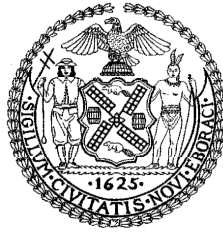


Nicholas Viest
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The City of New York Manhattan Community Board 8

Transportation Committee

Wednesday, March 7, 2012

Lenox Hill Hospital

131 East 76th Street, Einhorn Auditorium

New York, NY

6:30pm

Minutes

Present: Michele Birnbaum, A. Scott Falk, Larry Hockert, Jonathan Horn, Rita Popper, Barbara Rudder, Barry Schneider, Helene Simon, Cos Spagnoletti, H. Patrick Stewart, Marco Tamayo, Charles Warren.

The Meeting was called to order at 6:33 PM by Co-Chair Charles Warren.

1. Request to adjust meter hours on east side of Lexington Avenue between 85th and 86th Street to end at 7pm instead of 10pm Mon-Sat.

This change, previously discussed in October 2011, was intended to fix an aberration in signage. All blocks of Lexington North and South of this location have meters in effect until 7pm, while this block has the same 10pm regulation as 86th Street. Susan Gottridge, representing the 86th Merchants and Residents Association, spoke in opposition to the change. DOT has not provided any information on why this block's regulations differ from the other blocks of Lexington.

WHEREAS, the parking meter regulations on the east side of Lexington Avenue between 85th and 86th Streets currently end at 10 pm Monday through Saturday, and

WHEREAS, the parking meter regulations on the adjacent blocks of Lexington Avenue to the North and South end at 7 pm Monday through Saturday, and

WHEREAS, the parking meter regulations on Lexington Avenue between 85th and 86th Streets are inconsistent and may be confusing to drivers,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Community Board 8M approves changing the parking signs on the east side of Lexington Avenue between 85th & 86th Streets from "1 HR MUNI-METER PARKING 10AM-10PM MON THRU FRI 9AM-10PM SATURDAY" to "1 HR MUNI-METER PARKING 10AM-7PM MON THRU FRI 9AM-7PM SATURDAY."

Approved 6 Yes, 4 No, 0 Abstentions.

Yes: Birnbaum, Horn, Popper, Spagnoletti, Tamayo, Warren.

No: Falk, Hocker, B. Schneider, Simon

2. A request to remove one bus stop on Third Avenue between 86th and 87th Streets (Requested by Mr. Cholowsky, Janovic Plaza).

John Cholowsky, district manager for Janovic Plaza, came before the committee to present a request to move the BxM6/7/8/9/10 bus stop on the east side of Third Avenue between 86th & 87th St., to allow for a loading zone in front of the store's potential future location. The company is losing their lease at 1555 Third Ave. (which currently has a loading zone in front of it), but has identified a potential new location one block south of the current store. The committee will check with DOT and NYCT to investigate whether it is possible to swap the bus stop with the current Janovic Plaza loading zone.

3. Request by SSK (Second Avenue Subway Contractor) for layover lane on east curb of 2nd Avenue between E. 74th and E. 75th Streets to stage muck and concrete trucks in an effort to alleviate traffic congestion on 2nd Avenue. (joint item with Second Avenue Subway Task Force)

Marcus Book from MTA NYC Transit and Drew Jones from the structural engineering firm doing the work on the subway project presented the request. The problem of traffic congestion is most acute during the muck operation stage and trucks end up being double parked in the street waiting to dump loads in the disposal building, which only holds about two trucks. There were questions raised about putting more trucks in the disposal building and the idling of truck motors. The commitment was made to reduce idling as much as possible if the trucks were in the layover lane. They would wait until they were scheduled to dump the loads before starting their engines. The situation is easier with the muck trucks which do not have to run their motors continually, as do the concrete trucks. The following resolution was passed:

WHEREAS, the staging of muck and concrete trucks in connection with the Second Avenue Subway work has created traffic, noise and pollution problems, and
WHEREAS, MTA NYC Transit has committed to reduce congestion, noise and pollution if they are given a layover lane for the trucks, and
WHEREAS, the layover lane is needed mostly for the muck operations which will last for two or three months and may not be as necessary for the concrete truck operations,
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Community Board 8 recommends that a layover lane be provided on the east curb between East 74th and East 75th Streets for the staging of muck trucks involved in the Second Avenue Subway construction for the duration of the muck operations.

Approved 12-0-0

Yes: Birnbaum, Falk, Hockert, Horn, Popper, Rudder, B. Schneider, Simon, Spagnoletti, Stewart, Tamayo, Warren.

4. Presentation by Department of Design and Construction on the 81st Street Pedestrian Bridge

Representatives from DDC made a presentation on the current status of plans for replacing the 81st Street Pedestrian Bridge. The design presented was substantially similar to the

presentation made in December 2010. Lighting on the bridge and the ramp will be kept to a minimum and directed away from the neighboring buildings. The design is intended to be very “open” to maximize sightlines from both Manhattan and Roosevelt Island. Residents of 45 East End Avenue expressed concerns about how a new ramp on 81st Street will affect their building’s service entrance, which is used for trash collection, oil deliveries, and moving. The committee asked DDC to meet with residents of the buildings on East 81st Street and to reexamine the plans for the ADA-accessible ramp. DDC indicated they would do that and report back to the Committee in several months.

5. Old Business

6. New Business

No items were raised under old or new business.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A. Scott Falk and Charles Warren, Co-Chairs