Public Safety BOL Meeting Minutes -Final



Committee Chair: Colin Smith

800 Michaellan Office Bldg. 148 Martine Avenue, 8th Floor White Plains, NY 10601 www.westchesterlegislators.com

Monday, July 12, 2021

10:00 AM

Committee Room

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting jointly with the Committees on Budget & Appropriations, Public Works & Transportation, and Environment & Health

With a quorum present, Chair Smith called the meeting to order at 10:14 AM.

Others in Attendance: BOL: Vedat Gashi, Catherine Parker, David Tubiolo, Ruth Walter, Damon Maher, Alessandra Restiano, James Silverberg, Yolanda Valencia BOL (Remote): Catherine Borgia, Melanie Montalto DPS Remote: Thomas Gleason, William McGuinness PLANNING: Norma Drummond, Dave Kvinge PARKS Remote: Kathy O'Connor, Peter Tartaglia, Ken Uhle LAW: Carla Chaves LAW Remote; David Vutera WCC Remote: Brian Murphy, Stew Glass, Teri Wisell

Present: Committee Chair Smith, Legislator Barr, Legislator Boykin, Legislator Covill, Committee Vice-Chair Cunzio, Legislator Johnson, Legislator Shimsky and Legislator Woodson-Samuels

MINUTES APPROVAL

I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

ACT-2021-126 BOND ACT-BPS32-Traffic Noise Detection Pilot Program

A BOND ACT authorizing the issuance of ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND (\$125,000) DOLLARS in bonds of Westchester County to finance Capital Project BPS32 - Traffic Noise Detection Pilot Program.

Submitted by COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS, PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION, PUBLIC SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENT & HEALTH

Joint with BA, PWT & EH

Guests: Commissioner Thomas Gleason & Captain William McGuinness- Department of Public Safety

Commissioner Gleason and Captain McGuinness appeared before the joint committees to discuss capital project BPS32- Traffic Noise Detection Pilot Program. This is a Bond Act in the amount of \$125,000 to finance the cost of a traffic noise detection pilot program, including an acoustical engineering study to determine appropriate noise detection equipment and placement locations to further the end goal of the project of identifying violators of existing noise limits in the Vehicles and Traffic Law.

Commissioner Gleason discussed that in 2020 during COVID, he received a call from Legislator Walter regarding drag racing and traffic noise complaints. She had read about traffic noise detection camera system that was used in London, asking if it was something that could used here. Commissioner Gleason discussed it is something like a red light camera concept. It would be used to target specific violators on parkways that have a modified exhaust system. Cameras will detect when a vehicle exceeds the legal noise limit, their license plate then scanned and a ticket will be sent in the mail.

Commissioner Gleason did some preliminary research and decided the best way to proceed is to hire an acoustical engineering consultant. Legislator Walter thanked the Commissioner for meeting with her and the noise expert and being able to learn about the negative effects that noise has on peoples health. Legislator Walter noted that the number one complaint coming out of the 1st precinct in Yonkers is loud cars. Chair Smith discussed that the issue is not as prominent in his district but excited to pilot take effect and the program to grow to other parts of the County.

Commissioner Gleason discussed that this program right now is being evaluated on the Bronx River Parkway, which is a County parkway, but acknowledging this is an issue on other parkways. He said once it is underway, they will work in joint efforts with other public safety departments in those municipalities.

On motion of Legislator Shimsky, seconded by Legislator Barr, the above item was signed by committee. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye:

Committee Chair Smith, Legislator Barr, Legislator Boykin, Legislator Covill, Committee Vice-Chair Cunzio, Legislator Johnson, Legislator Shimsky and Legislator Woodson-Samuels

II. OTHER BUSINESS

III. RECEIVE & FILE

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Legislator Covill, seconded by Legislator Shimsky, the Committee adjourned at 10:31 AM.