

September 3, 2013
Dear Mayor DeSimone,

Below see the summary of the NJT meeting on Wednesday, 7/24, 2013 at the Borough Hall in Leonia.

Leonia representatives: Mayor John DeSimone, Borough Administrator-Jack Terhune, and LTC Chair, Ingrid Brennan

NJT representatives: Charles Ingoglia-Director of Public Affairs, Linda Mosch- Senior Director, Budget & Administration, John Leon- Senior Director, Government & Community Relations, and two others (forgive me I did not receive their cards and have forgotten their names).

Meeting summary:

1. NJT is meeting with all towns and parties involved/affected by the Northern Branch Light Rail project (except Tenafly)
2. NJT is planning to submit this project to the Federal government this September 2013.
3. NJT asks if Leonia was supportive of Light Rail
 - a. We said yes
4. Commuter parking garage is major concern, they respectfully asked us **where** does Leonia want it. Parking must be included for their submission at this time. Parking criteria includes: 550 spaces, no further than 1000 feet from platform which is planned and sited on the south side of Fort Lee Road.
 - a. We discussed
 - a. The Kulite property site noted in the DEIS
 - i. Kulite has documented their concerns with NJT and that site is being reevaluated and will not be considered as currently identified on the DEIS.

- b. Overpeck Park - Henry Hobel
 - i. NJT believes the Leonia owned area is too small for the proposed garage size
- c. Overpeck Park – South Side
 - i. NJT will be speaking with BC regarding this site
- d. Station Parkway
 - i. Private-Public partnership discussed

In summary, Commuter parking garage site remains a main concern for this project and the Leonia Transportation Committee encourages the Mayor, all members of Council and the Economic Development Committee to focus and formulate a plan that enhances the best outcome for Leonia. The Northern Branch Light Rail is not coming tomorrow but it will be here before we know it and we should be ready and have sound planning in place for that day. Thank you for allowing me to attend the meeting and report on this important issue on behalf of the Leonia Transportation Committee, our Mayor and the Borough of Leonia.

Ingrid Brennan
Leonیا Transportation Committee-Chair

Congressman Bill Pascrell's 2013 Transportation Advisory Meeting.

August 29, 2013, 10am-12pm, Bergen County Technical School, Teterboro, NJ

Leonia Attendance: Ingrid Brennan, Chair LTC, Roland Weimer, LTC member, Gil Hawkins, Leonia Councilman.

Speakers: Bill Pascrell-9th District Congressman, John Leon-NJT, Martin Hofler-NJ Transportation Planning Authority, Ralph Tertetti-Port Authority.

This meeting had members from various municipalities present. The various federal and state funding sources for transportation and their current status were reviewed and methods to revitalize funding of these trusts were discussed. With that said, there are current local projects underway (see NJPA notes) that will be of interest to Leonia residents as well as the current status of the Northern Branch Light Rail information. I have provide a brief summary of each speaker (see below.)

Roland Weimer and myself spoke directly with Donna Orback, (Division Director, Regional Planning & Transportation Bergen County) regarding the counties current efforts bring forth a "Complete Streets" policy in the near future. We also discussed the need for the Borough of Leonia to come forth with a comprehensive plan of Light Rail parking.

Brief Summary Notes from speakers:

Congressman Pascrell:

1. Most Transportation Costs come from local government
2. Federal and NJ highway trust fund is depleted/empty
3. MAP21, \$104 Billion federal trust money for road surface, transportation projects ends 2014.
4. Congressman requesting methods for funding current & future transportation needs
 - a. Raise the gas tax -unchanged since 1993
 - b. Provide a sales tax related to inflation
 - c. Charge drivers for the miles driven
 - i. Particularly difficult as privacy becomes an issue

NJ Transportation Planning Authority - Martin Hofler:

1. Provided a 2014 Transportation Improvement Program and Study & Development Projects including those in close proximity to Leonia.
 - a. Route 4, Bridge over Palisade Avenue - Teaneck (see attached page 3)
 - b. Route 4, Grand Avenue Bridge, Englewood (see attached, page 4)
 - c. Route 4, Hackensack River Bridge, Hackensack, Teaneck (see attached page 4)

- d. Route 4, Jones Road Bridge, Englewood, (see attached page 4)
- e. Route 4, Pedestrian Mobility Improvements, Teaneck (see attached page 5)
- f. Route 4, Teaneck Road Bridge, Teaneck, (see attached page 5)

New Jersey Transit-John Leon:

- 1. Northern Branch Light Rail Project is currently being restructured to end at Englewood Hospital. Price is currently \$1 Billion dollars.
- 2. Current Project is the Passaic and Bergen Rail extension (Paterson to Hackensack)
- 3. Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) working with Bergen County to expedite travel times.
- 4. NJT is interested in Public-Private Partnerships (such as parking facilities) to facilitate and share the cost and enhance future projects coming to completion.

New York Port Authority-Ralph

- 1. Spoke regarding the bridges, tunnels and various airports owned by the NY Port Authority as well as the funding of the new towers being built in lower Manhattan.