



The City of New York

# Manhattan Community Board 1

Catherine McVay Hughes CHAIRPERSON | Noah Pfefferblit DISTRICT MANAGER

## Chairperson's Report for MAY 2014

Catherine McVay Hughes

It has been another extremely busy month for Community Board 1. Together we continue to make our neighborhood better and stronger than ever. I would like to report on the important issues and milestones that we have worked through with fellow board members, the CB1 staff, elected officials and government agencies. Thank you everyone.

### Updates

- [NYC Economic Development Corporation and the Mayor's Office of Recovery and Resiliency release Southern Manhattan Coastal Protection Study: Evaluating the Feasibility of a Multi-Purpose Levee](#) – requested presentation at CB1 June Planning meeting (05/22/14)
- Lower Manhattan NY Rising Final Community Reconstruction Program Meeting – proposed and featured projects and implementation; much still needs to be done at the federal, state and city levels to protect downtown from extreme climate change (Pier 15, 05/28/14)
- New York State Citizen Preparedness Corps – co-sponsored with other elected officials; NYS is offering courses for residents to have the tools and resources to prepare for any type of disaster, respond accordingly and recover as quickly as possible to pre-disaster conditions; Training led by New York National Guard, working with experts from Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services Office of Emergency Management and Office of Fire Prevention and Control; thank Governor Cuomo and South Bridge Towers (05/19/14)
- Fulton Center – scaffolding and fences came down along Broadway and people can now walk on sidewalk, including on Fulton Street (05/16/14)
- 9/11 Memorial Museum Opening Ceremony – attended with family members, responders, volunteers, President Obama, elected officials and others (05/15/14)
- 9/11 Memorial Museum and Plaza construction fences came down along Liberty and Greenwich Streets and Route 9A (05/15/14)
- New York State Liquor Authority Forum – first ever CB1 liquor license forum; Co-sponsored with CB2 and CB3 with SLA Chairman Rosen and top staff (05/05/14)
- First Precinct “Cop of the Month” Award and Appreciation Ceremony (04/30/14)
- Historic Districts Council is awarding the Multi-Board Taskforce on Midtown East Rezoning (which includes CB5, CB6, CB4 and CB1) with a 2014 Historic Districts Council Grassroots Award. Infrastructure concerns such as subway overcrowding (e.g. 4/5 120% of capacity) need to be addressed.
- Collect Pond Park Opened (05/21/14)

### Meetings, Events and Testimonies

- Walking meeting with representative from multiple agencies (including Mayor's Office, NYC DOT, 9/11 Memorial and Museum, Community Assistance Unit, NYPD, WTC Command, PANYNJ, 9/11 Tribute Center, Downtown Alliance) and elected official representatives to address impact of changed pedestrian and vehicular flow due to fence removal around WTC Memorial. Improvements include: groups to be encouraged to avoid Liberty Street, rearrangement of barriers, adding additional NYPD officers, reducing

vehicular traffic on Liberty Street through a “soft close” (05/21/14); further steps need to be taken including better signage, moving vendors and trash from choke points, eliminating car parking to widen sidewalk temporarily, and completing sidewalks around 4 WTC including Liberty/Church/Dey Streets

- NYC Department of Transportation Community Construction transition from Lower Manhattan Construction Command Center Meeting organized by Senator Squadron – with Department of Buildings, Department of Transportation and 311/DOITT and elected official representatives (05/02/14); requires better coordination with NYC DOB, DEP (dust and noise) and 311; new [Lower Manhattan Construction website](#) live (05/23/14)
- Hudson River Park Air Rights Transfer Meetings – Borough President Brewer, Congressman Nadler, Senator Squadron, Assemblymember Glick, HRPT and others; Pier 40 ballfields are critical resource and recent report highlighted bad condition of pier; the land use mechanism that CB1 favors is to create a Special Purpose Zoning District for the length of the park in which every air-rights sale must be approved by a special permit which is subject to ULURP. Every one of the three CBs in the park district should be required to make a recommendation during the community board review period (05/16/14, 05/23/14)
- NYC Committee on Rules, Privileges and Elections on Confirmation of new Landmarks Commission Chair Meenakshi Srinivasan – Thank Bruce Ehrman for testifying (05/23/14)
- NYC Council Committee Hearing on Waterfronts oversight hearing on Governors Island – testified (05/21/14)
- AIGA/NY Design/Relief Making Place for NYCXDESIGN; Catch and Release (Industry City, Brooklyn, Saturday, 05/17/14)
- Pier 84 –New York Water Taxi service begins, three round trips daily on Manhattan’s west side from CB4 to CB1; helps alleviate vehicular congestion (05/16/14)
- *Lettie G. Howard* schooner Announcement – with Port Authority of New York and New Jersey Executive Director Foye, Council Member Chin, Jonathan Boulware and others; announced a new partnership among PANYNJ, South Street Seaport Museum, New York Harbor Foundation to bring maritime training to NY and NJ students (Pier 25, 05/13/14)
- Rescue Mission Ribbon Cutting – with Council Member Chin and NYS Comptroller DiNapoli; expansion to accommodate both women and men; served at their twelfth annual Mother’s Day Banquet (Saturday, May 11, 2014)
- Assembly Speaker Silver School Overcrowding Task Force – with Department of Education Chancellor Fariña, Assembly Member Glick, Senator Squadron, parents and principles; update on kindergarten wait list and upcoming capital plan (04/24/14)
- Pier 15 at South Street Seaport to Celebrate Relaunch and Christening – with Borough President Brewer, Council Member Chin, NYC Economic Development Corporation, Hornblower Cruises, NYC & Company and NY Harbor Foundation – an area hard-hit by Sandy; includes berthing of historic ships, maritime education, floating Eco-Barge (05/05/14)
- Announcement of formation of committee to establish a monument to 9/11 responders and survivors sickened and dying from their exposure to 9/11 toxins – led by Manhattan Borough President Brewer along with sponsors of James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act including Congressman Nadler, Speaker Silver, Council Member Chin (05/02/14)
- Seaport Working Group – continued to work on guidelines to revitalize area, Meeting #11 (05/08/14), Meeting #10 (05/01/14)
- Open House for Seaport Working Group Guidelines – at Southbridge Towers Community Room at 6:00pm on Monday June 2, 2014. All invited and encouraged to attend.