

# Meeting Minutes – April 27, 2022



In attendance: Deputy Inspector Lavonda Wise, NCO Officers, Traffic Officers, Community Affairs Officers, Long Island City residents, LIC Community Action, Inc., Hunters Point Park Conservancy President, District Attorney representative and candidates for Assembly Person and City Council

**Overview:** Organized meeting to review concerns of the community to include increased crimes in the area, traffic safety, 911/311 response time. Deputy Inspector Lavonda Wise took questions and offered statistics and solutions.

Several community members raised concerns about not feeling safe in the area due to increased crimes in the area. Communicated several instances where they have been approached for drug sales and/or saw signs of potential danger to children in the area. The specific locations of these instances were shared with the Inspector who stated she was unaware of some of these issues and questioned if 911 or 311 calls were being made. This is the only way that the police can respond and/or provide information as to the disposition of any of those calls. When several residents shared that when they called 911 there was no response that raised a very big concern to which she committed to getting data if dates and times of those calls could be shared. She communicated that 911 calls MUST be responded to and that it would be very unlikely that there was no response at all. However, since many community members related the same experience she asked for the data for her to be able to follow up and confirm what happened with those calls. She also stressed the importance of always communicating issues such as observance of drug related activity in the area, suspicious visitors to the park who are seemingly surveilling the children's playgrounds and surrounding area.

When residents commented they did not feel that there was an "open door" by our local precinct, she committed and provided her direct email so that if there are things that need to be reviewed or observations or anything that the community wants her to be aware of that they should email her directly and she will respond. [Lavonda.wise@nypd.org](mailto:Lavonda.wise@nypd.org)

**911/311:** This was stressed as the means that information can be tracked. Please use 911 for emergencies so that they can be responded to and 311 for quality of life issues that can be tracked for data purposes. LICCA is committed to work with the Pct to help organize this data so that it will be shared at the meetings.

**Traffic/Parking Concerns:** Many residents provided cross walks and areas of concern that have increased in traffic and speeding resulting in dangerous situations for pedestrians. She suggested that we continue to contact the DOT and review these matters as they are responsible for the street signs and speeding signs that need to be in place. LIC Community Action, Inc. (LICCA) stated they are in contact with the DOT and that folks can email [LICcommunityaction@gmail.com](mailto:LICcommunityaction@gmail.com) to provide details of areas of concern, provide pictures that will be shared with the contacts.

Abandoned vehicles and illegally parked cars were also communicated and the inspector committed to looking into this items that were shares. Most specifically an RV on 44<sup>th</sup> drive that has been there seemingly as a business for a very long time but it does not seem to have activity. The precinct committed to look into this and provide updates asap.

**Food Trucks:** Many residents complained about food trucks in the area that are not permitted properly or following the regulations. LICCA stated that they are working to have an inspection done and Inspector Wise suggested it be a joint task force with the 108 and the FDNY so that it is a joint effort to address the issue. LICCA is organizing this initiative and will provide updates.

**District Attorney's Office:** Questions were raised about what the police can actually do if our DA office is reluctant to change position or prosecute "petty crimes". Many residents felt that if we ignore these crimes that things can only escalate. The DA representative stated that the DA office prosecutes what they can under the current law. She suggested that at our next meeting we have the ADA present who can review what Bail Reform really means as we may have a misunderstanding and it would be good for it to be reviewed. They offered that we can contact the DA at: [info@queensda.org](mailto:info@queensda.org) or call 718-286-600. Melinda Katz is our Queens DA. **LICCA sent a follow up email to them on 4/28/22 to confirm the next meeting and the attendance of the DA.**

**Carolyn Maloney Office:** Carolyn Maloney is the US representative for the 12<sup>th</sup> district which includes the LIC area. A representative from her office was at the meeting and suggested that if we want to provide feedback on concerns that they are more than happy to hear and help where they can. Contact: 718-932-1804

The meeting was a very well attended meeting and many folks spoke and felt that our precinct was being genuine and receptive to the concerns. The commitment was that data will be shared at the next meeting and take away items will be reviewed from each meeting to the next.

**LICCA will be working with the precinct to get data that can be shared on this website as the source for the community to be able to review information and/or provide a "portal" where concerns/complaints can be housed and brought to the meetings on an ongoing basis. This effort is being done to organize and efficiently manage the concerns of the community and have an organized area to share the information.**