



COMMUNITY BOARD 11
1741 COLDEN AVENUE
BRONX, NY 10462
(718) 892-6262
www.nyc.gov/bxcb11

Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr.
Chairman Albert D'Angelo
District Manager Jeremy H. Warneke

COMMITTEES

- Leadership*
- Community Development & Budget Priorities*
- Economic Development*
- Education & Culture*
- Health & Social Services*
- Housing*
- Land Use*
- Parks & Recreation*
- Public Safety*
- Sanitation & Environmental Protection*
- Transportation*
- Youth Services*

February 2019 District Manager's Report

Our First Vice Chairman requested a meeting with the USPS (U.S. Postal Service), which I'm attempting to arrange for the March Leadership Committee meeting, which is open to the public. If you have Post Office issues, please let the staff know.

The following email was recently sent to the USPS as well as the offices of the following federal elected officials: Chuck Schumer, Kirsten Gillibrand, Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez and Eliot Engel:

Hi, Ms. Forte:

As discussed, members of my community board would like to have a meeting with the USPS as early as 7pm on March 21, 2019. This is to discuss issues our residents are facing with the USPS: delivery issues with temporary mail carriers and a persistent alarm noise sounding off at the Baychester Station are just a couple of examples.

These are the post offices in our district: <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/bronxcb11/resources/post-offices.page>. But our residents are also serviced by or use the Baychester Station on Gun Hill Road. If it helps, our board is primarily comprised of the following zip codes: 10460, 10461, 10462, 10467 and 10469.

My board members would appreciate a meeting with someone high ranking.

Sincerely,

Jeremy Warneke

According to the City Conflicts of Interest Board:

Chapter 68 of the City Charter, the City's Conflicts of Interest Law, requires that public servants be trained once every two years in the Conflicts of Interest Law. The Conflicts of Interest Board is currently booking classes for individual community boards in the Bronx to help get their members in compliance.

In consultation with the Leadership Committee, I've arranged for our Board's training at 6:30pm before the full board meeting in March, which is listed on our calendar.

For those of you who were around in early 2014, you may remember the following:

To Whom It May Concern:

As some of you are aware, my mother was in a near fatal car accident in December. Luckily, she's doing better. The problem my sisters and I initially faced however was caring for my mother's financial as well as medical well-being, i.e. she still has bills to be paid among other issues. Why does or should this concern you? You, a family member or friend could one day find him- or herself in a similar situation, and without a power of attorney, you are making it very difficult for yourself as well as your loved ones.

My youngest sister and I don't have any children. Both of my sisters and I have been advised however to get a power of attorney in order for our individual selves. Why? Here's one reason: "Studies show," according to the Social Security Administration, "that a 20-year-old worker has a 3-in-10 chance of becoming disabled before reaching full retirement age." Second reason: It was a nightmare having to get guardianship (the alternative power of attorney) for my mother (which my sisters and I got, but only through a miracle).

What is a power of attorney? It is, according to one form I found online, "an important document. As the 'principal,' you give the person whom you choose (your 'agent') authority to spend your money and sell or dispose of your property during your lifetime without telling you." Now, why would you do such a thing? In case you're incapacitated and therefore can't take care of yourself, as I just experienced and am still experiencing with my mother. (If you don't pay your bills, taxes and/or other debts, the collectors won't necessarily care why.)

Because not everyone is as fortunate as my mother, please consider getting a power of attorney for yourself and your loved ones (if you don't already have one). Remember that a will (which you should also have) is not equal to having a power of attorney. Before you attempt to fill out a power of attorney form, you may want to consult whom you trust about this, a professional attorney for example.

One other thing to consider: Having a health care proxy.

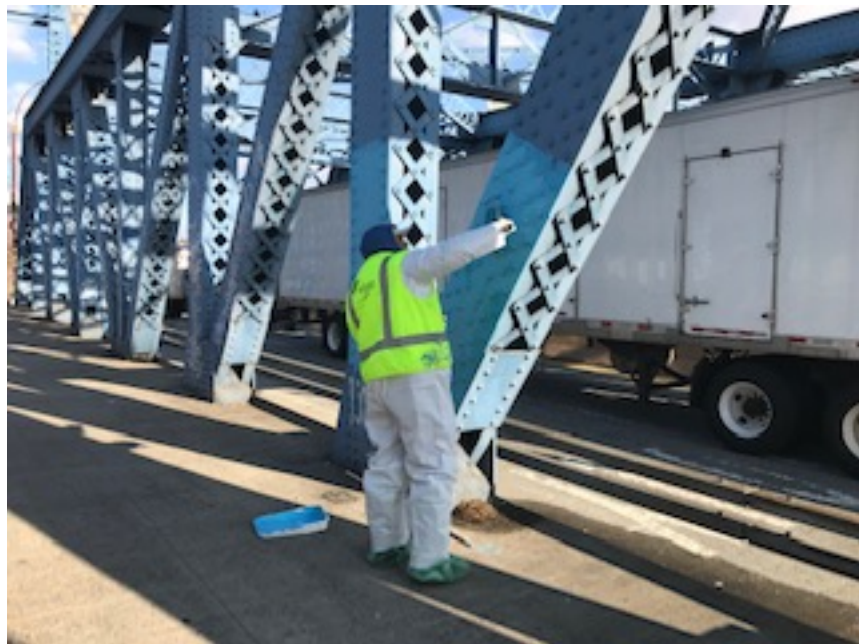
Sincerely,

Jeremy Warneke

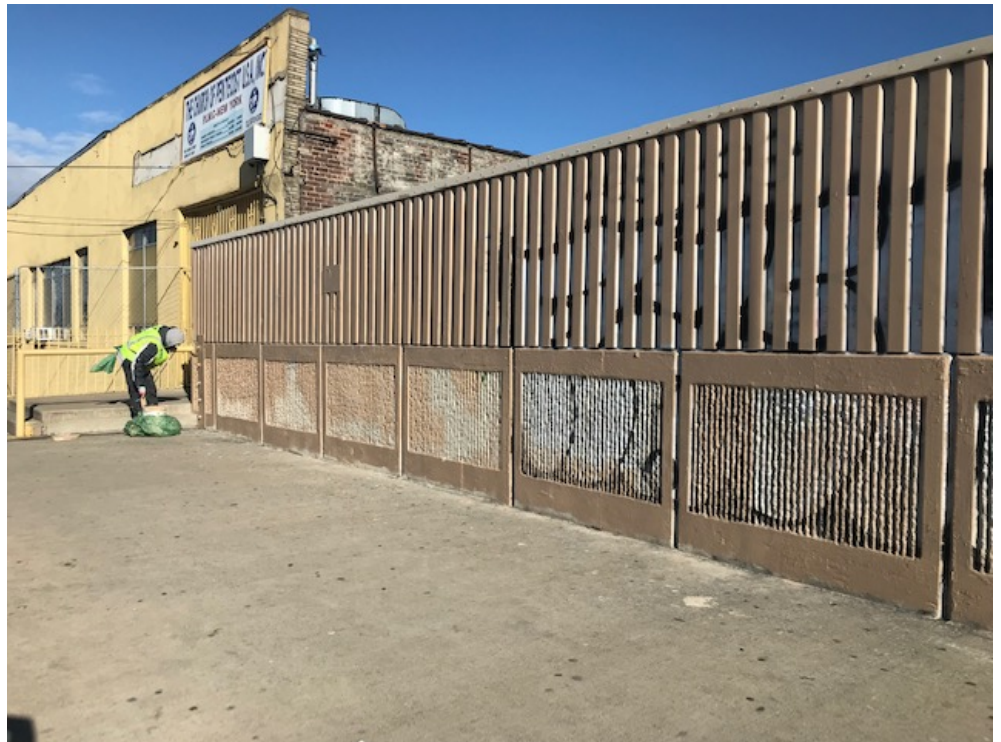
I'm resurrecting this old letter because it came in handy recently. Former staff member Bharati Kemraj lost her father recently. Before he passed away, however, Bharati remembered my letter, which she had saved, and got her father to sign a power of attorney form.

As discussed last month, we contracted an organization called Fedcap to clean up certain parts of our district. In addition to what was cleaned in my previous report, so were the following areas:

Graffiti at the Unionport Road and White Plains Road Amtrak bridges by East Tremont Avenue:



Northeast corner of Adam's Street and East Tremont Avenue:



In front of 2155 East Tremont Avenue:



Unfortunately, graffiti in some of these areas has already returned, but thanks to Joe McManus, we may have a solution. Joe, a former board member who now works for Council Member Torres, suggested Fedcap look into the spray or coating that the MTA uses to protect its property from graffiti. Through my assistance, Fedcap has and is going to test a product, which will make it easier to remove graffiti when it occurs.

Work yet to be completed: Underneath the Amtrak overpass at Bronxdale Avenue:



Speaking of Amtrak—our First Vice Chairman and I met with staff members of Congresswoman Ocasio-Cortez’s and State Senator Rivera’s Office regarding issues surrounding Amtrak’s properties. We requested Ocasio-Cortez’s Office arrange for a meeting with Amtrak and us. And because one of board members hasn’t met Ocasio-Cortez yet but would like to, I requested her presence at our April full board meeting, which is currently scheduled for Tuesday, April 23. You read that right, **Tuesday, April 23, 2019** (and because it’s Passover that week, no cookies! No ifs, ands or buts.)

If you were unable to attend Council Member Gjonaj’s Development & Zoning Town Hall at Waters Place on Monday, what you missed is an admonishment. The Council Member wants us to be more mindful and not reject everything that comes our way because he’s concerned that this will lead to us receiving other things we may be *more unhappy with*.

If I heard the Council Member correctly, he said that, for example, the City can site a homeless shelter with no parking requirements and more units than the proposed Blondell Commons development. Now, like many of you, I was under the belief that while we don’t have any City-operated homeless shelters currently, we have a ton of cluster sites, i.e. private, transitional housing for the homeless. According to the City DHS (Department of Homeless Services), the City phased out all of our cluster sites in 2018 or 2017, i.e. we no longer have them. Well, we no longer have DHS approved sites, but we may have many sites approved by other agencies such as the Human Resources Administration.

Still, Gjonaj has a point. Everyone knows that the City is going to push a road diet onto Morris Park Avenue, but that’s only because members of the community rejected the compromise offer by the City.

At the Pelham Parkway Task Force meeting earlier this week, it was determined that a public meeting will be held in anticipation of work on the Pelham Parkway north service road. Work on the service road probably won’t happen until fall.

In the meantime, the Parks Department is responsible for maintaining the guard rail on the eastern-bound main road of Pelham Parkway. At my request, Parks will inspect the guard rail for structural integrity,

after I made them aware of the damage to the rails east of White Plains Road.

Our Yankee Youth Leadership Award nominees (see agenda for names and sponsoring organizations) have been approved by the Yankees, and the resulting game is Tuesday, May 14th, 2019 vs. the Baltimore Orioles at 6:35p.m. Honorees are invited to an on-field ceremony before the start of the game. The Yankees recommend they show up to the stadium at 5:30. We don't have tickets for the game yet, but they will be distributed to our civic associations as well as walk-ins.

We got an alternate side street sweeping request for 1100 Pelham Pkwy South. Is anyone opposed to this before we submit to the Sanitation Department of official review? The request comes from the Landlord of 1100 Pelham Parkway South.

For those of you with email, I forwarded on the following from the Department of Sanitation:

We are surveying all Community Boards and Council Members regarding littering from motor vehicles in their districts. We are asking that you let us know the top 3-4 locations where this issue is most prevalent in your district and where possible increased enforcement monitoring would be most beneficial. Please provide this information by Friday, March 1st.

The responses I got from board members so far are as follows:

1. Fish avenue between Astor and Pelham Parkway north. Usually seemingly hospital employees(the hospital is directly across from the street on the South side)since we often find latex gloves, snack and drink containers, etc. on the grassy areas near our homes. I suspect the problem is on Seymour between Astor and Pelham Parkway north as well.
2. Lydig Avenue -- we get EXTENSIVE litter from the stores -- their garbage is not wrapped, bagged or the Sanitation (orivate) trucks throw the bags intot he truck nd the open garbage falls onto the streets.
Up and down Lydig Avenue from Wallace to Bolton Street. It is awful -- we try to clean daily but the garbage keeps coming down the street.

3. Transit wall from 180th to Garfield street.
4. As usual, the infamous sidewalk to nowhere is strewn with litter, (between White Plains Road and Williamsbridge) usually coming from cars parked along the pathway. The drivers feel that the sidewalk is their own personal garbage disposal unit.
5. Sacket Avenue.
6. A vacant lot in the Eastchester Gardens area.
7. 2400-block of Gunther Avenue.