

***THE CITY OF NEW YORK***  
***COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR***  
**DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT NOVEMBER 2008**  
**Submitted by: José Rodriguez, District Manager**

This is the time of the year that we give thanks for all that we have and the time to be thankful for our family and friends. This is the time when our thoughts focus on those individuals fighting our wars, those experiencing natural disasters, famine and other adversities.

May we be thankful for the tender mercies bestowed upon, us for things could be worst. The difficulties and obstacles serve as lessons that strengthen us allowing for an increased wisdom to overcome the next.

I want to thank my staff, my Board and Community Members for all that they do for me and for Community District Four.

**Below is an account of meetings/announcements which were attended, or held, this past month:**

**30 October, 2008**

The Montifore Medical Group: Pediatricians from their Community Health Center at 305 East 161st Street toured areas in District Four with high concentration of Gang Graffiti. In an effort to better understand their patient based better the facility adopted several educational projects for their staff. Since they noticed that a significant portion of their patients were affiliated with gangs they believed that viewing some of the Graffiti posted would enable them to better treat their patients physically and mentally.

**31 October, 2008**

As a result of direct notification I tour the District to further identify graffiti vandalism. I have documented the areas and have begun coordination with the appropriate agencies to assist with removal. I will continue coordination of this action.

**6 November, 2008**

We received notice that through their hard work and perseverance, the neighborhood of Highbridge celebrated the inclusion of the Highbridge Middle School in the 2010-2014 Capital Plan. This could not have been possible without the community organizations and especially the parents of Highbridge. This was truly a collaborative effort to meet the needs of the Highbridge Neighborhood.

**21 November, 2008**

Ms Ezell, Board Chair and I attended the monthly Macombs Dam Park/Yankee Stadium Park Redevelopment Program Briefing. The briefing was held at the Bronx Museum of the Arts, located at 1040 Grand Concourse. The following items were discussed:

- The completion of the Waterfront Park scheduled for Winter of 09.
- Tennis Courts RFP
- River Avenue Pocket Parks

In addition, the Parks Department's Forestry and Horticulture gave an overview of the Yankee Street Tree Plantings.

- 3808 trees are expected to be planted.
- Fall of 2008 approximately 700 trees planted.
- Fall of 2006-Spring 2008 3,080 trees planted.

**24 November, 2008**

Meeting tour with La Gran Parada Dominicana. Our office along with the Office of Borough President conducted a site visit of the 165<sup>th</sup> -161<sup>st</sup> Street (along the Grand Concourse) area to try and resolve concerns with having the Parade go down the Grand Concourse. Bronx Borough Command expressed some logistical concerns with having the Parade continue its normal route down to 161<sup>st</sup> Street and expressed their concerns to all in

attendance. In turn however, they understood our position to grant the Parade's request.

At present, as indicated by Borough Command a final decision will come shortly.