



Diane Collier
Chair

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District Manager

COMMUNITY BOARD ELEVEN

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Public Safety & Transportation Committee March 1, 2016, 7:00 p.m. Bonifacio Senior Center, 7 East 116th Street

*** Minutes ***

- Present:** Jose Altamirano, Judith Febbraro, Amie Kiros-Petrucci, Frances Mastrotta, Peggy Morales, Theresa Richardson, Jemar Ward, Jonathan Winstone, Diane Collier (ex officio), Angel Mescain (staff)
- Excused:** Beverly Alston
- Absent:** Jose Grajales

1. Call to Order / Adoption of Agenda

Motion to adopt the agenda by Francis Mastrotta, seconded by and adopted unanimously.

2. Informational updates

a. Update from PO Rivera, 25th Precinct

- There was a racial incident in housing part of PSA5. There was an investigation and the suspect was arrested and moved as of the end of February.
- There was a Black Lives Matter rally within the 25 Pct that crossed streets and entered stores at East River Plaza, including Costco, Target, and Aldi. They were supervised by NYPD and only created disruption.
- There was a brief discussion of a nuisance abatement action alleged by the NY Daily News.
- Ms. Collier inquired as to whether any areas of crime had increased. PO Rivera noted that larcenies were up and he would obtain updated information.
- Mr. Ward conveyed his thanks for the attention paid at 132 St & Madison Avenue as it has improved conditions.
- NYPD has released CompStat 2.0 at <http://CompStat.NYPDOnline.org>.

b. Update from PO Gibbons, 23rd Precinct

- Update about Nuisance Abatement

The Daily News had not contacted the 23rd Precinct, but the News alleged 32 alcohol nuisance enforcement actions in 2013-4 year. In 2015, there were 8 nuisance enforcement actions.

- Current stats: YTD are up 14.3% year over year. Increase comes in felony assaults (based mostly in domestic violence [22 incidents vs. 17 in the 28 day period]; there is now a staff member from Safe Horizons at the precinct to assist in DV followup.) Also up are burglaries in a pattern at River Crossing at 1st Ave from 99th - 102nd Streets, wherein younger population is leaving property and apartments unsecured and are apparently burglarized by neighbors within the buildings. Grand larcenies are up for this 28 day period by 33% over last year.

c. Update from New York District Attorney's Office

- In response to previous question about mental health, it was related that when an officer witnesses someone who is a danger to self or others, they are taken to a psychiatric ward for a 72 hour hold. When a misdemeanor is involved, they are arraigned and, if deemed fit to stand trial it proceeds, otherwise their case is dismissed. For felonies with mental health issues, they are held in Part 59 court and defendants are held and treated, if compliant, the case is dismissed.
- Summons: a violation can be an arrest or a summons, for example, in an open container violation. If the summons is not responded to, a warrant is issued for arrest. The new initiative leads people to the clerk's office to resolve the summons rather than to jail to serve time.
- There was a discussion of proposals to improve handling of emotionally disturbed persons, including diversion to services in place of arrest, increased training; risk assessment at arraignment to use bail and supervised release more strategically; and expanding access to effective treatment during incarceration.

3. Presentations and discussions

a. NYC Department of Transportation proposal of Traffic, Bus, and Safety Improvements at Madison Avenue & East 96th Street. New Community Coordinator Lyle Blackwood will be working with CB11.

- Please refer to the appended presentation from NYC DOT.
- In response to difficult turns for MTA buses, buses take up to 4.5 minutes to make a single turn, meaning congestion of over 7 minutes to travel one block to/from the Central Park Traverse.
- Long queues, high turn volumes, blocked intersections, and long pedestrian crossings make for dangerous conditions.
- The proposal involves modified turn lanes, pedestrian safety islands, and improving safety and travel times concurrently.
- Theresa inquired as to whether the M106 bus was also considered; the presenter responded that it had been. Teresa described the current bus situation. Teresa also provided feedback on bus operations and timing that the Chair advised are to be directed to NYCT.
- Jose expressed concern about parking on W 97 St between Madison & Fifth, noting that restoring parking might be problematic.
- Angel requested the traffic volumes for 97th Street between Madison and Fifth Avenue;
- Currently, rush hour bus volume is about one bus per 3 minutes.
- The Committee discussed the presentation, the situation, and outreach to the community for approximately 30 minutes.

b. Street Renaming Request

- i. Alfredo “Chocolate” Armenteros Way on 122nd Street & Third Avenue, a Cuban trumpet player who was a part of the East Harlem community for decades.
- c. Committee Discussion on Goals for 2016
 - i. Chair Jose provided some suggested goals:
 - Review process for street co-naming to make more stringent and honorable.
 - Create northern area subcommittee to improve public safety and increase deliberate focus in northern portion of district
 - Work on DOT issues to improve our district transportation
 - Jemar noted a need for objectives tied to these goals.
 - Peggy suggested a Spring forum including DA office, NYPD for informational update.
 - Further discussion of goals is tabled.

4. Old Business

- a. DOT Proposal to improve pedestrian, vehicular, and bicycle safety on 124th Street from First to Second Avenues.

Motion to recommend support by Jonathan Winstone, second by Peggy Morales.

5. Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn by Jemar Ward, seconded by Frances Mastrota. The meeting was adjourned at 9:09pm.