



Hon. Vanessa L. Gibson
Borough President

BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD No. 10

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Joseph Russo
Chairperson

Matthew Cruz
District Manager

BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD #10 VIRTUAL DISTRICT SERVICE CABINET MEETING MINUTES May 16, 2023

Attendance: CB10: M. Cruz; N. Kilkenny; CCHR: A. Algabyali; DCWP: R. Revina; DDC: J. Parisien; DEP: E. Ardizzone; DFTA: J. Melendez; DOB: N. Lazo-Hayes; DoHMH: K. Johnson; DOT: J. Soto; DOT Bridges: A. Zhou, R. Zurita; DSNY- E: Sgt. Lowell; DSS – J. Bennett, T. Bekka; ; Crystal's Place: J. Peralta; St. Peter's Residence: F. Coronado, R. Alicea; NYPL: R. Collado, M. Lugo, L. Marin, L. Velazquez, C. Clark; Parks: C. Acosta, K. Zagorski; Office of Mayor Eric Adams: A. Dowe; Mayor's Office of Animal Welfare: A. Silver; Office of State Senator Jamaal Bailey: S. Morell; Office of Council Member Amanda Farias: R. Nieves; Office of Council Member Marjorie Velazquez: S. Parish; Office of Council Member Kevin Riley: J. Yapp (31)

Mr. Cruz commenced the meeting at 10:06 AM.

Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DoHMH) – K. Johnson, III

Mr. Cruz thanked the Agency and the Mayor's Office for removing the illegal food cart from 3775 East Tremont Avenue.

Mr. Johnson announced that on Thursday, May 11th a Declaration ending the Covid 19 crises was issued. This may mean a withdrawal of some Covid 19 services in parts of the country, but all remain available in New York City at this time.

NYC Transit Police – P.O. DeLuna

Officer DeLuna indicated that there have been some incidents of Lush Workers in Pelham Bay Station. The Department has been conducting safety meetings with MTA staff and instructing them on how to avoid assault and assist individuals in need of mental care. Outreach in the Barrio is working with Transit Police to provide services to the homeless.

New York City Emergency Management – provided by email

Information below was provided in advance of the meeting. A representative was not in attendance.

National Hurricane Preparedness Week (April 30th – May 6th):

- *While the Atlantic Hurricane Season does not begin until June 1, National Hurricane Preparedness Week runs from April 30th – May 6th.*
- *During Hurricane Awareness week, NYC Emergency Management encourages all New Yorkers to be mindful during this time, check to see if you or your family are within an*

evacuation zone and make a plan for hurricane season.

- Visit [NYC.gov/knowyourzone](https://www.nyc.gov/knowyourzone) to find your hurricane evacuation zone. Share Your Space
 - NYC Emergency Management runs a program called "Share Your Space" that allows people to offer their properties voluntarily for Emergency Management activities, such as a service center, a CERT training, a commodity distribution point, or other functions identified by the department.
 - To apply please visit NYCEM's website or email intergov@oem.nyc.gov National Pet Month
 - For many, pets are more than just animals — they are a part of the family. As members of your family, they should be included in your emergency planning process.
 - Make sure your disaster plan addresses what you will do when an emergency requires you to leave your home, leave your pet at home, or prevents you from returning home. A few simple steps to
 1. ensure your pet's safety can go a long way when disaster strikes.
 - Your pet's go bag should include a picture of the pet in case you're separated, their paperwork, their vet's number and any prescription information, some toys, and food.
 - Know your pet's hiding places to quickly retrieve them.
 - For more information visit: <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/em/ready/pets.page> Request a Ready New York Event
 - Take the next step to preparedness and request a virtual emergency preparedness presentation.
 - Through the program, you can learn about the hazards you may face in New York City and prepare for all types of emergencies by writing an emergency plan, choosing a meeting place, gathering supplies for your home, and preparing a Go Bag in case you need to leave your home in a hurry.
 - Request a virtual Ready NY event or material via email at intergov@oem.nyc.gov Notify NYC
 - Sign up to Notify NYC to receive New York City's official information about emergency alerts and important City services. Visit nyc.gov/notifynyc, call 311, follow Notify NYC on Twitter, or download the free mobile application for your Apple or Android device. Individuals can receive notifications in 13 languages, as well as American Sign Language.
- Community Board DSC Information May 2023 NYC Emergency Management Government Relations team is here to assist you. Please email all requests and inquiries to intergov@oem.nyc.gov
- Notify NYC subscribers can choose to receive two new messaging types – notifications regarding life-threatening weather conditions that may impact residents living in basement or cellar apartments and localized law enforcement announcements.
 - o New Yorkers already subscribed to Notify NYC can opt-in and begin receiving either of the two new message types on the mobile app or by logging into their account, and updating notification preferences under the "My Account" tab.

New York City Department of Transportation (NYCDOT) – J. Soto

There was no update on the schedule for installation of the approved additional street lighting on Bruckner Boulevard from East Tremont Avenue to Balcom Avenue, # DOT-529222-B3Q1. Mr. Cruz requested a copy of the original email noting approval of the lighting.

Pothole repair on Waters Place at Fink Avenue will be accomplished by the pothole/make safe repairs unit. The Board will be notified when a work schedule is set.

The request for a speed cushion on Harding Avenue from East Tremont to Pennyfield Avenues – DOT-523994-K9Y8, was modified and the area of Harding Avenue between Hollywood and the Throgs Neck Expressway is being considered for a speed hump.

The street light repair at the southeast corner of Colonial Avenue at East 196 St. is a complicated one and requires the removal and replacement of the base and pole. Con Edison must then

New York City Department of Transportation (NYCDOT) continued

electrify the pole. STOP TAG 111665, XE21004776. The response to Dot-592854-F3S3, a new case number, is due in July. No other update is available.

The request for *No U Turn* signage at the following intersections was approved: Crosby Avenue/Roberts Avenue - DOT-78162-CoK1 – installed by June 30, 2023
Middletown Road/Hobart Avenue – DOT-578163-J5M1 – installed by May 30, 2023

There was no update available for the request for an *all way stop* signs at the intersection of Griswold Avenue and Radio Drive – DOT-567990-L857

The following faded street sign replacement requests should receive a response by the end of May or June:

- Meagher Avenue and Throgs Neck Expressway Service Road (311-13612007)
- Throgs Neck Blvd. and Throgs Neck Expressway Service Road (311-13612055)
- Logan Avenue and Throgs Neck Expressway Service Road (311-13612097)
- Miles Avenue and Throgs Neck Expressway Service Road (311-13612126)
- Puritan Avenue and Waterbury Avenue (311-13612153)
- DOT-578431-J1Bo Willow Lane and Westchester Avenue
- DOT-583819-F8H8 (I/O Roebling Ave & Ericson Pl)
- DOT-583820-Y9C8 (I/O Roebling Ave & Hutch River Parkway SR)
- DOT-583821-G2B4 (I/O Gillespie Ave & Lasalle Ave)
- DOT-583822-N4M9 (I/O Throgs Neck Expwy & Layton Ave)
- DOT-583823-W1Q8 I/O Philip Ave & Vincent Ave)
- DOT-583825-S1W7 I/O E Tremont Ave & Randall Ave)
- DOT-583826-N7H5 (I/O Philip Ave & E Tremont Ave)
- DOT-583829-F5L6 (I/O Lafayette Ave & Hutch River Parkway SR)
- DOT-583831-B3Z1 (I/O Lafayette Ave & Swinton Ave)
- DOT-583833-S4H4 (I/O Calhoun Ave & Cross Bx Expwy SR)
- DOT-583834-RoF3 (I/O Schley Ave & Cross Bx Expwy SR)
- DOT-583835-C3C6 (I/O Cross Bx Expwy & Logan Ave)
- Hollywood Avenue and Zulette Avenue (311-13939389)
- Jarvis Avenue and Zulette Avenue (311-13939409)

Faded street sign replacement requests continued:

- Randolph Place and Kennelworth Place (311-13939428)
- Barkley Avenue and Throgs Neck Expressway Service Road (311-14089051)
- Revere Avenue and Roosevelt Avenue (311-14132994)
- Barkley Avenue and Edison Avenue (311-14340726)

Carver Loop repaving was accomplished and currently there is no update on when street markings will be painted. Mr. Cruz requested an update prior to the Thursday evening Full Board meeting which will be taking place in Co-op City.

Mr. Soto requested the opportunity to respond to the remainder of the agenda items after the meeting as his office conducted an unscheduled meeting which interrupted his ability to update items earlier in the day.

Transportation Dept. – Bridges - A. Zhou, R. Zurita

Westchester Avenue Overpass – A. Zhou

Steel erection for the bridge continues and will require intermittent full closures of the Hutchinson River Parkway and Westchester Avenue through the end of the month during the overnight hours: 12:30 to 4:30 AM. Notices will be forwarded as needed. The project is expected to be complete in late fall of 2023.

Unionport Bridge Project – R. Zurita

Work activities completed for Unionport Bridge:

- Completed installation of chain link fence
- Continued installation of bascule span steel at the south bascule span
- Continued preparation for concrete placement at the south bascule span
- Began installation of bridge railing at Ramp B (Eastbound Bruckner Blvd & Zerega Ave)
- Continued installation of fender panels
- Continued installation of operating machinery at bascule pier and control house

Upcoming work to be done for Unionport Bridge:

- Complete installation of bascule span steel at the south bascule span
- Place concrete at the south bascule span
- Begin delivery of bascule span steel at the north bascule span
- Continue installation of fender panels
- Continue installation of operating machinery at bascule pier and control house

Department of Design and Construction (DDC) – J. Parisien

Currently, the agency is performing pedestrian ramp work at the following intersections: Scott Place and East Tremont Avenue, Buck Street and Zerega Avenue, Buck and Seddon Streets and Davis and Harding Avenues.

Department of Buildings (DOB) – N. Lazo-Hayes

Inspections have been ordered for 831 Swinton Avenue for work contrary to plans And for 1627 Pilgrim for an unsecured abandoned house. Rear windows are opened.

Mr. Cruz requested assistance from Ms. Dowe of the Mayor's Office concerning 928 Swinton Avenue. The owner of this property is accused of renting his pool and yard on the Swimply website. Mr. Cruz indicated that he is meeting with the agency and all parties concerning 155 Pilot Street.

Department of Environmental Protection – E. Ardizzone

The sink hole at 955 Edison Avenue across from Barkley Avenue needs to be made safe. They can backfill it, but it will reopen until the issue is resolved.

Emergency Response unit noted oil on the street. Issued a Commissioner's Order (warning) to 326 Brinsmade Avenue.

The DEP Amnesty Program was extended until May 30th. Call 718 595-7000 for more information. May 23rd Office hours will be held from 4-7 PM at the DEP office at 1932 Arthur Avenue.

Department of Parks and Recreation – C. Acosta; K. Zagorski

Mr. Cruz thanked Mr. Acosta for emailing responses to several items prior to the meeting. Trees and Sidewalks Program repairs for 2857 Wilkinson Avenue are still expected to be included in the next contract in the Bronx. Note that the repair at this address should extend to the neighboring address at 2855 Wilkinson (includes sections along Wilkinson Av and Mayflower Av). We anticipate that our next contract will begin in Spring 2024. We will have a more finalized list of sites to be included in that contract when we are closer to then – probably sometime in Winter 2023/2024.

Trees and Sidewalks evaluation request for tree at 1039 Throgs Neck Expressway 311-14400029: We do see a Service Request for this address dated 5/8/23. A forester will inspect this site as soon as possible. Please note that we are working through a large backlog of service requests, and we cannot guarantee a timeframe for the inspection.

A response for the request for sidewalk repair at 3151 Fairmount Avenue via the Trees and Sidewalks Program will be forwarded shortly. A typo in the address of the initial submission caused confusion.

The request for painting of Bufano Park Handball Court walls will be addressed once the pool painting initiative is completed.

Department of Consumer and Worker Protection – R. Revina

The agency is offering a free tax prep program for self-employed. Income eligibility: \$56,000 for individuals, \$80,000 for families.

Sanitation Department of New York - Enforcement – Sgt. Lowell

Mr. Cruz requested tree pit cleaning/enforcement at 2809 Middletown Road and 3060 East Tremont Avenue.

Department for the Aging (DFTA) – J. Melendez

May is National Older Americans Month – This year's theme is Aging Unbound and focuses on combating agism.

<https://www.nydailynews.com/opinion/ny-oped-older-americans-month-seniors-nyc-mayor-adams-20230501-bn2azraqejbzt4denxacoemri-story.html>

Department of Social Services (DSS) – T. Bekka, J. Bennett

The agency is in a state of emergency and working round the clock on servicing the influx of migrants to the city. An Emergency Executive Order suspended the city rights to shelter. Space is limited. There are 130 Emergency shelters which were opened for the Asylum Seekers. The suspension of Title 42 added to the influx.

Mr. Cruz requested immediate notification if a site within Bronx Community Board #10 comes under consideration. Ms. Bekka agreed but explained that there is little notice when emergency measures are decided.

Kenneth Charles is the lead contact on Human Resources Administration.

Crystal's Place – S. Peralta

OTDA certification was received this month. Social workers are currently being recruited.

St. Peters Family Residence – F. Coronado

The Recreation specialist has been arranging several special events for the residents.

Citizens Commission on Human Rights – A. Algabyali

There were no major updates to report. 101 Human Rights training is ongoing. Any offices wishing to host a presentation please reach out.

New York Public Library (NYPL) – L. Velazquez, L. Marin

Ms. Velazquez reported that the Throggs Neck Branch is closed for six weeks until early July for renovations. Online programs remain available. The branch is also available to table at any scheduled events.

Mr. Collado from the City Island Branch stressed the importance of petitioning to prevent budget cuts to the Please visit the beautiful City Island Branch facility.

Thank all present for working so diligently to promote our community. On Thursday, June 8th at the Baychester Branch there is a collaborative Summer Hip Hop Event from 1 to 5 PM.

Ms. Marin of the Westchester Square Branch announced that the branch in conjunction with the New York Restoration Project gave away 200 trees. 189 people attended and it was very successful. On June 20th the branch will host a Community Engagement Event – collage making. Many other events online.

Ms. Lugo of the Pelham Bay Branch also stressed the importance of petitioning to prevent NYPL budget Cuts. Computer classes are just one of the important programs offered at the branch. Programs for all ages are available. She advised all to browse through offering on nypl.org.

Mayor Eric Adams - Community Affairs Unit (CAU) - A. Dowe

Ms. Dowe reported that the Board's inquiry concerning paid detail for off-duty police officers is currently under consideration by the legal department. She will provide updates as soon as she receives them.

Summer youth employment employers are needed. The deadline to register is May 26th: <https://www.nyc.gov/site/dycd/services/jobs-internships/employer-interest-form.page>

The Civic Engagement Commission's *The People's Money* - Voting began on May 10, 2023 and runs through June 25th. The People's Money is New York City's first-ever citywide participatory budgeting (PB) process, run by the NYC Civic Engagement Commission. Online Ballot: Visit on.nyc.gov/pb to vote online

Those with school-aged children should check their Pandemic Electronic Benefit cards/Snap cards. Funds have been loaded to cards of New York City school children who were eligible for food stamps have received funds.

Mayor Adams signed legislation requiring NYPD officers to receive training to interact with those on the autism spectrum.

Strengthening literacy launch took place to promote literacy.

NYCHA - the Public Housing Preservation Trust Board was established.

Mayor Eric Adams - Community Affairs Unit (CAU) continued

May is small business month. Please support our small business community.

Talk with Eric town hall events are scheduled. None are currently scheduled in Board #10 but may be scheduled.

Breaking Bread/building bonds unites 10 different communities/ethnicities to come together to encourage communication and bonding between different communities. A \$150 stipend is available to finance gatherings. Those interested in hosting a dinner or learning more about the initiative can visit www.nyc.gov/breakingbread.

All are encouraged to stay connected to the mayor's activities and announcements by subscribing to his newsletter.

Mayor's Office of Animal Welfare – A. Silver

Bronx Animal Care Center will have an official groundbreaking ceremony this Thursday.

Mr. Cruz indicated that the office would not be in attendance as the Co-op City community was not supportive of the animal shelter. Ms. Silver indicated that it will be a wonderful community resource and hopes that the Co-op City community reconsiders their position.

Office of New York State Senator Jamaal Bailey – S. Morello

Senator Bailey hosted a very successful Mother's Day event last weekend.

A Climate Change Event will be held on May 21st at Bissell Gardens which will feature a tree giveaway: <https://www.nyrp.org/en/get-involved/events/tree-giveaway-bissel-gardens-and-state-senator-jamaal-t-bailey/>

A Fathers' Day event is being planned for Co-op City.

The annual picnic is also being planned.

r. Morello indicated that he is available to discuss any legislative questions anyone may have.

Office of New York City Council Member Kevin Riley – J. Yapp

On May 20th in conjunction with the American Cancer Society a Pink Zoomathon will be held on the Co-op City Greenway, 1-3 PM.

On June 3rd from 12 to 4 a Co-op City Family Day will be held on the Greenway

A Double Dutch event will be held on June 10th 11AM to 8 PM at 177 Dreiser Loop.

Mr. Yapp indicated that he will check if the Medians by the mall at Bay Plaza come under their jurisdiction. If confirmed, the Council Office will have them trimmed by Wildcat.

Office of New York City Council Member Marjorie Velazquez – S. Rodriguez

Movie night: May 19 at Bicentennial Veterans' Memorial Park: Top Gun Maverick at 8:15 PM.

Two Mother's Day Events will be held on Saturday, May 20th, in Throggs Neck and Castle Hill in conjunction with Senator Fernandez's office from 11 to 2 PM.

May 28th Family Day at Ferry Point Park - 503 Balcom Avenue 12-4 PM featuring bouncy houses and family fun.

Office of New York State Assembly Member Amanda Farias – R. Nieves

On May 19th a Silent Disco will be held at Starlight Park at the Castle Hill Playground from 3 to 6 PM.

Mother's Day Event is Friday night at the Sonya Sotomayor Center in Castle Hill.

Mr. Cruz announced that the June 20th District Service Cabinet meeting will be held in person to give us all a chance to meet in person. Light refreshments will be served.

Mr. Cruz concluded the meeting at 11:07 AM.