



The City of New York
BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD #1

3024 THIRD AVENUE

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Serving and Representing: Port Morris, Mott Haven and Melrose



VANESSA L. GIBSON

BOROUGH PRESIDENT

LARISA M. ALAYETO

CHAIRPERSON

ANTHONY R. JORDAN

DISTRICT MANAGER

General Board Meeting Minutes

September 26th, 2024

Attendance: *Clarisa Alayeto, Ngande Ambroise, Zion Baldwin, Robert Barnes, Maura Cosme, Christina Cover, Audrey Dejesus, Jacqueline Dejesus, Naicha Diaby, Linda Duke, Josephine Fernandez-Byrne, Ramona Ferreyra, Brenda Goodwin, Christine Licata, Sonyi Lopez, Leslie Lopez Hernandez, Paola Martinez, Dalourny Nemorin, Argelia Ortiz, Emmanuel Pardilla, Marilyn Peña, Rosa Pinero, Joyce Pulphus, Claudia Rahman, Jose Rodriguez, Mohammed Sheikh, Patricia Simpson, Cesar Yoc*

DRAFT

Investment in Community Programs and Services

District Attorney Darcel Clark discusses the importance of community investment and the need for investment in community programs, such as youth programs, mental health, substance use disorder, and affordable housing.

District Attorney Darcel Clark emphasizes that investing in these areas will address the root causes of crime and poverty, reducing the workload for the District Attorney's office.

District Attorney Darcel Clark highlights the disinvestment in the Bronx and the resulting issues, such as shootings and other crimes, due to lack of resources.

District Attorney Darcel Clark mentions the positive response from the community and the importance of addressing these issues to improve community well-being is a priority of her office.

Challenges and Opportunities in Substance Abuse and Mental Health Programs

Member Dalourny Nemorin asks about the impact of increased placement of substance abuse and mental health facilities on crime rates and community quality of life.

District Attorney Darcel Clark discusses the difficulty in getting people to access these facilities and the need for community support and understanding on why these facilities are important.

District Attorney Darcel Clark emphasizes the need for both physical infrastructure and supportive people to help those in need access and benefit from these programs.

Support for Tenants and Community Engagement

Member Emmanuel Pardilla asks about the support provided to tenants in the post-pandemic period and the issue of tenant harassment.

District Attorney Darcel Clark explains the role of the District Attorney's office in investigating and prosecuting crimes related to tenant harassment and ask that members share these complaints with her office.

District Attorney Darcel Clark highlights the importance of community engagement and collaboration with tenant leaders and other agencies to address tenant issues.

District Attorney Darcel Clark mentions the financial fraud unit and community engagement unit within the District Attorney's office, which work to help tenants resolve their problems.

Community Concerns and Solutions for Youth Programs

Audience member Dana Elden raises concerns about the lack of support for youth programs and the need for mentoring programs in community centers.

District Attorney Darcel Clark discusses the challenges faced by young men without parental guidance and the importance of mentoring programs.

District Attorney Darcel Clark mentions the collaboration with Carlos Torres and the need for a dialog with community centers to establish these programs.

District Attorney Darcel Clark emphasizes the importance of providing opportunities for young people to engage in positive activities and mentorship.

Rezoning Proposal for 438 Concord Avenue

Richard Lobel presents the rezoning proposal for 438 Concord Avenue, highlighting the benefits of the project, including new commercial and residential spaces, and affordable housing.

The proposal includes a rezoning from M1-2 to R7-1 and an MIH text amendment to ensure 25% of the units are permanently affordable.

The building would feature a mix of commercial and residential spaces, including a fresh food store, recording studios, and light manufacturing spaces.

The speaker emphasizes the importance of the project in addressing community needs and providing new opportunities for local businesses and residents.

Community Board Discussion on Rezoning Proposal

Member Paola Martinez raises concerns about the lack of public funding and the need for public-private partnerships to ensure the project's credibility.

Richard Lobel discusses the impact of the project on the community, including the potential for increased density and the need for affordable housing.

Richard Lobel highlights the importance of community input and the need for the project to address the specific needs of the area.

The community board members discuss the conditions for approving the project, including the inclusion of units at 20-30% AMI and ensuring local Bronx artists have access to studio space.

Vote on Rezoning Proposal and Community Board Recommendations

The community board members discuss and vote on the conditions for approving the rezoning proposal, including the inclusion of units at 20-30% AMI and ensuring local Bronx artists have access to studio space.

The vote results in a no vote with conditions, highlighting the need for further negotiations and adjustments to the proposal.

The community board emphasizes the importance of affordable housing and community engagement in the development process.

The meeting concludes with a discussion on the next steps and the need for continued collaboration and input from the community.

Elected Officials Reports and Community Updates

Leo Coello from the Mayor's Office provides updates on the new NYC Public School's Chancellor Melissa Ramos, the City of Yes housing initiative, and the Money in Your Pocket program.

Alexis Ruiz from the Bronx Borough President's Office highlights upcoming events, including constituent hours and the Tour de Bronx cycling event.

Jose Ramon from the Office of Senator Jose M. Serrano provides information on constituent hours and other community resources.

The elected officials emphasize the importance of community engagement and support for local initiatives.

Community Needs Assessment and Future Plans

The community board discusses the district needs assessment process and the importance of evaluating community needs related to traffic, roads, schools, and parks.

The board recognizes Steven Palmers for his promotion to Community Coordinator.

The board emphasizes the need for continued collaboration and input from the community to address these needs and improve the quality of life in the area.

The meeting concludes with a motion to adjourn and a reminder to reach out to the community board.