

COMMUNITY BOARD #3
655 Rossville Avenue
Staten Island, N. Y. 10309
Traffic & Transportation Committee
~and~
Public Service Committee Minutes

April 13, 2011

TRAFFIC & TRANSPORTATION

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

James Gallagher
Daniel Venuto

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

Frank Contrera (Excused)
Vincent Calamia
Robert Coughlin
Mario Rapaglia

PUBLIC SERVICE

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Patricia Conway, *Chairwoman Public Service*
John Felicetti

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

Michael DiPilato
Michael Ryan
William Killips

STAFF

Charlene Wagner, District Manager

GUESTS:

Paul Banks, resident West Castor Place

NO QUORUM

7:30 p.m. Pledge of Allegiance

PUBLIC CONTACT:

Paul Banks, a resident of West Castor Place requests a Stop sign on West Castor Place at Marcy Avenue. He states that motorists who wish to avoid the traffic signal on Huguenot and Woodrow Road navigate a course through either Shift Place or Rosedale Avenue, onto Powell Avenue, then on to West Castor Place. In the early morning hours there is also truck traffic, on these residential streets. West Castor Place narrows at Marcy Avenue due to an undeveloped lot which creates a danger and motorists speed through often driving on the opposite lane.

Mr. Banks also noted that a school bus stop is located on West Castor Place just where it the road width narrows. Because it creates a dangerous condition for the students, he has previously asked the school and the bus company to relocate the stop to the widest portion of West Castor Place. He requests that the Community Board intercede to have the bus stop relocated. He will give office staff the necessary information so a formal complaint can be made.

PUBLIC SERVICE DISCUSSION:

1. Patricia Conway opened a discussion regarding the recent Advance article reporting that State Assemblyman, Lou Tobacco, denounced legislation that seeks to issue drivers' licenses to foreign nationals. Assemblyman Tobacco also criticized another bill which would give certain individuals who were brought here illegally the ability to receive financial aid for college, the opportunity to work legally in the state, and the right to access health care.
2. Patricia Conway informed committee members that handicapped people will no longer be required to go in person to argue wrongful tickets; paperwork may be submitted by mail.
3. The Committee discussed the topic of "Variable Supplemental Fund" payouts to NYPD and FDNY retirees. Committee members argued both pro and con for the measure. At the General Board Meeting Ms. Conway will ask for a motion opposing A5322, a bill that would permit eligibility to disability pensioners and their beneficiaries.
4. Frank Morano would like to send a letter to the Mayor asking that the BOE Deputy Chancellor and all support staff be removed. These positions were imposed as a requirement for the waiver needed due to Chancellor Black's lack of credentials. It is his position that upon Ms. Black's resignation, this staff should be eliminated.

TRAFFIC & TRANSPORTATION DISCUSSION:

James Gallagher reported that he attended the April 11, 2011 Pleasant Plains/Prince's Bay/Richmond Valley Civic Association meeting where representatives from the Staten Island Railway were in attendance. There have been complains from Janine Materna regarding the poor conditions at the Pleasant Plains train station. Chief Officer Stephone Montgomery stated that new-replacement cars will be commuter-type cars, and not old subway cars, CCTV at stations should be online by 2012, and station maintenance will be ongoing. MTA Police Chief, Thomas Odessa and MTA Police Deputy Jerry Damora, reported that they are working with the NYPD to reduce crime incidents. Also in attendance to answer questions were, Melissa Farley, Assistant Director Government & Community Relations, Assistant Chief Officer Transportation, Barry Greenblatt, Assistant Chief Officer Maintenance of Way, Martin Gearn, and Superintendent MOW Buildings & Bridges, Donald Yarczower.

Respectfully submitted,

James Gallagher
Traffic & Transportation Committee

Patricia Conway
Patricia Conway, Chairwoman
Public Service Committee