



THE CITY OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN

SUMMARY REPORT OF THE MANHATTAN BOROUGH BOARD

January 19, 2017

In Attendance:

Presiding: Hon. Gale Brewer, Manhattan Borough President; Matthew Washington, Deputy Borough President for Budget and Policy; Aldrin Bonilla, Deputy Borough President for Community Affairs; Jessica Mates, Chief of Staff; Lucille Songhai, Director of Community Affairs; Shula Warren, Director, Policy and Special Projects; Vladimir Martinez, Director of Budget & Capital Projects; Rosalba Rodriguez, Interim Director of Constituent Services; Lucian Reynolds, Urban Planner; Yissely Ortiz, Community Liaison; Andrew Lombardi, Community Liaison; Diana Howard, Community Liaison

Council Members: Hon. Margaret Chin; Hon. Rosie Mendez; Hon. Daniel Garodnick; Hon. Ben Kallos; Hon. Helen Rosenthal; Hon. Mark Levin; Hon. Ydanis Rodriguez; Stephanie Arroyo (representing Hon. Spkr. Melissa Mark-Viverito); Paul Leonard (Representing Hon. Margaret Chin); Erik Bottcher (representing Hon. Corey Johnson); Stefano Trevisan (representing Hon. Daniel Garodnick)

Community Boards: Anthony Notaro, Jr. (CB 1); Terri Cude (CB 2); Jamie Rogers (CB 3); Delores Rubin (CB 4); Vikki Barbero (CB 5); Rick Eggers (CB 6); Roberta Semer (CB 7); Jim Clynes (CB 8); Padmore John (CB 9); Brian Benjamin (CB 10); Debbie Quinonez (Representing CB 11); Shahabuddeen Ally (CB 12)

Members of the Public: Lindsay Goldman, LMSW, The New York Academy of Medicine; Ahsia Badi, The New York Academy of Medicine; Judy Rosch, The Actors Fund; Debra Gillard (CB 10); Rob Walker (CB 4); Marie Winfield (CB 11);

Minutes: Lesly Almanzar, Community Liaison

Agenda for January 19, 2017 Borough Board – Adopted
Minutes for December 15, 2016 Borough Board – Adopted

Presentation: Age-friendly NYC

Presenters: Lindsay Goldman, LMSW, Director, Healthy Aging Center for Health Policy and Programs, The New York Academy of Medicine (NYAM) ; Ahsia Badi, OTR/L, MPH, Policy Associate, Healthy Aging Center for Health Policy and Programs The New York Academy of Medicine (NYAM)



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Age-friendly NYC is a partnership between the Mayor's Office, the New York City Council, and the New York Academy of Medicine that works to maximize the social, physical and economic participation of older people to improve their health and wellbeing and strengthen communities. Beginning in 2007, Mayor Michael Bloomberg, City Council Speaker Christine Quinn, and The New York Academy of Medicine launched Age-friendly New York City with its first undertaking being a comprehensive assessment of the city's age-friendliness across the WHO's 8 Domains of an Age-friendly City. The assessment included guided conversations with more than 1,500 older adults across the city in six languages, roundtable discussions with hundreds of professionals, a literature review, and extensive mapping. In the fall of 2008, the Academy released the findings of the assessment process in *Toward an Age-friendly City: A Findings Report*. In response to the findings of the community assessment, the Office of the Mayor and the New York City Council asked all city agencies to consider how they could improve the way they integrate and serve older adults through their work. Out of this review, in 2009, the City announced 59 initiatives to improve the quality of life of older adults, which are outlined in *Age-friendly NYC: Enhancing Our City's Livability for Older New Yorkers*.

In 2010, the first Commission for an Age-friendly NYC was appointed by Mayor Bloomberg. The Commission is composed of civic leaders from across sectors and disciplines working to develop the overall strategy for Age-friendly NYC and to engage private organizations in changing the culture of New York City to become more inclusive of older people. The Age-friendly NYC Commission has helped New York City become a global leader in the age-friendly cities movement through an array of innovative projects, many of which have been replicated or adapted in other parts of the world. Products include the Cultural Arts Guide for Seniors, Age-friendly College Link, a database of educational opportunities for older people, and age-friendly tools for neighborhoods, small businesses, architects, building owners, librarians, and urban planners. 8 domains of an age-friendly city include:

1. Outdoor spaces and buildings
2. Transportation
3. Housing
4. Social participation
5. Respect and social inclusion
6. Civic participation and employment
7. Communication and information
8. Community support and health services

In the Summer of 2009 the City implemented 59 Initiatives which will identify the best innovative policies & programs as well as tap into nonprofit and private



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sector networks to catalyze change across public funding silos and monitor City and private sector progress. Initiatives include:

- Community & Civic Participation
 - Encourage older adult activities in the parks, libraries and recreation centers.
 - The Professions Working Group encourages private sector organizations to address the needs and preferences of older patients, clients and customers with a current focus on primary care, pharmacy, and banking.
- Housing: Age Friendly Neighborhood (Action Plan)
 - The Housing Working Group works to advance strategies that facilitate older people's access to safe and affordable housing as well as focusing on improving housing safety, security, services, and supports.
 - Age Friendly guides/Manuals for building owners
- Public Spaces & Transportation: Safety Streets for Seniors
 - City Benches
 - Bus Shelters
 - The Public Safety Working Group works to advance solutions to enhance the safety of older people within and outside of the home under routine conditions and during catastrophic events.
- Health & Social Services
- The Media, Arts, and Culture Working Group works to advance strategies to increase access to arts and cultural programming among older people and to promote a strengths-based narrative of aging through media, arts and culture.

The Age-Friendly Neighborhoods Initiative (formerly known as Aging Improvement Districts) builds upon the rich experiences of older adults to transform NYC neighborhoods into welcoming and inclusive places for people of all ages. Funded in part by the New York City Council, the Age-friendly Neighborhood Initiative engages older adults and local stakeholders, including local businesses, non-profit organizations, cultural, educational and religious institutions, and city officials, to make low and no-cost improvements to maximize the social and economic participation of older New Yorkers.



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Quinones (Representing CB 11): There are funding related issues, how as CB Chairs can we assist in ensuring that there is an increase in funding for this initiative? CB 11 requests more dialogue, discussion in collaboration relating to these services moving forward. How can we work with tech companies who work with seniors to better serve seniors in the community?

Goldman (NYAM): There is currently a lack of funding, clarity on needed support for this age group. NYAM will continue to work to support funding efforts for projects that service this community. NYAM will ensure that said projects are senior friendly and that there is inclusionary participation from all communities. NYAM will continue to help low income seniors in connecting them with senior friendly jobs and services.

Office of Borough President Report

Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer: Budget deadlines are approaching. The office will host a Borough Board Budget Hearing on February 15, 2017 to discuss the Mayor's budget at Guttman Community College, 50 W 40th St, New York, NY 10018. On February 23 Borough Board meeting will hold a vote on the proposed budget. The March 16, 2017 Borough Board meeting will hold a vote on East Midtown Rezoning. At the budget hearing CB's will have information necessary for CB input, participation and statement of district needs. The State of the Borough will take place on February 12, 2017 at 2:00pm location TBD, all are invited.

Songhai (MBPO): CB application are available and due on February 3, 2017. The office encourages all to sign up for the Women's March weekend. Budget applications are due February 14, 2017, for further budgeting questions reach out to the budgeting team. The office will host a Teen recruitment event on January 27, 2017 at MBPO. Panel discussion with applicants will begin at the end of February-March.

Eggers (CB 6): Chairs need to be present in order to vote, a Vice Chair or other representative cannot vote on Chair's behalf.

Councilmember's Reports

Hon. Rodriguez: Proposed new legislation that enforces stiffer penalties for hit and run offenders. San Francisco has legislation that allows for monetary rewards to those who report hit and runs. San Francisco sends out hit and run alerts (like



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amber alerts) immediately after a hit and run incident has been reported. The office hopes to introduce legislation modeled after San Francisco in order to help reduce hit and run accidents.

Car-Free Day on Earth Day is scheduled for April 22, 2017. The goal is to encourage New Yorkers to decrease the amount of cars on the road to 1 million by the year 2030. The office is supporting the installation of Citibike stations in Northern Manhattan as well as leading in an effort to expand Citibike to all five boroughs. Citibike installations are needed in areas where public buses and subway systems are few and far apart. The office is looking at areas near parks and senior centers where Citibike's can be installed. Bikes are important to motivate and help children in order to eliminate asthmas and obesity. The office is also working on how Citibike installations can be funded through City dollars and hopes to bring 70,000 bikes to needed areas. The office is currently working with the support of the Manhattan and the Brooklyn Borough Presidents as well as other institutions that are also coordinating other events on Earth day and will support these efforts.

John (CB 9): How affordable can Citibike be?

Hon. Rodriguez: The office is working on presenting a proposal of possible discounted rates for those who are below the poverty line. New York City Housing (NYCHA) residents currently receive discounts for the bikes. 3 out of 8.5 million New Yorkers are immigrants. Immigrants view cars as a symbol of success, however, we need to convince those that riding a bike is also a symbol of progress that promotes safety and the environment.

Benjamin (CB 10): Would new Citibike installations take away parking? What is the policy on this? How is Citibike indirectly affecting gentrification?

Hon. Rodriguez: My office created a "White Paper" in response to the changes and the future of Washington Heights Inwood. The community welcomes new people, however, not at the expense of pushing out the existing residents in the neighborhood. The office is working to build relationships with the existing residents and the new comers and invites all people to conversation on how to improve the community, create conditions for all to amicably live together and to close the gap.



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Ally (CB 12): At last year's Car Free Day people were able to brainstorm and think of ongoing mass transportation issues, cut reliance on vehicles. The Community Board received useful feedback and it helped get better services from the MTA. Washington Heights and Inwood does not currently have any Citibike docks. Citibikes are welcomed and absolutely necessary for lower income families to utilize them.

Hon. Chin: This is the Year of the Senior. Data shows that the City budget allocates less than .5% to senior services. The City needs to double this inequity.

Washington (DBP): The budget hearing will address these budget priorities.

Hon. Levin: More funding needs to be allocated for legal service providers in order to prevent tenant evictions. More funding needs to be allocated for PEP officers to patrol city parks and ensure safety concerns are addressed in the Northern Manhattan park areas. The City Council allotted more money for capital projects for new green spaces for locations that are currently being up zoned.

Hon. Rosenthal: City agencies such as Human Resources Administration (HRA) and other Social Service agencies are often underfunded and not provided adequate resources to provide services. 30% of the social service agencies are under distressed for lack of funding, priority, and appropriate monies need to be better allocated to these agencies.

Hon. Garodnick: The City is spending too much, last year the City increased its budget by 2 billion dollars, this is a great concern as we do not know what will happen in terms of future budget cuts from the federal government.

Rubin (CB 4): Any suggestions on how the CB's can change or tailor the ask to target efficiently the current lack of services?

Hon. Garodnick: Mayor should request that head's and Commissioners of City agencies revamp funding and cut back on certain programs not necessary in order to reallocate funding to more necessary programing.

Hon. Rosenthal: City needs community input to determine what and how City funding is used for. Communities need to address their concerns on how the City can better spend or revamp programs/funding to ensure efficiency.



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Hon. Kallos: An increase in funding for schools is needed, East Harlem will be up zoned allowing an increase in population in the area. The number of children will increase as should the number of schools being built. City Planning Commission (CPC) indicated that they are ok with height of buildings and the CB's are welcome to have discussions and convene a multi board conversation about getting a borough-wide contextual zone proposed for super tall towers.

Hon. Mendez: TIL (Tenant Interim Lease) buildings need additional funding support from HPD to renovate buildings and keep affordability. There are currently multiple variances and updates within the district. CB 3 BSA variance for the old post office is underway.

New building going up across from CB 6 that will be between 9-13 stories. Office will be holding a community forum on demolition of the Beth Israel building on 13th Street and what is expected to occupy that lot. Tompkins Park Playground will undergo expected renovations of the fence that will rise from 7ft tall to 4ft tall? (do you mean the other way around?)- community is not happy
Community needs to take a stand against the Department of Buildings (DOB) for allowing developers to build a dormitory building at former Charas building.
CB 5 requests rezoning part of a block from manufacturing to a residential zone-Not opposed to this because it's already residential
CB 5 and CB 6 Washington Irving High school is having major renovations
School Construction Authority (SCA) will host a community forum to discuss future construction work and I encourage neighbors to attend.
Old Cabrini hospital site has gotten a lot of variances for construction work and are asking for more after hours construction permits-Community not opposed but want later after hours construction to be done on weekends only.
L train shutdown and concerns- 14 street congestion and pedestrian and traffic issues will be plenty.

Community Board Reports

Community Board 1: CB 1 is working with the Department of Design and Construction (DDC) lack of communication concerning repair and construction at CB 1 area. CB 1 is working to get DDC to collaborate more effectively on concerns regarding Warren Street.

Community Board 2: CB 2 is working on bus services and L train shut down issues. CB 2 is working with park preservationists to request additional Pocket Parks. CB 2 has reported a loss of grocery stores and small businesses and want to work with



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other Boards who are having similar issues. Health care concerns have been increasing due to the hospital within the district not admitting new patients and currently the district only having one emergency room available. CB 2 has concerns that new buildings are being developed, however, there is currently no change school development.

Community Board 4: CB 4 is working on HDFC's issues with the HPD regulatory agreement proposal. CB 4 will conduct outreach to the HDFC's in the district to collaborate and determine resident's input. CB 4 is working with Small Business Solution (SBS) to provide open house services to small businesses and engage with more restaurants and bars in the area to improve communication and collaboration. The Port Authority bus terminal conversation is still ongoing. CB 4 is planning to coordinate an event to engage senior residents civically.

Community Board 5: CB is working closely with CB 6 on coordinating a joint Land Use committee meeting concerning the East Midtown rezoning plan. The CB 5 Madison Square Garden town hall meeting will take place on January 19, 2017 and it will be live streamed.

Community Board 6: CB is focusing all its efforts on the East Midtown rezoning ULURP. CB 6 is working with 5 joint overlapping and meetings with other CB's. CB 6 is also taking a leadership role while collaborating with steering committees to provide a unified front. City Planning Commission (CPC) and Economic Development Corporation (EDC) have requested to present at CB 6, however, the board cannot host them at the moment and will reschedule. CB 6 will be moving for the second time this year, the office will relocate temporarily to the former NYPD Academy located at 20th Street. CB 6 is looking for a permanent location that will include a community center approach, where the board can host community meetings, the office will continue to work on this concept. CB application submission is too complicated, the board has received several complaints about this year's submission process. CB 6 echo's in the lack of available school seats issues, it is a concern the office first addressed eight years ago during changes with Cabrini Hospital.

Community Board 7: CB 7 has major concerns regarding the 421-A buildings allocating half of the affordable units to individuals who are homeless in areas with little to no accessible supermarkets and other vital resources. CB 7 is working with concerns about "super tall towers" going up-90-100 stories tall. These towers will potentially negatively affect the parks by casting shadows overhead. CB 7 will host a



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community meeting regarding this issue. CB 7 is looking into how affordable housing is financed, maintained and sustained in the community.

Community Board 8: CB 8 is very excited about the grand opening of the Second Ave line. CB 8 is working on the Queensboro Oval Park proposals. CB 8 has adopted and established a veterans committee and waterfront committee at last full board.

Community Board 9: CB 9 established some goals for 2017 including: Adapting discretionary funding for committees to host certain events Pairing up committees on overlapping issues and hosting joint events CB 9 shares concerns regarding limited space to house schools and are looking for space for schools associated with Columbia University. The office is also working to assist small businesses facing rental increases and lease renewals. CB 9 will begin discussion about Citibike installation in the district.

Community Board 10: CB 10 is currently reviewing HPD's HDFC regulatory agreement and working on all concerns and views. CB 10 will address this issue through its Housing Committee and sub-group on HDFC's. CB 10 created a senior task force to combat issues concerning lack of senior inclusion in community input. CB 10 is working with a young person who worked on hosting 150 young people to watch Hidden Figures movie for free. Also working with community to discuss parents' choice of sending their children to public, private or charter schools,

Community Board 11: CB 11 has recently submitted scoping documents on the East Harlem rezoning. The major avenue corridor project needs more inclusion, community input and to expand study boundaries. CB 11 also needs a formula for increasing school seats. Second Avenue subway 84th Street Muck House will move to 125th Street. CB 11 will host a Know your Rights forum in East Harlem on January 19, 2017. The James Weldon Johnson Center located on 115th Street has been newly renovated.

Community Board 12: George Washington Bridge Bus Terminal is expected to open in April 2017. There will be a community forum on February 9, 2017 to discuss the updates/delays/tenants of the terminal. Inwood Hill Library will host various workshops on January regarding the proposed housing project at the site. CB 12 has a standing Senior committee that has worked tirelessly to save supermarkets and works in collaboration with the owners to make them senior friendly supermarkets.

Borough Board adjourned.