



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



RUBEN DIAZ, JR., BOROUGH PRESIDENT EMMANUEL MARTINEZ, CHAIRPERSON ISCHIA BRAVO, DISTRICT MANAGER

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

Chair:	Michelle Avila
Meeting Date:	Tuesday, September 8th, 2020
Meeting Time:	6:30 PM
Members (Check Those In Attendance)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michelle Avila <input type="checkbox"/> Gloria Bent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cristina Contreras <input type="checkbox"/> Alfred Grant <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michelle Gonzalez <input type="checkbox"/> Helene Wilson
Minutes done by:	Michelle Avila

Minutes:

- I) **Introductions**
- II) **Review of previous minutes (If applicable)**
- III) **Follow-up from previous month (If applicable)**
- IV) **New Business**
 - a) **Erica Peralta-Downing - NYC Dept. of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH)**
 - 1) **Provided an update on NYC DOHMH guidance on COVID-19. New York City entered Phase Four of Restart NYC on July 20. This phase includes reopening for low-risk outdoor arts & entertainment, media production, and professional sports competitions with no fans. DOHMH encourages all New Yorkers to get tested whether they have symptoms or not. If any businesses have questions about reopening, they can contact the Business Restart Hotline at 800-727-4692.**
 - 2) **Members of the public discussed how the Department of Education (DOE) has not been transparent with regard to safety protocols for NYC Public Schools. Concerns about DOE not being transparent on their school walk throughs and that community members and parents were not provided the opportunity to join walk throughs as had been announced.**



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Ms. Peralta-Downing relayed that she will connect with her counterpart with the DOE to obtain more information and will share with Committee Chair so the information can be provided to the public.

b) Jackie Bray - NYC Health + Hospitals Test & Trace Corps

- 1) Ms. Bray provided additional details regarding school reopening and relayed steps NYC is taking to keep everyone safe. These measures fall into four categories. The first category is requiring basic principles of infection control – everyone will be in masks, every individual will be socially distanced, symptom screening prior to entering school and classrooms will be provided with copious amounts of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and cleaning supplies.**
- 2) The second measure NYC has taken to ensure safety in school reopening is a review of all of the ventilation systems. NYC has pledged that any classroom that is not properly ventilated will not be used. The recent survey of ventilation system found that 96% of classrooms inspected had appropriate ventilation.**
- 3) The third measure is conducting surveillance testing. Across the board at DOE between 10% - 20% of all students and staff will be tested every single month at every single school. This will provide markers to identify when additional safety precautions must be taken.**
- 4) The fourth measure is the contact-tracing program that they are implementing in the schools. If there is a COVID-19 positive case in a classroom, they will shut down the classroom. Students will be quarantined and tested, and they will monitor to ensure that no one that is positive is able to return until their isolation period is over.**



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No one that has had close contact to that individual will be able to return for 14 days. If there is a second case in the school, they will shut down the school for at least 24 hours to allow contact tracers to do an investigation as to whether or not the cases are linked, and whether transmission occurred in the schools. If there is high uncertainty about whether the COVID-19 cases were contracted in the schools, then they will shut the school down for the duration of the quarantine period, usually 14 days.

- 5) If at any point if we reach 3% of positive tests over a week across the city will shut the system down again.**
- 6) The NYC Test & Trace Corps is a public health initiative to fight COVID-19 so that New Yorkers can get back to school, work and help New York City reopen safely.**
- 7) The Corps helps New Yorkers receive free, safe and confidential testing for COVID-19 and for the antibody test. It ensures that anyone with the virus receives care and can safely isolate to prevent the spread.**
- 8) The NYC Test & Trace Corps encourages everyone to get tested. There are over 200 testing locations across NYC. Testing is safe, convenient, and open 7 days a week. You should get tested whether or not you have symptoms. Get tested if you have been in large crowds and tested before seeing someone that is at higher risk of contracting COVID-19. Educators should get tested once a month. Individuals that are nurses or work at shelters should get tested frequently.**
- 9) You can find the closest testing location by calling 311 or going to nyc.gov/covidtest.**
- 10) If you do have COVID-19 or were exposed to COVID-19, pick up the phone when contact tracers are trying to reach you.**



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They are there to help and support you. They have access to resources you might need like food sources, or assist individuals with services to access paid leave. The tracers send care packages to folks. The tracers are asking individuals contacted to share where they have been and who they have been around. Your information will be safe.

11) A member of the public asked if the masks given to students in the schools child sized? Ms. Bray confirmed that they are child-sized masks available to schools and adult size masks available for staff.

12) A member of the public asked whether the Corps are still hiring? Anywhere to send local job seekers? Front-line tracers are fully staffed, approximately 3,900 people. Many staff are from the zip codes that were most impacted by COVID-19. However, people can send resumes directly to Jackie Bray if seeking administrative and management positions like data analysts, marketing, and project management positions.

c) Needs Statement and CB7 Budget Request

Chair provided an overview of the FY2022 Budget Requests process for capital and expense requests. The Chair shared the Committee's previous request for FY21 and solicited feedback on whether any of the requests should be removed. Committee Chair also reviewed the public survey on Needs within the District to inform annual Community Board Needs Statement. Chair encouraged Committee and members of the public to fill out the survey.

d) Review CB7 Health Profiles and priorities

Chair reviewed available Health profile for CB7. Committee will use the health profile to think about priority areas for the upcoming year.

V) Next meeting date – Tuesday, October 20, 2020



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- VI) Discussion on next agenda**
- VII) Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 7:27pm**