



The City of New York
Bronx Community Board Three

1426 Boston Road, Bronx, NY 10456
 Telephone No.:(718)378-8054 ext. 140/1/2
 E-mail Address: eritter@cb.nyc.gov

DIAL	Government Services
311	& Information for NYC

Comm. Bd. Info go to: nyc.gov/bronxcb3

HON. VANESSA L. GIBSON
BRONX BOROUGH PRESIDENT

GLORIA S. ALSTON
CHAIRPERSON EMERITUS

JOETTA BROWN
CHAIRPERSON

ETTA F. RITTER
DISTRICT MANAGER

BOARD MINUTES

Date: 01/08/25
 Place: 1332 Fulton Avenue
 Time: 6:00 P.M.

Members Present

Atta Acheampong
 Kolaco Acqui
 Ibrahim Ahmed
 Joetta Brown
 Dawn Carter
 Edgardo Cedeno
 Randy Dillard
 Francis D'Souza
 Beverly Emers
 Michele Gantt
 Margo Grant
 Maurice Gray
 Michelle Holmes
 Linda Johnson
 Abraham Jones
 Diane Jones
 Linda Kemp
 Una Lawrence
 Jacquelyn Moore-Hill
 Paul Navarro
 Anddy Perdomo
 Amanda Reed
 Laredo Regular
 Jeannie Ruiz
 Keziah Sullivan-Norman
 Beautiful Winston

Congressman Ritchie Torres

Joanna Rivas

Bronx District Attorney's Darcel Clarke

Senovia Simpson

Councilmember Oswald Feliz

Miguel Pena

Assemblymember Chantel Jackson

Crystal Diaz

Staff Present

Etta F. Ritter
 Courtland W. Hankins, III

Members Excused

Xiomara Arriola
 Robert Brown
 Gilberto Constantinez
 Aaron Dumfeh
 April Jones
 Tracie Lucas-Lord
 Aubrey Mike
 Victor Latimer
 Kathy Morris
 Raymond Moya
 Jasmine Uribe
 D'Andra Van-Heusen Thomas

Members Absent

Joyce Diggs
 Wanda Ellis
 Adriano Joseph
 Bryan Wigfall

Councilmember Althea Stevens' Office

Tyreke Israel
 Lisne Bautista

Mayor Adam's Office

Leonardo Coello

Bronx Borough President's Office

Kenny Agosto

Senator Luis Sepulveda

Elizabeth Marte

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

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Keziah Sullivan-Norman
 Secretary

D'Andra Van Heusen-Thomas
 Treasurer

Robert Brown
 Sgt.-at-Arms/Parliamentarian

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Joetta Brown, Chairperson of Bronx Community Board Three, called the meeting to order at 6:16 pm.

INVOCATION

Mr. Abraham Jones led us in prayer.

PUBLIC HEARING

Isabella Flores, Volunteer Coordinator, Ariva Inc.

Topic: Promote Ariva's volunteer opportunities to become a volunteer IRS-certified tax preparer in the Bronx.

Ms. Joetta Brown, Chairperson of Bronx Community Board Three, introduced Ms. Isabella Flores to the community at large.

Ms. Flores, Volunteer Coordinator for Ariva Inc., shared the following information:

Ariva Inc. is seeking volunteer income tax assistants to help provide financial relief to families across New York City. This opportunity allows volunteers to develop valuable financial and accounting skills that can support their academic and career growth. No prior experience is required, as Ariva provides free online and in-person VITA income tax training, making it easy to learn the tax code.

Benefits of Volunteering with Ariva:

- **Free** tax preparer training
- **Official IRS certification**
- **Free** personal income tax preparation
- Eligibility for **Continuing Education or college credit** (subject to school approval)
- **Networking and skill-building** opportunities
- Experience in assisting **new migrants** with tax preparation
- Flexible schedules, including **morning, evening, and weekend options**
- Convenient **Bronx locations** accessible by public transportation

To learn more or apply, visit ariva.org/volunteer and complete an inquiry form. A volunteer coordinator will follow up with you.

At this time, the presentation was concluded.

Questions were entertained and answered satisfactorily.

PUBLIC SESSION

Announcements

- Mr. Wali Abdun Noor, Director of South Bronx Emergency Network, Inc., emphasized the importance of Bronx District Three being prepared for a dire emergency. Bronx District Three must mitigate risks, plan, organize, respond, and demonstrate resilience in the event of "The Big One." Mr. Noor encouraged attendees to volunteer with the organization.
- Arturo Martinez, Outreach Coordinator, Phipps Neighborhoods, shared time-sensitive information.
- Anisee Alves, Program Director, YouthBuild Program (Volunteers of America), provided details on YouthBuild's services.
 - Serves youth in low-income neighborhoods between 17.5 to 24 years old.
 - Targets youth from the foster care system, high school dropouts, children of incarcerated adults,
 - Bronx catchment includes zip codes 10456, 10459, and 10460.
 - Supports youth in obtaining their GED.
 - Provide 6-month training for construction jobs.
 - Training includes financial literacy, career readiness, and entrepreneurship.
 - Offers paid internships at active construction sites.
 - Partners with unions to place youth into union roles.
- Jahi Rose, Director of Outreach, Civilian Complaint Review Board (CCRB), introduced Sandy Liriano as the new Bronx Borough Coordinator for the CCRB.
- Nate Heffron, NYC Department of City Planning (DCP), introduced Jocelyn Schaefer as the new Community Liaison at DCP.
- Nelson Rivera, Director of Residential Services at the Fortune Society, spoke on the services provided by the organization.

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- Goal is to ensure the formerly incarcerated clients obtain permanent housing within 13 months.
- The Mandela House houses older adults that are formerly incarcerated.
- The Supervised Release Program assists youth in finding employment.

ELECTED OFFICIAL'S REPORTS

Assemblymember Chantel Jackson's Report

Ms. Crystal Diaz, Director of Constituent Services, shared time sensitive information along with the following information:

EVENTS

- January 16th at 6 pm: Make it Official Workshop: Registering Your Non-Profit
- January 23rd at 3 pm: Senior Showcase: A Day of Games & Memories PSS Andrew Jackson Senior Center

LEGISLATION

This year marks AM Jackson's fifth legislative session. She will serve as an active voting member of the Banks Committee, Cities Committee, Education Committee, Housing Committee, Mental Health Committee, and Small Business Committee.

For the 2025-26 legislative session, AM Jackson plans to advocate for increased state budget funding in critical areas, including but not limited to health, mental health, housing, education, entrepreneurship, public safety, and support for women and children. Additionally, she plans to reintroduce 60 bills while introducing new legislation addressing issues such as sickle cell disease, hospital pricing, guardianship, child support, placenta rights, ID's, warrants, implicit bias training, and more.

Priority Legislation:

• AM Jackson's Existing Bills:

1. A302: Stops corrections employees from mistreating inmates or coworkers; those who do may face disciplinary action or even lose their job.
2. A336: Starts a trial program to test body cameras for certain correction officers.
3. A3971 (bill # pending): Allows inmates to learn how to install solar hot water systems, providing vocational training while improving hot water access in prisons.
4. A9961A (bill # pending): Ensures certified peer support advocates with a history of incarceration are allowed into prisons to help with substance use treatment and transition programs.

• Bills Sponsored By Other Members:

1. A1321/S1305 (AM Rajkumar and Senator Comrie): Grants property owners access to neighboring properties for necessary repairs or improvements under certain conditions.
2. A1980/S901 (AM Walker and Senator Brisport): Requires child protective services to provide verbal and written disclosure of rights to individuals under investigation.
3. A2144/S5078 (AM Cunningham and Senator Cleare): Establishes a commission to develop school curricula highlighting African American history and achievements.
4. Community Housing Improvement Program (CHIPs) bill: Establishes rules for rental units that have been occupied for ten years or more and are now vacant after being restored. When such a unit becomes available, the landlord can set a new rent with the first new tenant after making improvements. However, the new rent cannot exceed the limits set by the local Section 8 housing program.

OFFICE UPDATES

Our district office offers free notary services Monday through Wednesday and Friday from 1:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Sign-up Form: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScX-SJA7K0i1wRGZ681Pw18XKUncr3feJwO-G7eE_d6k1o6sdw/viewform?usp=sf_link

RESOURCES/INITIATIVES

Spanish-Speaking Volunteers Needed!

We're looking for **Spanish-speaking volunteers** to support our team. If you or someone you know is interested, please email diazc@nyassembly.gov and district79@nyassembly.gov to learn more.

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Share Your Voice!

We're accepting **opinion pieces, poems, and short stories** for our newsletter! If you'd like to be featured, submit your writing as a **Word document** to johnsons@nyassembly.gov.

Community Feedback Survey – Your Voice Matters!

Our community feedback survey is now live! Share your ideas on how to improve the district by visiting **Assembly Member Chantel Jackson's website**. Simply Google "**Assembly Member Chantel Jackson**" and find the survey on her main page.

AM WEBSITE

You can find the website by googling Assembly Member Chantel Jackson; the survey is on her main page.
<https://nyassembly.gov/mem/Chantel-Jackson>

NEWSLETTER SIGN-UP

Subscribe to our newsletter using the link in AM Jackson's Instagram bio
<https://state.us4.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=5491220e529623bf71e8742b3&id=cfa8de078e>

OFFICE CONTACT INFORMATION

Assembly Member Chantel Jackson
780 Concourse Village West Ground FL
Professional Bronx NY 10451
718-538-3829
Constituent matters: District79@nyassembly.gov
Scheduling requests: schedulingbx79@gmail.com

AM JACKSON STAFF

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Sade Johnson
Scheduler & Communications Director
johnsons@nyassembly.gov

Crystal Diaz
Constituent Services Director
diazc@nyassembly.gov
347-234-5597

Dorcia Williams
Legislative Director
williamsd@nyassembly.gov

Bronx District Attorney Darcel Clark's Report

Ms. Senovia Simpson, Community Engagement Coordinator, Bronx DA's Office, provided the following written report:

Office of the District Attorney Office Report:

To keep up with our office:
Instagram : [@bronxdaclark](https://www.instagram.com/bronxdaclark)
Twitter: [@bronxdaclark](https://twitter.com/bronxdaclark)
Facebook: [@bronxdaclark](https://www.facebook.com/bronxdaclark)
www.bronxda.nycgov
718-590-2000
198 East 161 East 161 street Bronx, NY 10451

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<https://linktr.ee/bronxda>

Congressman Ritchie Torres' Report

Ms. Joanna Rivas, Constituent Services Liaison for Congressman Ritchie Torres, provided the following written report:

- In response to the Wallace Avenue fire, we've teamed up with elected officials CM Riley, Bronx Borough President Gibson, Senator Bailey, and AM Zaccaro to organize an Emergency Relief Drive. Donations will be collected at our district office through Friday between 10 AM and 4 PM. Please call the respective office to make drop-off arrangements.
- This week, Congressman Torres once again urged our local and State government to implement a plan for the permanent dismantling of the open-air drug market in the Hub. We will keep advocating for services until the issue is resolved.

Our office is open for Constituent Services, and we can assist with any federal issues you may have, including Social Security, Immigration, Passports, and problems with the IRS. If you have any issues, concerns, or comments, please contact our office at 718-503-9610 to schedule an appointment.

Bronx Borough President Vanessa L. Gibson's Report

Mr. Kenny Agosto, Community Board Liaison, Bronx Borough President's Office, did not provide a written report. However, Mr. Agosto shared time-sensitive information.

NYC Mayor 's Community Affairs Unit

Mr. Leonardo Coello, Bronx Borough Director, NYC Mayor's Community Affairs Unit, did not provide a written report. However, Mr. Coello did share the following information:

Mr. Coello spoke on the incident of the 14-year-old boy who was stabbed and killed in Mott Haven and the ripple effect it has had in other Bronx districts. The Mayor's Office has supported the victim's family and covered the funeral expenses. Mr. Coello thanked the NYPD for quickly apprehending the perpetrator.

Mr. Coello shared the following top five issues from the Mayor's State of the City address:

1. Street Homelessness & Mental Health – The mayor has a 5-year plan to address this issue.
2. Public Safety - overall crime has continued to decline, and the Mayor will continue to focus on bringing the numbers down.
3. Expand Housing and Family Friendly Neighborhood - introduced the City of Yes for Families initiative to build 100,000 new family-friendly units.
4. Education & Youth Development Initiatives – The Mayor has \$163mm in the budget for this initiative.
5. Financial Relief for Working Class Families – The Mayor offers tax relief and free internet service to qualified families.

Councilmember Althea Stevens' Report

Lisne Bautista, Scheduler, Councilmember Althea Stevens' Office, provided the following written report:

Community Updates:

- Senior Support Squad - Seniors who are members of Council Member Stevens Senior Advisory Board volunteer to support D16 office events and are looking for seniors to join their squad.
- Participatory Budgeting:
 - a. Deadline to submit is January 17th
 - b. \$1,000,000 in capital funds is spent within NYC Council District 16! Submit capital project ideas through this link. The ideas must range from \$50,000-\$1,000,000 in cost, have to have at least a 5 year lifespan, and must be accessible to the public and CAPITAL (not for programs - usually physical infrastructure)
 - c. Examples: school auditorium upgrades, fencing for trees around a neighborhood public library technology, park upgrades, HVAC for a school cafeteria, etc.

Upcoming Events:

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- Participatory Budgeting Presentation - On January 17th at BronxWorks 1130 Grand Concourse, Bronx, NY 10456 stop by to learn about, submit projects, or ask questions about this year's PB Cycle.
- Citizens Committee Presentation - On January 22nd at New Settlement Community Center stop by to learn about grants accessible to community leaders and local businesses.

District 16 In-Office Services:

Service Agency	Frequency
CUNY Citizenship Now	Every Monday
NAICA	By referral
Department of Buildings	By referral
Choice (Medicaid assistance)	By referral
CUNY Law	First Tuesday of every month
SNAP	Request referral from our office

For anyone who would like to sign up for Council Member Althea Stevens E-Newsletter - Follow this link : <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/su/2PxkaUc>

Join Our District 16 Advisory Councils

Council	Health & Wellness	Tenant Block & Neighborhood	Youth	Seniors	Multicultural
Date:	January 16th	January 21st	January 27th	January 30th	February 6th
Time:	5:30pm	6:00pm	4:30pm	2:00pm	5:30pm

Constituent Service Hours:

Mondays & Wednesdays (9am -5pm)	Tuesdays & Thursdays (9am -5pm)	Fridays (9am - 5pm)
No Walk-Ins Appointment Only!	Walk-Ins & Follow Up Appointments	*Fridays are administration days, no walk-ins or appointments will be accepted. *

How to make an appointment:

Email: District16@council.nyc.gov or Call: (718) 588-7500

Make sure to include:

- Full name
- Address
- Contact information
- Description of case

Councilmember Rafael Salamanca's Report

Ms. Shana Knotts, Chief of Staff, Councilmember Rafael Salamanca's Office, shared the following written report:

Legislation:

- On December 18th, Mayor Eric Adams signed CM Salamanca's bill, Intro 850, into law at a bill ceremony signing at City Hall. Intro 850 requires the Department of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD) to submit periodic reports to the Council regarding city-financed affordable housing projects approved as part of the City's ULURP process. The reports would be due every six months. They would include, for each project, the project identifier and location, the date the project received ULURP approval, and the date the project is expected to receive

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financial closing. The background for this bill is that despite the City Council approving much-needed affordable housing projects, it often takes HPD several years to provide funding for groundbreaking, frustrating constituents looking forward to adding affordable housing units within their community. Intro 850 will now be known as Local Law 125 of 2024.

- On Monday, January 6th, the FY26 Discretionary Funding Expense application went live on the Council's website. This is a chance for community-based organizations to apply for critical resources for programming and operational uses. The deadline to apply for funding is **Wednesday, February 19th**. Any submission received after this date will not be considered. For more information on how to apply for discretionary funding, please visit council.nyc.gov/budget

Office Operations:

- Our office remains open and fully operational to offer various constituent services. Those looking for assistance can give us a call, submit an email, or visit us in person at the district office.
- We also have an immigration attorney to provide constituents with free consultation and application assistance. However, this service is offered by appointment only. For more information or to schedule an appointment, please contact our office directly.
- CM Salamanca has partnered with DSNY for the E-Cycle NYC program. This is a free service where you can discard electronics that you no longer need, want, or utilize. They can be dropped off at our district office weekly from Wednesday – Friday between 10 am – 3 pm. A variety of electronics will be accepted, excluding household items such as vacuums, microwaves, batteries, light bulbs, or ballasts. Please refer to the flyer for complete details. This opportunity will be available to community members and residents for the next few months.

Upcoming Events:

- On Wednesday, February 12th, from 6 pm – 9 pm, CM Salamanca will host his first annual Valentine's Day Celebration event at Bronx Zoo's Schiff Hall, 2300 Southern Blvd. Bronx, NY 10460. RSVPs will be required to attend.
- On Wednesday, February 26th, from 6 pm – 9 pm, CM Salamanca will host his annual Black History Month Celebration at Bronx Zoo's Schiff Hall, 2300 Southern Blvd. Bronx, NY 10460. RSVPs will be required to attend.

How to connect with Team Salamanca

We strongly encourage interested parties to follow us on one of our social media platforms. This is to help individuals stay informed and updated about legislation, upcoming events, and other pivotal information.

- Facebook: [Facebook.com/CMSalamanca](https://www.facebook.com/CMSalamanca)

- X (Twitter): [@CMSalamancaJr](https://twitter.com/CMSalamancaJr)

- Instagram: [@cmsalamancajr_d17](https://www.instagram.com/cmsalamancajr_d17)

Councilmember Oswald Feliz's Report

Mr. Miguel Pena, Legislative Fellow, Councilmember Oswald Feliz's Office, did not provide a written report. However, Mr. Pena did share time-sensitive information.

Senator Luis Sepulveda's Report

Elizabeth Marte, Director of Community Affairs, Senator Luis Sepulveda's Office, did not provide a written report. Ms. Marte shared time-sensitive information.

ROLL CALL

Ms. Keziah Sullivan-Norman, Secretary of Bronx Community Board Three, called the roll, and a quorum was established.

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APPROVAL OF MEMBER REQUESTING TO BE EXCUSED

The following members requested to be excused:

- Xiomara Arriola
- Robert Brown
- Gilberto Constantinez
- Aaron Dumfeh
- April Jones
- Tracie Lucas-Lord
- Aubrey Mike
- Victor Latimer
- Kathy Morris
- Raymond Moya
- Jasmine Uribe
- D'Andra Van-Heusen Thomas

MOTION

It was motioned by Abraham Jones and seconded by Dawn Carter to excuse the following members:

- Xiomara Arriola
- Robert Brown
- Gilberto Constantinez
- Aaron Dumfeh
- April Jones
- Tracie Lucas-Lord
- Aubrey Mike
- Victor Latimer
- Kathy Morris
- Raymond Moya
- Jasmine Uribe
- D'Andra Van-Heusen Thomas

ALL IN FAVOR

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was motioned by Linda Kemp and seconded by Beverly Emers to approve the minutes dated December 10, 2025, with any necessary corrections.

ALL IN FAVOR

MOTION CARRIED

AMENDMENT TO THE AGENDA

At this time, Francis Dsouza, chairperson of the Education/Consumer Affairs Committee, stated that the board is considering establishing an additional standing committee. However, due to low attendance at existing committee meetings, careful consideration should be considered before moving forward.

Ms. Etta Ritter, District Manager of Bronx Community Board Three, emphasized that all board members have been informed of their assigned committees. Per the By-Laws, board members are required to participate in at least one committee. To address attendance concerns, all committee chairs will begin monitoring participation and providing updates on committee-related matters. It was noted that quorums at committee meetings are necessary and will also be monitored by the committee chair.

In response, Mr. Dsouza proposed a motion to pause the creation of any new standing committees until board member attendance improves at the existing committees.

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- | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|
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MOTION

It was motioned by Francis Dsouza and seconded by Beverly Emers to pause the creation of any new standing committees until board member attendance improves.

YES	ABSTAIN	NO
22	0	4

MOTION CARRIED

Ms. Joetta Brown, chairperson of Bronx Community Board Three, announced that attendance tracking will start in January 2025 and run through June 2025 to assess the progress of committee attendance.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Executive Committee Report

The Executive Committee members came to a consensus to recommend for full board approval an amendment to the current **Article V Sec 11 to Article V Sec. 12** in Bronx Community Board Three By-Laws Adopted on 3/9/21.

Article V - Officers

Sec. 11 - All other officers shall have such powers and perform such duties as may be assigned to them by the chairperson or the board.

Article V Officers

Amend Sec. 11 to

Sec. 12 - All other officers shall have such powers and perform such duties as may be assigned to them by the chairperson or the board.

MOTION

It was motioned by Abraham Jones and seconded by Maurice Gray to amend the current **Article V Section 11 to Article V Section 12 - All other officers shall have such powers and perform such duties as may be assigned to them by the chairperson or the board.** in Bronx Community Board Three's By-Laws adopted on 3/9/21.

YES	ABSTAIN	NO
26		

ALL IN FAVOR

MOTION CARRIED

Establish the position of Chairperson Emeritus to be reflected under Article V Sec. 11

Article V - Officers

Sec. 11 - The Chairperson Emeritus is an honorary position awarded by Bronx Community Board Three to a former Chairperson in recognition of their exceptional dedication, long-standing service, and significant contributions to the board and the communities it represents. The Chairperson Emeritus serves as an honorary board member with non-voting privileges. They are permitted to attend all standing committee meetings, board and executive meetings to observe, offer advice, and provide insight. Additionally, they can share historical context on important matters pertaining to the board and represent the board in ceremonial or honorary capacities.

MOTION

It was motioned by Andy Perdomo and seconded by Jeannie Ruiz to establish the position of Chairperson Emeritus to be reflected under Article V Sec. 11 - **The Chairperson Emeritus is an honorary position awarded by Bronx Community Board Three to a former Chairperson in recognition of their exceptional dedication, long-standing service, and significant contributions to the board and the communities it represents. The Chairperson Emeritus serves as an honorary board member with non-voting privileges. They are permitted to attend all standing committee meetings, board and executive meetings to observe, offer advice, and provide insight. Additionally, they can share historical context on important matters pertaining to the board and represent the board in ceremonial or honorary capacities.**

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YES	ABSTAIN	NO
24	2	0

Board Members Voting to Abstain:

Beverly Emers
Beautiful Winston

MOTION CARRIED

The Executive Committee members came to a consensus to recommend approval to the full board that Gloria Alston be recognized with the honorary title of Chairperson Emeritus in acknowledgment of her over 30 years of unwavering dedication to uplifting the community and her exemplary leadership in improving Bronx Community District Three.

MOTION

It was motioned by Keziah Sullivan-Norman and seconded by Abraham Jones to recognize Gloria Alston with the honorary title of Chairperson Emeritus in acknowledgment of her over 30 years of unwavering dedication to uplifting the community and her exemplary leadership in improving Bronx Community District Three.

YES	ABSTAIN	NO
25		

ALL IN FAVOR

MOTION CARRIED

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Ms. Joetta Brown provided a verbal report covering key developments that will impact the community in the coming year. Her report included, but was not limited to, the following topics:

- Incoming Federal Administration: Ms. Brown discussed anticipated policy changes and their potential effects on local governance, funding, and community programs.
- Implementation of the NYC Congestion Pricing Plan: She highlighted the expected rollout of the congestion pricing initiative, addressing its implications for commuters, businesses, and transportation costs.
- Increase in NYC MTA Fares: Ms. Brown noted the planned fare hikes for public transportation and their potential financial burden on residents and daily commuters.

Ms. Brown concluded her report by emphasizing that 2025 will be a year of change, encouraging the community to stay informed and engaged with upcoming developments.

For further details or community discussions regarding these topics, residents are encouraged to participate in upcoming meetings and forums.

DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT

Ms. Etta Ritter, District Manager of Bronx Community Board Three, provided a summary of issues affecting Bronx Community District Three for the period covering December 11th to the present:

CONGESTION RELIEF ZONE TOLLING

On January 5, 2025, vehicles entering the Congestion Relief Zone in Manhattan—local streets and avenues at or below 60 St—will be charged a toll. The program will reduce traffic, improve air quality, and fund better public transit. The toll amount will depend on the type of vehicle, time of day, whether any crossing credits apply, and the method of payment. Most vehicles with E-ZPass will be charged \$9 in the peak period or \$2.25 overnight, once daily. Discounts or exemptions may apply— visit mta.info/discounts for more details.

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E-ZPass is the best way to pay the toll. Drivers will be able to pay with their existing E-ZPass transponder and account. If you already have an E-ZPass account, make sure it is up to date with your current license plate number to ensure you are charged the E-ZPass toll rate and receive any peak period crossing credits.

NYC AUTISM CHARTER SCHOOLS

The application period to apply for the 2025-2026 School Year for the NYC Autism Charter Schools both East Harlem and Bronx sites. There is a lottery for children whose birthdates fall between January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020. You can apply online at www.nycautismcharterschool.org. Hard copies applications can be obtained by calling 212-860-2580 or 718-860-5910.

NYC GREEN FUND GRASSROOTS GRANT SPRING 2025

The NYC Green Fund Grassroots grant program supports community groups across NYC in activating and enriching parks and open spaces in the five boroughs. The grant program is intended to advance the viability of grassroots initiatives across parks and open spaces in all five boroughs and to foster a resilient network of equitable public green spaces. The grant will support a range of programming areas, including open space stewardship, environmental action, organizational development, health and wellness, youth development, arts and culture. The awardee will receive direct funding and technical assistance, with support in their work to activate and enrich parks and open spaces across NYC.

The application deadline is Friday, February 28, 2025, at 11:59 pm. Contact GreenFundGrassroots@cityparksfoundation.org with any questions or concerns.

Money Transfer Application

Bronx Community Board Three was notified that money transfer applications, such as [e.g. Venmo, Cashapp, Zelle, PayPal, etc.], are required to report transactions amounting to \$600 or more to the IRS. This raises several questions and concerns, particularly regarding its potential impact on individuals and small businesses within our district.

Ms. Joanna Rivas, a Congressman Ritchie Torres' office liaison, stated that the IRS was highlighting the requirements for self-employed people to track their reporting income. This requirement applies to business transactions, such as payments for goods and services, not personal transactions. This doesn't affect friends and family person-to-person transactions for gifts and reimbursements. Here are some links that clarify:

<https://www.digitaltransactions.net/the-irs-rings-in-2025-with-new-reporting-requirements-for-p2p-networks/>

<https://www.irs.gov/businesses/small-businesses-self-employed/money-services-business-msb-information-center>

<https://www.msn.com/en-ca/money/personalfinance/if-you-made-money-via-paypal-venmo-or-cash-app-in-2024-get-ready-for-this-irs-tax-change/ar-AA5ziJu?ocid=BingNewsSerp>

Update-Cross Bronx Plaza Mall 961 East 174th Street

Bronx Community Board Three has been notified that Holland & Knight, representing RSHS Realty, LLC, the owner of three warehouse buildings located at 1817 Boone Avenue, 1801 Boone Avenue, and 1769 Boone Avenue, has sent a letter to Cross Bronx Plaza (CBP), formerly known as the New Horizon Shopping Mall, located at 1764 Vyse Avenue (also referred to as 961 East 174th Street).

The letter demands that CBP take immediate action to clean up debris and refuse that has been dumped in the alley and on the properties and roofs owned by RSHS Realty. RSHS Realty has received violations because inspectors mistakenly believed that the alley was owned by them. However, surveys clearly indicate that the alley is owned by CBP.

Consequently, CBP is cleaning the alley and reimbursing RSHS for expenses related to roof repairs, as well as damage to property and equipment.

BENEDICTION

Mr. Abraham Jones led us in prayer.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Kolaco Acqui
1st Vice-Chairperson

Kathy Morris
2nd Vice-Chairperson

Keziah Sullivan-Norman
Secretary

D'Andra Van Heusen-Thomas
Treasurer

Robert Brown
Sgt.-at-Arms/Parliamentarian