



**THE CITY OF NEW YORK
BOROUGH OF THE BRONX
COMMUNITY BOARD 7**



VANESSA L. GIBSON, BOROUGH PRESIDENT

LEURYS ACOSTA, CHAIRPERSON

KARLA CABRERA CARRERA, DISTRICT MANAGER

GENERAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Chair:	Leurys Acosta
Meeting Date:	October 28, 2025
Meeting Time:	6:30 PM
Meeting Location:	KIPP Public Schools 2720 Jerome Avenue, Bronx, NY 10468
Minutes done by:	Leurys Acosta

Minutes:

- I. Meeting Guidelines & Code of Conduct:** Read
- II. Public Hearing/Public Session**
 - A. Kimberly Mejia, Rising Ground Inc.:** She is a homefinder at Rising Ground. The program is aiming to recruit foster parents for immigrant youth. If interested, reach out to kmejia@risingground.org.
 1. Question: Do parents get paid? Yes
 2. Are foster parents trained? Yes, there is training, and the process takes between 4 and 6 months to complete.
 - B. Jane Addison-Amoyaw, Mosholu Library Manager:** She reminds everyone that the library offers free programming for the community of all ages. Currently, the Library is hosting a Reading Challenge. Visit the library between 10/01/2025 and 12/31/2025 5 times and check out a book each time to earn a prize. Find out more at nypl.org/events.
 - C. Eric Urquiza, West Bronx Housing:** Reminds everyone that heating season has begun. Last year, Bronx Community Board 7 had the fourth-highest number of heat and hot water violations. West Bronx Housing helps tenants document no eat and no hot water complaints, file with 311, and open HP actions when needed.
 - D. Chad Royer:** Urges everyone to stay abreast of the Panel Education Council conversation around bus companies' service to our community.

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III. District Manager Karla Cabrera Carrera's Updates:

- A. DM thanks volunteers for helping with check-in for the meeting.
- B. DM thanks, Yvana Jimenez, Director of Family and Community Engagement at KIPP Public Schools, for hosting our meeting for the evening.
- C. DM thanks Jean Hill for reading all capital and expense requests during an earlier public hearing.
- D. The Bronx BP's Office has sent me the 269 applications for the Community Coordinator Position! I look forward to presenting a final candidate to the board by the November/December General Board Meeting.
- E. Attended community events with board members:
 - 1. 10/05/2025, 52nd Precinct Coffee with a Cup.
 - 2. 10/05/2025, Tour De Bronx.
 - 3. 10/15/2025, Community Lunch with the Department of Transportation.
 - 4. 10/15/2025, we partnered with Lehman College to host a clean-up on Jerome Avenue. 75 students, faculty, and staff attended. A huge thanks to Yini Rodriguez for organizing, Deahna Penn, and Rob Madera from Partnerships for Parks.
 - 5. 10/18/2025, We donated 100 composition notebooks for the 2nd Annual Unity 2nd Annual Community Back to School Event at PS 246.
 - 6. 10/20/2025, Senator Gustavo Rivera Community Discussion at Williamsbridge Oval Park.
 - 7. 10/21/2025, Fordham Landing \$55 Million State Investment to Advance Fordham Landing South Press Announcement.
 - 8. 10/23/2025, 52 Precinct Community Council Meeting.
- F. We hosted 1 of 3 Idea Generation Sessions:

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1. Idea Generation Session I: 10/21/2025. A huge thanks to Part of The Solution for providing the meeting space.
2. Idea Generation Session II: 10/30/2025. A huge thanks to Kolping on the Concourse. Dinner will be provided.
3. Idea Generation Session III: 11/15/2025. A huge thanks to the Veterans and Human Services Committee and Lehman College for their partnership.

G. Kingsbridge Armory Update:

1. City Council Vote on the Kingsbridge Armory Redevelopment
 - a) 10/29/1015
 - b) 11:15 a.m.
 - c) Subcommittee on Landmarks, Public Sitings and Dispositions public meeting.
 - d) Hearing Room 2, 250 Broadway, 8th Floor
2. Join NYCEDC for the Kingsbridge Armory Rally
 - a) 10/29/1015
 - b) 1:30 p.m.
 - c) Hearing Room 2, 250 Broadway, 8th Floor.

H. Please read updates regarding Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) guidance for Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWD): on.nyc.gov/4ntMFO6

I. For constituent concerns or complaints, please submit a 311 complaint. If 311 is not resolving your issue, please forward a picture and your address to the office. The more details you shared, the better. Sanitation issues can be sent directly to the office (no 311 is needed). We do need a picture and an address.

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J. Our office is located at 229-A East 204th Street, Bronx, NY 10458. You can call the office at 929-496-0748 or email at kcabreracarrera@cb.nyc.com.

IV. Chairperson Leury's Acosta Remarks

A. Encourages everyone to vote and flip their ballot.

B. Attended his first 52 Precinct Council Meeting, and encourages everyone to participate in the meetings to voice any public safety concerns.

C. The Chair also attended the Housing, Land Use, and Economic Development Committee Meeting where he heard about the Kingsbridge Armory's Community Benefits Agreement and Points of Agreement.

V. Attendance (Roll Call) by Leury's Acosta: Quorum met.

VI. Review of Previous Month's Minutes: Minutes Approved.

VII. Special Election for Bronx CB7 Secretary: Barbara Stronczer nominates Betty Arce to the Secretary Position, Helene Hartman Kutnowsky seconds the motion. Betty Arce accepts the nomination. Betty Arce is Bronx CB7's Secretary with 28 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, and 6 absent.

VIII. Motion(s)

A. Budget, Personnel, & Ethics:

1. Barbara Stronczer motions to go into Executive Sessions, and Andrew Laiosa seconds the motion.
2. Leury's Acosta motions to Exit Executive Session, and Barbara Stronczer seconds the motion.
3. Jean Hill motions to approve District Manager Karla Cabrera Carrera's 10% (\$10,330) salary increase from \$103,303 to \$113,606 (bit.ly/4nnx9Do). Yajaira Arias seconds the motion, which passes with 28 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, and 6 absent.
4. The DM thanks the board members.

B. Budget, Personnel, & Ethics:

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1. Jean Hill motions to accept Bronx Community Board 7's Fiscal Year 2027 Capital & Expense Budget Requests with corrections (bit.ly/3WjGi55). Barbara Stronczer seconds the motion.
2. The motion passes with 27 yes, 0 no, 1 abstain, and 6 absent.

IX. Committee Reports

A. Budget, Personnel & Ethics – Jean Hill

1. Motions were already presented. No meeting in November.

B. Education, Youth & Libraries – Leurys Acosta

1. No meeting held in October. Next Meeting: 11/05/2025.

C. Municipal Services – Edgar Ramos

1. Sanitation Presentation on Commercial Waste Zoning for all businesses. Next meeting: Nov 6, 2025.

D. Housing, Land Use & Economic Development – Dr. Momodou Sawaneh

1. Council Member Sanchez and the North West Bronx Housing Community and Clergy Coalition came to present on the Community Benefits and Points of Agreement for the Kingsbridge Armory. Next meeting: Nov 10, 2025.

E. Parks, Recreation & Cultural Affairs – Barbara Stronczer

1. Two Argus Cameras have been installed at Williambridge Oval Park, and 20 additional cameras will be installed at the Recreation Center. Next meeting: Nov 12, 2025.

F. Veterans Affairs & Human Services – Chad Royer

1. Discussed Veterans Banner Program and Veterans Breakfast on 11/15.25 in collaboration with Lehman College and NY Grey Cadets. The Committee went over the Adult Use Cannabis Retail Dispensary Application. Next meeting: 11/19/2025.

X. Elected Officials/Elected Official Representatives

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A. 52nd Precinct: Detective Stephen Echevarria

1. The precinct is hosting a toy drive in collaboration with CB7.
2. The holiday float is on December 10, 2025.
3. The Domestic Violence Unit is being promoted to handle cases from intake to prosecution. The precinct collaborates with Safe Horizon to provide referral services to victims.
4. The Police Academy will begin again.
5. Contact Information: 3016 Webster Ave, Bronx, NY 10467, Stephen.Echevarria@nypd.org, 718-220-5824.

B. Mayor Eric Adams' Office: Alina Dowe

1. Announces the Mayor is not seeking reelection.
2. Please continue to call 311 and email the number for proper follow-up.
3. Contact Information: adowe@cityhall.nyc.gov, (914) 446-8393

C. Bronx District Attorney's office: Matan Kogen

1. Gun Buyback at 777 East 22nd Street on Saturday, December 13, 2025, from 10 am to 4 pm.
2. Contact Information: 198 East 161 Street, Bronx, NY 10451, KogenM@Bronxda.nyc.gov, (718) 590-6548.

D. Bronx Borough President's office: Bianca Stephenson

1. New liaison for Bronx Community Board 7.
2. Thanks to everyone who attended the land use and zoning training.
3. There will be a Community Appreciation Dinner at Bronx Museum of the Arts on 10/29/2025. The office is also hosting a Reso-A Funding Information Session on Thursday, November 13, from 4:30 pm to 7:30 pm at Bronx Borough Hall.
4. Contact Information: 851 Grand Concourse #301, Bronx, NY 10451, cgannon@bronxbp.nyc.gov, (718) 590-3500.

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E. NY State Senator Gustavo Rivera's Office: Sari Mendoza

1. Encourages everyone to sign up for the newsletter.
2. Update on 20-camera installation at Williamsbridge Oval Park.
3. The Senator will be attending the Kingsbridge Armory rally.
4. Contact Information: 2432 Grand Concourse, Suite 506, Bronx, NY 10458, smendoza@nysenate.gov, (718) 933-2034.

F. Assembly Member Jeffrey Dinowitz's Office: Grace Torres

1. Contact Information: 3107 Kingsbridge Avenue, Bronx, NY 10463, DinowitzJ@nyassembly.gov, (718) 796-5345.

G. Assembly Member Yudelka Tapia's Office: Neil Jimenez

1. A 55 million investment for 985 affordable house units at Fordham Landing South.
2. Contact Information: 2175 Jerome Avenue, Suite C, Bronx, NY 10453, shaevitzj@nyassembly.gov, (718) 933-6909.

H. Assembly Member John Zaccaro Jr.'s Office: Ayanna Armstrong

1. Coat drive at MS 80. Turkey giveaway details to be shared later.
2. Contact Information: 2018 Williamsbridge Road, Bronx, NY 10461, district80@nyassembly.gov, (718) 409-0109.

I. Council Member Oswald Feliz's Office: George Cooke

1. The Office will host a Turkey Giveaway on November 25th from 2 pm to 4 pm.
2. The heat season is here. Call 311 if your landlord does not provide heat or hot water. Keep your landlords accountable.
3. Contact Information: 573 East Fordham Road (Entrance on Hoffman Street) Bronx, NY 10458, gcooke@council.nyc.gov, (718) 842-8100.

J. Council Member Eric Dinowitz's Office: Sabrina Noel

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1. Contact Information: 277 West 231st Street, Bronx, NY 10463, jklaus@council.nyc.gov, (718) 549-7300.

K. Council Member Pierina Sanchez's Office: Brenda Muñoz

1. The Council Member is in the final stages of negotiations regarding the Kingsbridge Armory.
2. [Intro 429-A](#): This bill would require the inspecting entity of a periodic gas piping inspection be either a licensed master plumber or a licensed journeyman plumber working under the direct supervision of a licensed master plumber. This bill would also amend the scope of gas piping inspections, requiring inspections to include the point of connection with gas appliances, and would change the definition of ordinary plumbing work to include the replacement of gas furnaces, household gas appliances, and gas appliance connectors. This bill would also amend certain requirements for the plumbing industry. Specifically, this bill would: i) reinstate the plumbing and fire suppression license board, ii) amend the definition of emergency work to allow the repair of a plumbing system to protect the public from an unsafe condition or restore water to a building or dwelling unit; and iii) expand the Department of Building's ability to seize equipment used for unlicensed work.
3. Contact Information: 2065 Morris Avenue, Bronx, NY 10453, mvillalobos@council.nyc.gov, (646) 574-0109.

L. Congressman Adriano Espaillat: *Not Present*

1. Contact Information: 3107 Kingsbridge Avenue, Bronx, NY 10463, (646) 740-3632.

M. Congressman Ritchie Torres: *Not Present*

1. Contact Information: 540 East Fordham Road, Suite 2A, Bronx, NY 10458, (718) 503-9610.

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N. NYC Public Advocate's Office: *Not Present*

1. Contact Information: 1 Centre Street, 15th Floor, New York, NY 10007, gwilliams@advocate.nyc.gov, (646) 952-1549.

O. NYC Comptroller's office: *Not Present*

1. Contact Information: One Centre Street, 5th Floor, New York, NY 10007, action@comptroller.nyc.gov, (212) 669-3916.

P. NY State Senator Robert Jackson's Office: *Not Present*

1. Contact Information: 5034 Broadway, Rm. 701, New York, NY 10034, etavarez@nysenate.gov, (212) 544-0173.

Q. Assembly Member Manny De Los Santos' Office: *Not Present*

1. Contact Information: 210 Sherman Ave, Ste A&C, New York, NY 10034, delossm@nyassembly.gov, (212) 544-2278.

R. Assembly Member George Alvarez's Office: *Not Present*

1. Contact Information: 2633 Webster Avenue, 1st Floor, Bronx, NY 10458, paulinot@nyassembly.gov, (718) 933-2204.

S. Council Member Carmen De La Rosa's Office: *Not Present*

1. Contact Information: 618 W 177th St, New York, NY 10033, district10@council.nyc.gov, (917) 521-2616.

T. Council Member Althea Stevens' Office: *Not Present*

1. Contact Information: 1377 Jerome Avenue, Bronx, NY 10452, District16@council.nyc.gov, (718) 588-7500.

XI. Open for Board Members' questions and comments: Lowell Greene suggests we create a map showing where people can dispose of used needles.

XII. Next Meeting Date: November 18, 2025

XIII. Adjournment

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