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Public Safety & Transportation Committee Tuesday, December 6, 2016, 7:00 p.m. Bonifacio Senior Center, 7 East 116th Street

*** AGENDA ***

Present: Jarquay Abdullah, Beverley Alston (left at 7:46pm), Jose Altamirano, Yolanda Brown, Cinthia De La Rosa (left at 9:08pm), Judith Febbraro (left at 7:46pm), Amie Kiros-Petrucci (left at 9:18), Peggy Morales, Robert Perkins, Theresa Richardson, Jonathan Winstone.

Absent: Jemar Ward

Excused: none

Guests: Lyle Blackwood, Leslie Colon, PO Rivera, Linda Gomez, PO Gibbons, Madai Velez, Diana Ayala

1. Call to Order – Adoption of Agenda
 - a. Called to order by Chair Altamirano at 7:09pm. The agenda was unanimously adopted.
2. Informational updates
 - a. NYPD
 - i. PO Rivera of the 25h Pct presenting. PO Rivera presented current crime statistics, noting that robberies are down, but shootings are up, including a daylight shooting at E 120 St & 1 Ave, and shots fired at 2110 Lexington Ave at noon. Also, noted the FBI investigation of the Black Israelite Church.
 1. Linda Gomez of Boriken Health Center inquired about parking for doctors and ambulance services, noting that police officers are parking in their zone. They are located at E 123 St & Third Ave. PO Rivera referred her to PSA5, as it is there station.
 2. Beverly inquired about the barriers around the entrance to Pct 25; PO Rivera responded that they are to deter protesters from entering.
 3. Jarquay inquired about a vandalism of school bus incident on Halloween near Choir Academy.
 4. Chair Altamirano noted that at 139th Street the USPS is parking its vehicles at hydrants, obstructing buses and other traffic, and there have been a number of constituent complaints.
 - ii. PO Gibbons of Pct 23. Major crimes are down in most categories about 24%, and YTD is down modestly compared to 2015. 932 major crimes vs. 939 last year. PO Gibbons noted the success of the Neighborhood Coordination program and the program's officers. However, there was a homicide on Sunday 11/27 in Franklin Plaza in which a 72yo man was bound and beaten; the incident is

currently being investigated and it appears to have been drug-related; a suspect has been identified. The recent period has had no shooting victims. There has also been an increase in hate crime reports citywide since the election, but there have not been any in the 23rd Precinct.

1. Leslie Colon inquired about shootings, noting that there was a shooting three weeks ago on 108th Street near Franklin Plaza. PO Gibbons responded that the shooter from Nov. 5th was arrested. Ms. Colon stated that there is a Winnebago from which drugs are sold.
2. Teresa thanked the 23rd Council police for their outreach, and inquired why the Community Council does not have a December meeting. PO Gibbons responded that the Council decided not to meet, but that the Precinct is happy to meet. Teresa further stated that the Council is dysfunctional, but that she appreciates the police officers.
3. Amie stated that on entering the subway, she saw a violent incident.
4. A member of the public asserted that in Harlem River Park some men are selling drugs near the area under Madison Avenue Bridge.
5. A member of the public inquired as to whether there is guidance about where cameras can be added to buildings with respect to homelessness. PO Gibbons recommended the inquirer contact the Crime Prevention officer at the local precinct.

Beverly and Judith left the meeting at 7:46pm.

- b. Community Council meeting reports
 - c. District Attorney's office
 - i. Madai Velez addressed the Committee, and noted the statement of the five NYC DAs with respect to hate crimes. She also described the program in collaboration with NYC DOI to exchange forged OSHA-10 cards; victims are encouraged to attend DA/DOI's legitimate training to exchange their fraudulent cards for valid ones. Ms. Valez further noted that as the holidays approach, be extra aware of your surroundings for street robberies, and also that some mailboxes have been targeted for theft of checks and money orders. She further noted that several individuals were indicted for gun trafficking, with sales occurring in East Harlem and the Bronx.
 1. Peggy stated that one of her elderly neighbors was the victim of a scam in which there was a fake kidnapping, in which "ransom" was solicited in the form of wired money.
 - d. Department of Transportation
 - i. Lyle Blackwood is present but does not have an update this evening.
3. Presentations & Discussions
- a. Play Street Application
 - i. Ms. Ayala from Speaker Mark-Viverito's office presenting; introduced the issue. NYC Parks is going to be making capital improvements to the park behind school and Johnson Houses. Parks advised the school after the school year started that construction will be starting soon, including closing areas used by the school (enrollment: 840 ES and MS children) for programming. The project will run for about a year and half and began around Thanksgiving. The school currently has all-indoor recess.

- ii. PS/MS 57 has submitted an application to the NYC Department of Transportation to establish a school playstreet on 115th Street between Lexington and Third Avenue.
- iii. The school provided a letter from DOHMH supporting, and also noted the support of a property manager with a garage entrance in the affected area, provided that they are allowed delivery access.
- iv. Ms. Ayala described some of outreach that she and CB11 had done to solicit support/feedback.
- v. Peggy inquired about street cleaning. Chair Altamirano responded that street cleaning on that block is 9:30-11:00am, and the proposal is for 11am-1:30pm.
- vi. The Board discussed the validity of the signatures and proximity to the block.
- vii. Yolanda inquired about the incomplete checklist on the application.
- viii. Peggy asked why Parks is dictating the timeline, noting that it is taxpayer money, stating that they behaved with disregard for the school population and are bullying the school to get the project moving.
- ix. Jonathan asked Ms. Ayala to work with NYPD to ensure that vehicles are not again erroneously ticketed by the Traffic division.
- x. Marie Winfield noted that this is an important community parks initiative, despite municipal miscommunications, likely stemming from some staff transitions. She also described some of the extensive information available about the project on the Partnerships for Parks and NYC websites, and encouraged the school and the Speaker's office to collaborate to do everything the school needs to mitigate impact.
- xi. Jonathan made a statement in support of the play street to mitigate the project that will ultimately benefit our community, and expressed appreciation that our community is receiving capital investments.
- xii. Jonathan moved to support the play street; upon voting, he realized that he had a conflict, stating that he is employed by the NYC Dept. of Education which may present a conflict, and is therefore present not voting; the vote was invalidated.

Jarquay Abdullah moved to support the Play Street on School Days, 11-1:30 upon receipt of missing sections of application, seconded by Rev. Yolanda Brown.

- 1. Peggy proposed an amendment that as the letter of support is drafted that we note that it is Monday through Friday, supporting for a year and a half irrespective of construction.
 - a. The chair stated that the amendment was recalled by Peggy.

The Committee voted and approved the motion unanimously, with Jonathan Winstone present/not voting.

- b. Committee discussion on Draft Scope of Work for proposed East Harlem Rezoning
 - i. Chair Jose introduced the issue and discussed with the Committee. Discussion included the impact of the expansion on transit; the need for lighting and mitigation with scaffolding and pedestrian areas that will result from construction. Jonathan explained that the current order of business is to provide comment on the scope of the environmental review. Cinthia implored the committee to consider creative changes, such as public safety concerns pertaining to construction around schools.

4. Old Business

- a. Proposed pedestrian and safety enhancements at the intersections of 116th St. between 5th and Madison Avenues.
 - i. Chair Altamirano stated that because DOT did not respond with the additional information requested, we will not vote on it this evening.
- b. Proposed expansion of LinkNYC locations along Third Avenue
 - i. Richard moved to support the proposed project; Teresa seconds. Cinthia is present not voting due to potential business conflict of employer.

Cinthia left the meeting at 9:08pm.

5. New Business

- a. A gentleman from 319 East 105th Street stated that they had planned construction but it is pending NYC DPR approval. He characterized the school as bad neighbors. The committee discussed the matter of the play street.
- b. Another member of the public stated that the school has loud equipment on the roof that he has called DEP about.

Amie left the meeting at 9:18pm.

- c. Leslie Colon of Franklin Plaza reiterated her previous complaints about three parking spaces that were removed by DOT as part of the installation of the bus lanes on Second Ave. Mr. Blackwood said he would look into it. Ms. Colon also stated that Second Avenue between 106th and 108th is insufficiently lit. Also, school buses are blocking their parking, and people are blocking their driveways.
- d. Linda Gomez showed evidence that PSA5 is blocking their spaces, and also, one of the signs was installed incorrectly on Third Ave. The Committee will provide the evidence to DOT so they can investigate and correct.
- e. Cindy, a student at Mt. Sinai, is a member of Doctors for America and introduced their subcommittee on gun violence. They are just forming and are seeking community input.

6. Announcements

- a. East Harlem Rezoning

The NYC Department of City Planning (DCP) will hold a public scoping meeting related to the proposed East Harlem Rezoning on Thursday, December 15, 2016, Two Sessions – 2:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. at the Silberman School of Social Work Building, located at 2180 Third Avenue, NY, NY 10035. Written comments on the Draft Scope of Work will be accepted by DCP until close of business on Wednesday, January 4, 2017.

Jonathan Winstone moved to adjourn at 9:31pm, seconded by Rev. Yolanda Brown. Motion approved unanimously.