a vehicular ventilation system because of the strong airflow of the subway station.
 - EP- Can the ramp itself be lowered such that the ceiling does not be redone? DOT A/ Unlikely. Needs to match with the sidewalk, and not add to water issues.
 - JM - This issue of pedestrian access could be alleviated if the Gorman park a block away was rehabilitated by the NYC Parks.
 - OT - The art design should retain the spirit of the current one. It’s an icon of the neighborhood and would like it to retain local artists and children to design it.
 - D. Koutoumbas- Has DOT considered demolition the building to provide more natural light? Are the countdown clocks going to be updated? DOT: Yes, DOT is considering sky lighting in the design, and countdown clocks will be upgraded.
2. **DOT Presentation - 181st Street Busway** - Update. Presenting: Nolan Levenson DOT. Hours will be 6 Am-10 PM every day given that this corridor is not a 9 am-5 pm type place. This update looked in detail at parking and loading issues. 39-85% of vehicles double or illegally park, so current parking regulations not working. The current proposal tries to address extended hours (to 1 PM) for truck loading, more metered spots in afternoons, and the intro of new “flex spots” which allow 15minutes for quick stops.

- DKN - 47% using this as a cut-through is a staggering number. It will be interesting to see if successful in reducing cut-through volume if things will improve on side streets, given how much traffic already moved there.
- EP- No statistics on pedestrians and on buses circling to get back on the route.
- JB - Compliments on a large radius for the scope of the study. Seconds EP points.
- D. Koutoumbas - Was the WHEELS green corridor project on 182nd taken into account? Why is general traffic allowed to make a right turn onto Audubon from 181st? Put Busway signage on both sides of Washington Bridge. DOT A/ Bridge construction and the school complex impacted traffic redirections.

3. Old Business

- DKN: DOT just responded a few hours ago to signers of Amsterdam Ave letter (which drove the CB12 resolution). Will circulate to the committee. N. Espino clarified that CB12 was not on cc because not on the original letter.
- Lighting on Harlem River Drive - Lyle will look to bring this update in the District Service updates. DKN: This is a DSC issue, please add it to that agenda.

4. New Business -

- EP: Barricades at the Armory + car idling on FWA blocking access from the curb to M4. MA / Addressed with NCO's, appears barricades have been moved.
- L. Day - Requests how can Nagle or Broadway northbound receive a bike to connect to the Dyckman greenway bike lanes. Lyle to reach out directly.
- DKN: Let's consider the bike infrastructure agenda item for March or April. Also would like to bring PA NY&NJ in for Restoring the George update.
- D. Koutoumbas – Agreed that as Citibike expands north we need to improve bike infrastructure, and consider safety, as current conditions not safe. Cited additional bike traffic coming across 180th once north pedestrian/cyclist path opened on GWB (putting it in conflict with TME truck traffic).

Meeting adjourned: **8:50 pm**