



The City of New York

Manhattan Community Board 1

Catherine McVay Hughes CHAIRPERSON | Noah Pfefferblit DISTRICT MANAGER

Chairperson's Report for July 2015

Catherine McVay Hughes

With your ongoing support, Community Board 1 has had another wonderful month. Together we continue to make our neighborhood better and stronger. Here are some of 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

- **South Street Seaport** – Special Landmarks Committee Meeting held on Thursday, June 25, 2015 with Seaport/Civic Center and Planning Committee members to reconsider prior Pier 17 resolution adopted February 5, 2015; Public hearing on Certificate of Appropriateness for “a modern pier and retail structure approved by the Landmarks Preservation Commission in 2014 on the application to demolish the Link building, modify the façade and construct a rooftop pergola structure;” has been postponed from July 21 to August 4 which allows resolution to go to full board.
- **22 affordable units at 456 Washington Street** – Related is very close to beginning to market 5 studios, 6 one-bedroom apartments, and 11 two-bedroom apartments all designed to be affordable to households at 60% of the Area Median Income. 50% of the total number of units will have a preference for residents of Manhattan CB1. An additional 5% of units will have a preference for municipal employees, 5% will be set aside for applicants with mobility impairments, and 2% will be set aside for applicants with visual or hearing impairments. The affordable program will be advertised as Bridge Land West LLC. The official 60-day marketing period is slated to begin at the beginning of August. Applicants will be able to apply online at www.nyc.gov/housingconnect.
- **Sandy Recovery and Resiliency** – requested that City keep us in the loop on their timetable for the Request For Proposal for the City's engineering study and implementation of the Big U portion that includes CB1 and their plans for the second phase of the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development's **National Disaster Resilience Competition** (NDRC, October 26 deadline); requested that City return for September CB1 Planning Committee; considering to establish a CB1/CB3 taskforce like the CB3/CB6 which meets quarterly with City for briefings that would be supplemental to CB1 updates. Dan Zarilli just announced convening a meeting this Thursday that both Seaport/Civic Center Committee Chair Marco Pasanella, Planning Committee Chair Michael Connolly and CB1 Planning Department will attend.
- **World Trade Center** – increased pedestrian flow through the WTC site with:
 - **Greenwich Street from Vesey Street to Cortland Way opened** (06/25/15)
 - **National 9/11 Memorial Plaza northwestern corner opened** (06/25/15)
 - **WTC 4 north side of Liberty St is now completely open** with the street construction completed (06/26/15)
- **Collect Pond** – water finally returns to reflecting pool after a series of mechanical failures; thank you NYC Parks (07/27/16)

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- **Chinatown Working Group (CWG)** – Our mission has been accomplished with the creation of a comprehensive community-based plan for Chinatown and surrounding areas, through the recommendations presented by the Pratt Center for Community Development and The Collective for Community, Culture and the Environment, released in January 2014. With the CWG membership having voted on the recommendations, the plan now moves forward onto the next official steps of the review process through CB3 and the NYC Department of City Planning, so that these recommendations can be implemented. CB1 is pleased to have been part of this multi-board and multi-community group effort since its formation in Fall 2008. CB1's involvement will end on August 1, 2015 and we look forward to working together with our colleagues at CB3 and CB2 in supporting Chinatown and its surrounding areas. Thank you Michael Levine and Vera Sung.

Press Conference

- **Borough President Brewer released [Curb Cut Accessibility and ADA Compliance Report](#)** (07/28/15)
- **Tour Helicopter** – bill introduced in City Council that would address tourist helicopters; no hearing date scheduled; attended with Ro Sheffe, NYC Council Member Chin and others; <http://helenrosenthal.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/2015.07.23-Helicopters-Intro-Release-2.pdf> (City Hall steps, 07/23/15)
- **City of Water Day** – joined Waterfront Alliance, Manhattan Borough President Brewer, Battery Park City Authority, Brookfield Properties and others to announce 8th FREE City of Water Day and promote waterfront recreation; cardboard racing (North Cove Marina, 07/16/15)
- **Plaque dedication of African Slave Market on Wall Street by NYC Mayor de Blasio** – including Borough President Brewer, Councilmember Chin (06/27/15)

Events

- **“Know Your Rights” Forum: Co-op/Condo/Live-Work Quarters Conversions** – sponsored by Attorney General Schneiderman, State Senator Daniel Squadron, Borough President Gale A. Brewer, Manhattan Community Board 1 and others; attended with Tom Goodkind and Bob Schneck (07/22/15)
- **NYPD Transit District 2 Community Outreach** (Fulton Center, 07/15/15)
- **City of Water Day ribbon cutting** – organized by Waterfront Alliance (Governors Island, Saturday, 07/16/15)
- **Senator Squadron’s Intern Guest Speaker Program** – spoke with CB1’s Director of Planning Diana Switaj (07/23/15)

Meetings

- **USPS Meeting convened by Congressman Nadler** – joined by Borough President Brewer, Senator Squadron, Anthony Notaro and others on postal issues downtown including post office facility closed in Greenwich Street south that covered Financial District south and Battery Park City, lack of blue mail boxes in BPC north and Fidi/Broadway/Greenwich South, prior elimination of mobile post office (07/27/15)
- **Lower Manhattan Development Corporation Board of Directors meeting** (07/23/15)
- **Dryline Meeting** – with CB1 Planning staff to discuss possible expansion of resiliency efforts (07/20/15)

- **Manhattan Borough Board** – joined by Ninfa Segarra and Mariama James; presentation by New York City Employment & Training Coalition (NYCETC) on community initiatives on workforce and talent development (07/16/15)
- **Worth Street Reconstruction Meeting** – organized by CB1; joined by NYC Department of Design and Construction, NYC Department of Transportation and representatives of elected officials; Bruce Ehrman will be leading this Working Group
- **Community Open Data Workshop with Civic Hall**, New York’s newest civic tech workspace sponsored by Borough President Brewer – attended with CB1 Planning (07/15/15)
- **Manhattan Borough President Brewer meeting with Microsoft Corporation** – attended with Michael Levine (06/26/15)

Announcements

- Warm welcome to new Community Board member Keith Markel; Marco Pasanella will be his mentor
- Michael Ketring has been appointed CB1 Parliamentarian in addition to Michael Connolly
- CB1 office’s will be moving on Friday, July 31 – a big thank you to Lucy Acevedo for her hard work coordinating and making this transition successfully happen!