



The City of New York
BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD #1
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Environmental Justice & Sanitation Committee Minutes

June 18th, 2025

Cesar Yoc, Committee Chairperson

DRAFT

Attendance: *Cesar Yoc, Argelia Ortiz, John Sanchez, Haley Miranda*

Introductions

- Committee Chair Cesar Yoc introduces himself as the chairperson for the environmental justice sanitation committee and outlines the agenda.

Review of Past Cleanups and Future Plans

- Committee Chair Cesar Yoc reviews a recent cleanup, noting that some sites went well while others faced issues.
- The Saint Ann's Corner For Harm Reduction Staff cleaned up their area quickly due to high foot traffic.
- Committee Chair Cesar Yoc suggests having a cleanup in September or October, focusing on Willis Avenue and Roberto Clemente Square.
- The plan includes having food, music, and a DJ to make the event more enjoyable.
- Committee Chair Cesar Yoc mentions the need to contact DOT to fix benches and other issues at Roberto Clemente Square.

Challenges and Solutions for Cleanups

- Member Argelia Ortiz questions the frequency of cleanups and suggests a summertime event.
- Committee Chair Cesar Yoc clarifies that the cleanup is a one-day event in October, focusing on a specific area.
- The plan includes involving community affairs and the NYPD to manage the area before and after the cleanup.

- Member Argelia Ortiz shares her frustration with the constant need to clean up after people who don't pick up after their dogs.
- Member Argelia Ortiz emphasizes the need for direct enforcement of dog waste laws.

Sanitation Charrette and Community Involvement

- Committee Chair Cesar Yoc introduces the concept of a sanitation charrette in November to address sanitation issues.
- A charrette involves stakeholders and city agencies to discuss and find solutions to problems.
- Committee Chair Cesar Yoc plans to work with a facilitator from Hunter College's urban planning program to run the charrette.
- The goal is to have a community-based solution with clear goals and responsibilities.
- Committee Chair Cesar Yoc emphasizes the importance of involving diverse stakeholders and having a balanced conversation.

Future Events and Education

- Committee Chair Cesar Yoc suggests having smaller cleanups in the summer and focusing on education about energy issues and climate change.
- The climate in New York City has changed to semi-tropical, leading to more rain and humidity.
- Committee Chair Cesar Yoc encourages members to share ideas for events and education sessions.
- The discussion includes the need for sanitation education and addressing the impact of climate change on energy demand.
- Committee Chair Cesar Yoc mentions the possibility of proposing bills to the policy team to address specific issues.

Old Business and Final Remarks

- Member Argelia Ortiz reiterates her frustration with the lack of enforcement of dog waste laws.
- Committee Chair Cesar Yoc discusses the need for better coordination between committees and the policy team.
- The meeting concludes with a motion to adjourn, which is seconded and approved by the members.

Action Items

- Provide ideas and get involved in the planning of summer cleanup events and educational initiatives related to energy, climate change, and sanitation.
- Explore opportunities to collaborate with student groups and environmental courses at local colleges like Hostos Community College and Metropolitan College of New York for the sanitation charrette.
- Coordinate with NYPD community affairs to plan and execute the cleanup event in Roberto Clemente square, potentially in October.
- Reach out to urban planning programs at Hunter College or other local institutions to facilitate the sanitation charrette in November.
- Investigate policy options to address the enforcement of laws around dog waste in the district.