

Minutes for the April 3, 2017 Community Board 6 Transportation Committee

ATTENDANCE:

Sandra McKee, Molly Hollister, Kathleen Kelly, Joe Parrish, Matt Roberts, Gene Santoro, Larry Scheyer, Ann Seligman, Ronnie White, Brian Van Nieuwenhoven, Ray Knowles, James Wilson

Guest: Rick Eggers, Deborah Farone, Fred Cohen, Colleen Chatagoon (DOT), Madeline Grunewald (office of NYS Senator Liz Krueger)

Absent and/or Excused:

Beatrice Disman, Fred Arcaro, Nick Smolney, Bob Cohen

Discussion: Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Proposed Emergency Ventilation Plant.

The MTA was not able to attend the meeting and provide additional information because the formal public comment period is open, they cannot legally attend the CB6 meeting because they would be receiving public input outside of the formal process.

Deborah Farone and Fred Cohen of the Coalition to Save Murray Hill made a brief presentation highlighted the concerns of the group. Their concerns include:

- The MTA study is over 20 years old and appears to be out of date
- Will the mid town rezoning effect the project
- Clarification required as to why the East side access cannot be used to provide the required ventilation
- Can the vent be relocated into a less residential area
- The MTA needs to confirm they have dealt with the safety of all above and below ground
- There is concern that biologic agents will be ventilated and this must be dealt with
- In 1902 there were cracks below the subway construction has this been addressed?
- Park Avenue traffic is intense now, if the additional closure were to occur it would cause congestion.

Madeline Grunewald provided additional information;

The project is delayed not postponed. The committee had several questions for her:

- Is the design of the project funded?
- Are there examples of this type of facility that the community can see to understand how they work?
- How do they deal with the smoke in this section of the subway now?

There are noise concerns from the monthly testing of a west side ventilation system

The committee voted 11 to 1 to prepare a resolution that identified the concerns of the community but did not support any of the specific locations identified in the DEIS.

Continued discussion: Community responses to CB6 Dangerous Intersection survey –laid over

Continued discussion: Request for more red light cameras. Kathleen Kelly made a brief presentation of the research she has done to identify the parts involved.

There are red light cameras in the city but their number is limited
<http://www1.nyc.gov/nyc-resources/service/2324/red-light-cameras>

There are also speed cameras that ticket drivers going more than 10mph over the speed limit. There are only 140 speed cameras located in NYC associated with schools and their hours of use are limited. More information is available at <http://everyschool.nyc/>

Both types of camera are controlled by the state and if we want a change we need address our concerns to the state. There is a bill in the assembly currently S00590.

Initial discussion: Budget requests, traffic studies, and utilizing DEIS information

The DEIS that we receive for review have traffic studies as part of the information that they present. CB6 has been asking for traffic studies as part of our budget requests and they are never funded. The committee can start with these studies to review traffic issues in the district.

Chairs Report: First avenue bike lane completion 47-48 on First Ave, to be completed in April 2017

The contractor is scheduled to start layout on 2nd Ave Monday April 3 installation in has started.

There are several upcoming meetings regarding the east river greenway improvements, and our committee will be represented.

Old/New Business: None

Meeting adjourned 8:40 pm

Minutes by,
Sandra McKee