



The City of New York

# **Manhattan Community Board 1**

Catherine McVay Hughes CHAIRPERSON | Noah Pfefferblit DISTRICT MANAGER

## **Chairperson's Report for February 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.

### Updates

- Ask for nominations of CB1 members to serve on the five member Nominating Committee; at our upcoming monthly March meeting there will be elections for the five members of the Nominating Committee in accordance with CB1 bylaws; please note that if you are selected as a member of the nominating committee you cannot run for office.
- Seaport Working Group – continued on-going discussions with the offices of elected officials Borough President Brewer, NYC Council Member Chin, Assembly Speaker Silver, Senator Squadron and Congressman Nadler to establish a community-based collaborative process of developing guidelines for revitalizing the historic South Street Seaport.
- Port Authority of New York and New Jersey opened the first platform of the Calatrava-designed WTC PATH station. The fully modernized Platform A features new lighting, speakers, illuminated signs, escalators and elevators. The completed WTC PATH Station will be the center of the new WTC Transportation Hub that will include several similar platforms. The Transportation Hub will continue to open in phases through 2015, providing downtown with more modern transit and retail spaces in the near future. (02/25/14)
- WTC Performing Arts Center – announced its artistic leadership and released a preliminary sketch; additional funding required and hoped-for opening in four to five years (02/13/14)
- [WTC Health Program](#) – revised the definition of childhood cancer to any cancer diagnosed in a person less than 20 years of age; four new cancers will now be covered: malignant neoplasms of the brain, cervix uteri (invasive cervical cancer), pancreas, and testis (02/18/14)
- As of February 1, all Manhattan Probation Clients Reporting to the 346 Broadway Kiosk Machines go to 66 John Street, 4th floor; Justice Huff denied request for preliminary relief; waiting for final decision on merits of the Petitions' SEQRA, ULURP and "fair share" claims
- Continued to work on the future of Lower Manhattan Construction Command Center, which includes working with NYC DOT Lower Manhattan Commissioner Sanchez on construction and bus mitigation
- Installation of stop sign at PS 276 finally after extensive work with NYC DOT (02/14)

- Preliminary locations for intersections in need of pedestrian safety and traffic calming measures submitted to the Borough President; CB1's Planning Department will be working with Pace University on surveying pedestrian safety issues (01/29/14)
- BPCA's new President Shari C. Hyman – we have spoken and we look forward to working together (02/20/14)
- Downtown Alliance's new President is Jessica Lappin – we have spoken and we look forward to working together and she spoke at CB1's Executive Committee meeting
- NYC's new Commissioner of Community Affairs Unit Marco Carrion – we have spoken and we look forward to working together and he spoke at CB1's Executive Committee meeting
- NYC's new Planning Commissioner is Carl Weisbrod – we have spoken and we look forward to working together on many issues from the South Street Seaport to resiliency
- CB1's Community Planning Fellows and Pace students are working on following reports:
  - February – Subway Survey conducted and Brooklyn Bridge Re-envisioned
  - March – Senior Survey and Bike Lanes and Citibike Report
  - April – Initiate Guide to Green Buildings in CB1
  - May – Housing (Affordable Housing/Stabilization Guide updates & Unit Owners Guide) and Open Space and Parks – updating report
  - June – Pedestrian Safety Study and Security Zone Study (Pace University students)

#### Meetings and Events

- Manhattan Borough Board Meeting; new applicant borough profile (02/20/14)
- World Trade Center Health Program: Scientific/Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) all day Teleconference Meeting; <http://www.cdc.gov/wtc/stac.html> (02/14/14)
- Realizing Vision Zero for Manhattan – co-sponsored by Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer and Transportation Alternative; traffic safety briefing (02/11/14)
- Mayor Bill de Blasio's 2014 State of the City Address (LaGuardia Community College, Long Island City, 02/10/14)
- World Trade Center Health Program Survivors Steering Committee Meeting – attended with Mariama James; included update from Victim Compensation Fund Special Master Sheila Birnbaum; <http://www.vcf.gov/> (02/06/14)
- Lower Manhattan Construction Command Center (LMCCC) Community Meeting (02/06/14)
- NewYork-Presbyterian Lower Manhattan Hospital “The Year of the Horse Celebration” (02/05/14)
- Stuyvesant Community Center Meeting – with Paul Goldstein, Andrew Zeltzer, Anthony Notaro, other stakeholders and elected official representatives to figure out a new non-profit operating model; currently managed by Battery Park City Parks Conservancy (01/31/14)
- Pier A site visit – with George Calderaro and Anthony Notaro; trying to arrange tour for full CB1 (01/31/14)

#### Announcements

- NY Rising Lower Manhattan Public Meeting #3, Help prioritize the projects at an Open House on Saturday, March 1 at 3:00-5:00pm, Southbridge Towers, Community Room, 90 Beekman Street; for more information on the program: <http://www.stormrecovery.ny.gov/nycrcr/community/lower-manhattan>