COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 9
890 NOSTRAND AVENUE
BROOKLYN, NEW YORK 11225

Minutes of Transportation Committee Meeting
January 8, 2020

ATTENDANCE:

Committee Members:
Carmen Martinez (Committee Chair, CB 9)
Calista DeJesus (Committee Co-Chair, Comm. Member)
Karen Fleming (Community Member)
Augustine Blackwell (CB 9)
Valerie Fleming (Community Member)
Suman Ganguli (Community Member)
Dave Paco Abraham (Community Member)
Jeffrey Grannum (Community Member)

Absent Members:
Stanley Greenberg (Comm. Member) - Excused
Shloma Hetch (CB 9)
Desma Ross (CB 9)
Felice Robertson (Comm. Member) - Excused

Committee Chair Carmen Martinez convened meeting at 7:05PM, welcomed attendees and there were introductions.

The scheduled presentation by Ms. Alexandra Girgis, NYC DDC Community Construction Liaison, of the Empire Boulevard Reconstruction Project was postponed due Ms. Girgis not being able to attend our meeting at the last minute.

The Committee had discussion about the Empire Boulevard Reconstruction Project, NYC DDC Project ID #HWK779W. Ms. Martinez informed the committee members that she participated in the site walk through conducted by Ms. Girgis on December 19, to familiarize CB9 with the start-up locations, scope of work and project operations. The Project will be done in two phases beginning January 2020, and it’s anticipated to be completed in October 2021, at a cost of $15,990,046. The scope of work for the Project includes curb and sidewalk reconstruction, bus pads, sewer and water main, street lighting, and traffic work. The phase 1 start-up locations will be as follows:

- Utica Avenue from Maple Street to Montgomery Street
- Empire Boulevard from Schenectady to East 91st Street
- Lefferts Avenue from Schenectady to Empire Boulevard
- East New York Avenue (North) from East New York Avenue (South) to East 91st Street
- East New York Avenue (South) from East New York Avenue (North) to Remsen Avenue
- Remsen Avenue from East New York Avenue (South) to Empire Boulevard
Phase 2 is anticipated to commence December 2020 and will be completed by October 2021. The location will be Empire Boulevard from Washington Avenue to Franklin Avenue. The scope of work will include closing off the existing triangle, and thus eliminating the traffic and parking lanes on Franklin Avenue from Empire Boulevard up to the Western Beef parking lot exit on Washington Avenue.

The Committee reviewed and discussed the 24 Brooklyn subway stations to receive accessibility improvements under the MTA proposed $51.5 billion 2020-2024 Capital Plan and noted that none of the Brooklyn stations identified by the MTA were within District 9. As part of the MTA’s plan, an investment of $5.2 billion will be dedicated to making a total of 70 subway stations throughout New York City ADA accessible. The MTA has identified 68 subway stations thus far. The Committee therefore will push for major transportation hubs such as Franklin Avenue and Eastern Parkway (2/3/4/5), Kingston Avenue and Eastern Parkway (3) and Winthrop and Nostrand Avenue (2/5) - train stop for Kings County Hospital and Downstate – to be added to the list.

Committee Co-Chair Calista DeJesus will be spearheading a targeted and district-wide walking tour within the next several weeks to get a firsthand assessment of the quality of life issues that have been brought to the Transportation Committee’s attention and identify problem areas throughout the district. The Committee will visit train stations within the district to assess conditions and accessibility.

DDC/DOT Update: The Infrastructure Upgrades Along Utica Avenue | Utica Avenue Select Bus Service Project HWK100BUS has been completed.

DOT Related Issues:
- Transportation safety issue due to lack of crosswalks on Brooklyn Avenue at the intersections of Fenimore Street and at Hawthorne Street. Wingate Park is located on the East side of these intersections. The lack of crosswalks is a dangerous situation for pedestrians; particularly parents trying to take their children to the playground.
- Request for repair and painting of City benches on Kingston Avenue and Eastern Parkway.

TLC Related Issues:
Requests for letters of support for TLC Base License Renewal submitted by BedStar Drivers Associates, Inc., 528 Fenimore Street; and Union Limo & Car Service, 311 Kingston Avenue. Both will be invited to appear before the Transportation Committee in February.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30PM.

The next Transportation Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 12, 2020.

Respectfully submitted by Carmen L. Martinez, Chair Transportation Committee January 27, 2020.