



Public Works & Transportation

BOL Meeting Minutes - Published Draft

Committee Chair: Erika Pierce

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

Monday, July 31, 2023

10:00 AM

Committee Room

CALL TO ORDER

Joint with Budget & Appropriations and Housing committees.

Please note: Meetings of the Board of Legislators and its committees are held at the Michaelian Office Building, 148 Martine Avenue, White Plains, New York, 10601, and remotely via the WebEx video conferencing system. Legislators may participate in person or via Webex. Members of the public may attend meetings in person at any of its locations, or view it online on the Westchester County Legislature's website: <https://westchestercountyny.legistar.com/> This website also provides links to materials for all matters to be discussed at a given meeting. *With a quorum present, Chair Pierce called the meeting to order at 10:56 a.m.*

Others in Attendance: BOL: Legislator Terry Clements, Legislator James Nolan (Remote); Committee Coordinators: Jill Axelrod, James Silverberg, and Dayana Gomez; Guests: DPW (Remote): Rob Abbamont and Gayle Katzman; DoIT: Marguerite Beirne and Lennox Harris; DA's Office: Charles Forzano, Jason Carrow and Andrew Grascia; Planning: Len Gruenfeld (Remote)

Present: Committee Chair Pierce, Legislator Barr, Legislator Parker, Legislator Smith, Committee Vice-Chair Woodson-Samuels and Legislator Gashi

Absent: Legislator Tubiolo

MINUTES APPROVAL

I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

1. [2023-301](#) **BOND ACT-RB04J-Tuckahoe Road Bridge Over Bronx River Pkwy., Yonkers**

Joint with B & A.

Guest: Representative from the Dept. of Public Works & Transportation.
Mr. Abbamont discussed the item. He said that this bond act will finance the cost of design associated with rehabilitation of the existing structure. The project will address the deterioration of the existing arch, asphalt approach resurfacing and waterproofing of the top of the concrete arch, roadway slab and sidewalks, and associated work. The bridge was built in 1922, and is in need of rehabilitation to maintain a safe roadway for the traveling public. In 2021, the New York State Department of Transportation gave the bridge a condition rating of 4.33 and the bridge has continued to deteriorate. A rating below 5 indicates that a bridge requires work and delay of this work could result in the continued deterioration of the bridge.

Following bonding authorization, design will be scheduled. It is anticipated to take nine months

to complete, and will be performed by consultant. Construction is anticipated to take approximately 18 months to complete and shall begin after award and execution of the construction contracts. He showed pictures of the bridge.

On motion of Committee Vice-Chair Woodson-Samuels, seconded by Legislator Gashi, the above item was signed by committee and referred to Board of Legislators. The motion carried unanimously.

2. [2023-302](#) **CBA-RB03Y-Main Street Over Bronx River Pkwy. and Bronx River, White Plains**

Joint with B & A.

Guest: Representative from the Dept. of Public Works & Transportation.

Mr. Abbamont said that this project funds the rehabilitation of the existing bridge structure, including removal and replacement of the existing wearing surface and waterproofing, rehabilitation of masonry joints, approaches, railings and associated work. The proposed Capital Budget Amendment will increase the County share for capital project RB03Y by \$1.1 million to fund increased costs associated with the project. The Bond Act in the amount of \$1.1 million will finance additional construction management and construction costs associated with the bridge rehabilitation. DPW advised that additional funding is needed to cover the full cost of construction management and to provide construction contingency for this project. The bids received for this project were higher than the available construction management funding. To proceed with the project in a timely matter, a portion of the available construction management funding was used to award the construction contract. Also, since construction is partially funded with federal funds, an increased level of inspection and reporting is required. The additional funding will restore the construction contingency for possible unforeseen conditions.

The bridge was built in 1922, and is in need of rehabilitation to maintain a safe roadway for the traveling public. In 2021, the NYSDOT gave the bridge a condition rating of 4.48 (on a scale from 1 to 7), and the bridge has continued to deteriorate. A rating below 5 indicates that a bridge requires work and delay of this work could result in the continued deterioration of the bridge.

Mr. Abbamont shared photos of the bridge. Legislator Barr noticed that there was graffiti on the bridge which looked like a swastika. Mr. Abbamont said he thought it was the letters "SS". Legislator Barr asked for confirmation that this was removed. Mr. Abbamont said he is not sure. Legislator Barr said we should report this to the Human Rights Commission since they keep track of hate incidents.

Legislator Woodson-Samuels asked if we have a list of ratings of all County bridges and how often do we inspect them. Mr. Abbamont said that we have a list but it needs to be updated. He also said that New York State inspects all bridges every two years and they share the reports with the County and they update their list. He said he will provide the bridge rating list and the latest inspection report for this bridge.

On motion of Committee Vice-Chair Woodson-Samuels, seconded by Legislator Gashi, the above item was signed by committee. The motion carried unanimously.

3. [2023-303](#) **BOND ACT-RB03Y-Main Street Over Bronx River Pkwy. and Bronx River, White Plains**

Joint with B & A.

Guest: Representative from the Dept. of Public Works & Transportation.

See Item # 2 above.

On motion of Committee Vice-Chair Woodson-Samuels, seconded by Legislator Gashi, the above item was signed by committee and referred to Board of Legislators. The motion carried unanimously.

4. [2023-311](#) **BOND ACT-BDA02-Information Technology '20-'24**

Joint with B & A.

Guests: Office of the District Attorney: Charles Forzano, Chief Administrator; Jason Carrow, Manager of Network Operations; Andrew Grascia, Deputy Chief Criminal Investigator

Mr. Carrow said this will fund the purchase, upgrade and maintenance of equipment, software and systems to support the technology needs of the District Attorney's Office at its various locations. This will enable the DA's office to carry out its mandate to investigate and prosecute all crimes and offenses committed in the County by continuing to allow for the purchase, upgrade and maintenance of equipment, software and systems to support their locations throughout the County. This projects includes the upgrade of hardware and software for forensics, surveillance, security systems, server and storage equipment, networking equipment, desktops systems, off the shelf and proprietary software applications, peripherals and hand-held devices.

Legislator Maher asked whether this will facilitate access for defense counsel to obtain information for discovery. Marguerite Beirne, Chief Information Officer for the Department of IT, said that the DA's portal for defense attorneys is a separate system, and is not part of this request.

On motion of Committee Vice-Chair Woodson-Samuels, seconded by Legislator Barr, the above item was signed by committee and referred to Board of Legislators. The motion carried.

5. [2023-280](#) **ACT-Accept Quitclaim Deed from Yonkers - 345 McLean Avenue, Yonkers**

Joint with B & A and Housing.

Guest: Planning Dept.: Len Gruenfeld, Program Administrator for Development

Mr. Gruenfeld said this property will be 100% affordable housing, and all 105 rental units will be available to eligible seniors age 62 and over earning between 30% and 60% of AMI. 31 of the units will be supportive housing for seniors who are formerly homeless and those with

developmental disabilities. The County previously conveyed the property to Yonkers subject to a reverter if Yonkers did not develop the site as a public park. Since Yonkers did not do that, the property has reverted to the County. In order to avoid any potential title issues, Yonkers will give the County a quitclaim deed transferring any rights it may have to the property, and the County will convey it to the developer.

Legislator Woodson Samuels asked how we are dealing with the VFW Hall next door to the property, on which we may be encroaching. Mr. Gruenfeld said he is not aware of any encroachment. He will reach out to the developer to see if the surveys show that, and suggest they have a conversation with the VFW to work with them throughout the development process.

Legislator Barr asked why we are accepting a quitclaim deed. Mr. Gruenfeld said that Yonkers offered to do that, and he thinks that was the easiest legal documentation to use. He can ask the Law Department to follow up on that.

Chair Pierce asked why this project is not LEED Silver. Mr. Gruenfeld said the building will meet Enterprise Green and Energy Star criteria. Chair Pierce asked what the differences are between those and LEED Silver, and why the decision was to not go for LEED Silver or beyond. Mr. Gruenfeld said he will check with the developer and get back to her.

Chair Pierce also asked if there will be a cooling system, and what the heating and cooling systems will be. Mr. Gruenfeld said he will ask the developer and get back to her.

On motion of Committee Vice-Chair Woodson-Samuels, seconded by Legislator Gashi, the above item was signed by committee and referred to Board of Legislators. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Legislator Parker, Legislator Smith, Committee Vice-Chair Woodson-Samuels and Legislator Gashi

Absent: Legislator Tubiolo

WO Prejudice: Committee Chair Pierce and Legislator Barr

6. [2023-281](#) **BOND ACT-BPL1A-345 McLean Avenue, Yonkers**

Joint with B & A and Housing.

Guest: Planning Dept.: Len Gruenfeld, Program Administrator for Development
See Item #5 above.

On motion of Committee Vice-Chair Woodson-Samuels, seconded by Legislator Gashi, the above item was signed by committee and referred to Board of Legislators. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Legislator Parker, Legislator Smith, Committee Vice-Chair Woodson-Samuels and Legislator Gashi

Absent: Legislator Tubiolo

WO Prejudice: Committee Chair Pierce and Legislator Barr

7. [2023-282](#) **ACT-IMDA-Yonkers & the Developer-345 McLean Avenue, Yonkers**

Joint with B & A and Housing.

Guest: Planning Dept.: Len Gruenfeld, Program Administrator for Development
See *Item # 5 above*.

On motion of Committee Vice-Chair Woodson-Samuels, seconded by Legislator Gashi, the above item was signed by committee and referred to Board of Legislators. The motion carried unanimously.

8. [2023-274](#) **BOND ACT-BIT54-Critical Communication Logging System Replacement '21-'25**

Joint with B & A and Housing

Chair Pierce said that the committee on Public Works & Transportation has oversight of the IT Department, because it is some of our most important infrastructure in the modern world. This item was referred to the committees on Budget & Appropriations and Public Safety, but the committee on Public Works was inadvertently not included. Chair Pierce asked that the committee on Public Works & Transportation be allowed to consider and discharge this item to the Board floor. A memo requesting same will also be sent.

Mr. Harris said the requested funds will be used to replace the existing login and communication systems for the IT Department. The systems capture and maintain recordings for the departments of Emergency Services, Public Safety, Social Services and Transportation. The County is required to maintain some of these recordings for up to 21 years, and they need to upgrade the systems by replacing equipment and purchasing additional software.

On motion of Legislator Gashi, seconded by Committee Vice-Chair Woodson-Samuels, the above item was signed by committee and referred to Board of Legislators. The motion carried unanimously.

II. OTHER BUSINESS

III. RECEIVE & FILE

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Committee Vice-Chair Woodson-Samuels, seconded by Legislator Smith, the Committee adjourned at 11:54 a.m.