

Bayswater Breeze



72nd Year

BAYSWATER

December 18, 2017

BAYSWATER OPEN MEETING

MONDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2017 AT 8:00 PM

BAYSWATER JEWISH CENTER, CORNER HEALY AVE. & DICKENS ST.

**GUESTS: REPRESENTATIVES for SECURITY CAMERAS
and URBAN UPBOUND**

NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS DONATIONS

BAYSWATER CONCERNS

SECURITY CAMERAS

BCA will be presenting a program on the advantages of having your own individual security camera system for your house and perimeter areas. These security cameras have proven to be valuable for the police in their investigations of such criminal activity as break-ins and car thefts, and, of course, for your individual protection. In fact, that is one of the first questions asked - Do you have a security camera?

URBAN UPBOUND

Brittany Bye and Urban Upbound will be visiting us at BCA's open meeting on Monday, December 18th when she will be describing the organization's new campus in Far Rockaway and what it will be offering interested clients.

It will offer such workforce services as Resume Writing, Interview Skills, Career Counseling, and Job Opportunities. Also offered will be such financial services as Reduce Debt, Improve Credit, Increase Savings and Tax Preparation.

THE ROCKAWAY MAYOR DE BLASIO

Mayor Bill de Blasio has discovered the Rockaways. On the fifth anniversary of superstorm Sandy, he announced seven projects with an estimated cost of \$145 million to protect the Rockaways from flooding and damage from any future storms. The money will come mostly from FEMA and added to by the mayor's office, the borough president's office and other assorted public and private sources. The FEMA money came from leftover funds in the replacement and repair of the boardwalk.

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JOIN US

We look forward to seeing you on Monday, December 18th at 8:00 PM for our last meeting of the year 2017. Where did it go?

Presentations will include the value of security cameras, and the Urban Upbound programs being offered in Far Rockaway.

BCA is already planning for 2018. *Be a part of the adventure. *Bring in your dues for 2018 this night. *Your membership is always appreciated and we thank you for your caring.

Please, also, bring in non-perishable food items that can be donated to the organizations that care for our Far Rockaway neighbors. Thank you.

THE BAYSWATER BREEZE

Published By
BAYSWATER CIVIC ASSOCIATION

President, Board of Directors,.....Enid Glabman
Secretary.....Rosemarie Creelman
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BAYSWATERCIVIC.ORG - CONTACT US

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As we approach a new year we want to wish all our members and residents a happy, healthy, and peaceful one. Let us hope for a calmer, gentler, more generous, more understanding and compassionate one. We urge you to become more active and let your voices be heard. Do come to our next Open Meeting on Dec. 18th and bring along a non-perishable item so we can help the needy.

Enid Glabman
President, BCA

CB14, THE MTA, AND ROCKAWAY'S INCREASED BUS SERVICE

When one hears "increased bus service," the assumption is that there will be more buses arriving sooner along with more bus stops considering the numbers of people who will be coming to the Rockaways because of the new building here on the peninsula and particularly because of the Far Rockaway downtown area and environs. NOT SO FAST!

At the October Community Board 14's meeting, the board members, as one, voted to oppose the Metropolitan Transit Authority's (MTA) proposal because the plan included the elimination of bus stops as part of the increased service.

The article concerning this matter written by Ralph Mancini in The Wave of October 13th is being printed here in almost its entirety because it can only have been written in all of the MTA's absurdity by someone who was there.

(Article follows on page 3)

Continued from page 1

The first project undertaken will be the restoration of our Bayswater Park. It is considered vulnerable to tidal flooding. New recreational facilities will be added to the park. Parks Commissioner Mitchell Silver indicated that the refurbishing of Bayswater Park will take three years to finish.

In general, new parks will be created with seawalls and resilient vegetation, and berms and new bulkheads will be installed along the waterfronts of the Edgemere neighborhood and the Rockaway Community Park which will have shorelines around its eastern and western edges raised along with the restoration of its wetlands as a natural buffer between the park and the Jamaica Bay.

LADIES, DID YOU VOTE?

Nov. 6 - 100th anniversary of women's suffrage in New York State.

NYS MARKS CENTENNIAL OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE

Women in New York State secured the right to vote in 1917, three years before the 19th amendment granted that right to women across the United States. The state marks its 100th anniversary of women's suffrage on Nov. 6.

Information about centennial events across the state and other resources from the New York State Women's Suffrage Commission are available at www.ny.gov/programs/new-york-state-womens-suffrage-commission. You can also access information about women involved in the state's suffrage movement at the National Women's Hall of Fame website, www.womenofthehall.org. The hall of fame is located in Seneca Falls

DESTINED TO FAIL

CB14 rejects MTA's bus stop reduction plan

By Ralph Mancini

The Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA) wants to eliminate bus stops as part of a plan to provide increased service in Rockaway.

At the Community Board 14 monthly meeting, board members unanimously voted to oppose the controversial proposal.

MTA Assistant Director of Community Relations Simone Price was among the agency representatives on hand at the Knights of Columbus on Tuesday, Oct. 10 to promote a plan to improve bus speed and service reliability in the eastern part of the peninsula by short turning the Q22's westbound route at Beach 116th Street on every other trip.

Straphangers headed toward Jacob Riis Park, according to the recommendation, would then board the Q35, whose travel path would undergo a revision by moving its route from Newport Avenue to Rockaway Beach Boulevard.

A study conducted by the MTA and the Department of Transportation (DOT), Price explained, would theoretically save buses nine minutes westbound and 11 minutes eastbound in an effort to serve commuters with more frequent service.

But those in attendance were also told that 15 eastbound bus stops along Q22 route would be discontinued in order to make the conversion viable. The stops include Beach 34th Street, Beach 38th Street, Beach 49th Street, Beach 75th Street, Beach 77th Street and Beach 86th Street.

Beach 27th Street and Beach 73rd Street, on the other hand, would get relocated to Camp Road and Beach 74th respectively.

Furthermore, the elimination of 10 more bus stops would also be slated for the western side, including Beach 106th Street, Beach 118th Street, Beach 124th Street, Beach 131st Street, Beach 137th Street and Beach 141st Street.

Beach 77th Street is the one stop that would relocate to Beach 79th Street.

"If we can short turn every other trip," reasoned MTA Principal Transportation Planner Warren Berry, "we can get the necessary buses back to the east side, which is about 80 percent of our total ridership."

CB14 Chairperson Dolores Orr wasn't buying the grand-scale alterations and voiced her concern about the added congestion that would result from shifting the Q35 on the Q22's daily path.

She estimated that 200 buses would end up traveling up and down Beach 116th Street with district police cars crowding the area along with fire engines pulling in and out of the local firehouse on the same road.

When questioned by Orr on how long would it take

someone headed to Beach 120th Street to board a new bus after being dropped off at Beach 116th Street, the MTA employees responded that they didn't know and that the schedule of a new route pattern hadn't yet been executed.

Fellow board member Annette Lord-Cohen took issue with the proposed eradication of the bus stops at Beach 34th Street, Beach 38th Street and Beach 49th Street informing the speakers of the impact it would have on the elderly and infirm, many of whom depend on walkers to get around.

"There's a church on Beach 37th Street and Beach Channel Drive. That's a ridership," said Lord-Cohen. "You have a community center in the 40s that they use."

"The guidelines need to be changed because if you went down to city planning, you would know that on Beach 36th and Beach Channel Drive, they are putting up senior housing. There's a major development going on. So, what you are saying to me now is that you're going to eliminate [the bus stops], only to [return] and bring them back?"

Price countered by assuring the board that the MTA never decided to make changes "arbitrarily" and added that senior commuters have other transportation options, such as Access-A-Ride.

The suggestion was met with scorn as CB14 Parks and Public Safety Chair Jose Velez spoke about how Access-A-Ride often forces his mother to wait for hours to get the service she needs and shouldn't be considered an option.

The agency's plan, he maintained, is only making students, the elderly and working people alike walk or even run a little further every day to catch the bus.

"I'm disappointed because I don't think you're taking people into account; you're just taking guidelines into account," stated Velez.

Several of the board members, including Noreen Ellis, griped about Rockaway Beach Boulevard being a narrow and congested corridor that isn't suited to handle any additional bus routes.

"You're going to have three buses on a short, narrow street. It's just destined to fail," said Ellis. "We're isolated, desolated and neglected by the MTA and now you're asking us to have faith in this conceptual idea? I ask you to relook at your numbers and come back when you can service our community."

The proposal failed to generate any level of support or positive feedback from the local audience.

Sonia Moise implored the MTA liaisons to pay attention to the numerous complaints communicated by her colleagues on the board considering that her group is a representation of the entire Rockaway area from one end of the peninsula to the other.

"I hope to God you're listening to us," she said. "You said this was a proposal, but we don't like it."

MAIL THEFT

The other day, we returned home to find a torn open carton left in our driveway. There was nothing in the box but some informational material about an organization. We realized that the box had been taken from someone's porch in the hopes that a valuable item would be in it. Since there was nothing useful, the box was tossed away. There was an address on the box and so it was returned to its owner at the end of our block.

Fast forward to a meeting held by the 100th Precinct Community Council which invited federal postal inspectors to a meeting covered by WAVE reporter Gail Johnson. Postal Inspectors Mike Rosenberg, Dylan O'Neil and Donna

Harris offered preventative tips on how not to be a victim to mail theft. The tips offered by the postal inspectors are good not only for the holiday season, but year long.

The tips: Even though packages are stolen for their valuables, the basic aim of mail theft is identity fraud, to access your credit card number and checking account information. It is also possible to change the names written on checks these days. So, do not let mail sit in your mailbox, promptly remove it whether or not you are expecting personal financial information, and, if you will be away, ask a trusted neighbor to collect your mail.

As far as sending mail: Give your mail to the postman or take it to the post office, do not place letters in the blue mail boxes after the last pickup time posted on the lid, and certainly don't let the mail sit in the blue box overnight as thieves have been known to get the mail out of the boxes.

For further information or to report suspected fraud, go to: postalinspectors.usps.gov or by mail, to: U.S. Postal Inspection Service, Criminal Investigations Service Center, Attn: Mail Fraud, PO Box 555, New York, NY 10116-0555.

BAYSWATER CIVIC ASSOCIATION

Dear Neighbors,

We are preparing for 2018. Bayswater Civic Association is arranging for informative people to speak at our community meetings and letting our elected officials and agencies know when they can do better by our beautiful Bayswater community.

Please remember that BCA needs your voices and your ideas and comments and your help because you are the Bayswaterites who are represented by this organization.

It's time to help by joining BCA for the new year. Support the BCA with your \$25 in dues for 2018. The more voices, the better. Whether the weather is hot or cold, whether the days are long or short, your voices help Bayswater Civic speak for our community.

We look forward to seeing you on Monday, Decemeber 18th.

Happy holidays to all.

Enid Glabman
President,
Bayswater Civic Assosiation

IT'S 2018! DON'T FORGET!!!

We need each other. YES, I'll send my dues!

Bayswater Civic Association
1022 Bay 24th Street
Bayswater, New York 11691

YES, I will join my neighbors for the betterment of Bayswater.

- Enclosed \$25 for the year 2018
 Do you have a skill BCA can use? Join us.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Print clearly, so we can send messages!

Yes, we have been sending messages.

BY REQUEST OF
ROCKAWAY NASSAU SAFETY PATROL

RNSP



ROCKAWAY SHOMRIM
24 HOUR HOTLINE
917-727-7306
POLICE - 911

To receive Security Alerts sign up at:
securityalerts@rockawaypatrol.org

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*Elected officials always addressed as
The Honorable (name) in writing to them.*

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