

Traffic and Transportation Committee

September 8th 2014

Attendance: Committee Members: Y. Kalinsky, A. Barberis, T. Peters, Y. Alonzo, J. Berlin, K. Arthur

Board Members: M. Luna

Absent: E. Prentiss

Public Attendance: Mary Anderson, Jean Graves, Thelma Russel, Eleanor Johnson, Walter Cherry, Lindsay Armstrong, Trudy Erwin, Michelle Cooper (CUM), Sandra Harris (CUM), Yokarina Duarte, Marshall Keeling

Meeting begins at 7:05pm

1) CUMC/NYP Streetscape Project

- a. CUMC/NYP worked together with DOT and DDC to create a proposal which enhances the safety and beauty of the campus sidewalks and streets. The proposal awaits approval from PDC
- b. Phase #1 – 168th Street
 - i. “Gateway” to the campus from subway on 168th Street, so it is an important area to enhance as part of the broader project
 - ii. Elements to include: bike racks, safer curbs, planters, benches
 - iii. Street vendors will continue to service the area with their products and not be forced to move due to this project
- c. Comments
 - i. The large banner hanging on the bridge on Ft. Washington Ave. should be removed. The community board approved the bridge a number of years back to be built on condition that it be as “invisible” as possible.
 1. CUMC will look into this
 - ii. What is time frame on this project? Are we concerned that people leaving the homeless shelter in the morning will use these additional benches?
 1. CUMC hopes to present to PDC in October and begin work in the early spring

Vote: Committee 6-0-0 ; Public 2-0-0

2) “Patriot Project” – West 187th Street Step between Ft. Washington and Overlook Terrace

- a. Blue and Red design in honor of the 2,838 soldiers that lost their lives in battle in this area in their fight for freedom

- b. Project is scheduled to be there for a year
- c. Hope to begin painting this week
- d. Street will remain open during the duration of the project

Vote: 6-0-0; 1-0-0; 3-0-0

- 3) Speed bump request for W. 158th St.
 - a. Chair presented email from DOT with details and pictures of the request
 - b. Item tabled by the committee since not sufficient information was presented and committee does not feel ready to take a stance in favor of the speed humps based on email without support from residence in the area. Committee would like to know who requested that the speed humps be installed
- 4) Tunnel to #1 Train at 191st Street
 - a. DOT has finally agreed to add lighting, repaint the tunnel, install mirror at the end of the tunnel, fix puddles
- 5) Leftovers from June meeting
 - a. Slow zone west of Broadway – ask DOT when will the work begin on this project
 - b. West 155th Street/St. Nicholas Place Intersection – still need to gather more input from the community and options from DOT before taking a stance on this
 - c. Robert Lowery – proposal for street co-naming at Riverside Drive and 155th Street North East corner
 - i. Gertrude Irwin would like to move forward with the application
 - ii. We are still collecting information from community residents to get greater consensus before making a decision
- 6) Items to discuss in following months
 - a. Ask the MTA to return with a report on upkeep of subway stations and rehabilitation of local stations
 - b. Ask CM Levine to see what he can do to fix the rain drainage issues at 158th Street Station
- 7) New Business
 - a. Brenda Breuer – danger of bikes speeding down Overlook Terrace (coming down from Ft. Washington). Two people were injured seriously lately, one still in a coma.
 - i. This should be brought to the public safety committee for greater enforcement and cameras etc.
 - ii. Chair will mention this at the GM at the end of the month

Meeting adjourned at 8:40pm