



The City of New York

# **Manhattan Community Board 1**

**Catherine McVay Hughes** CHAIRPERSON | **Noah Pfefferblit** DISTRICT MANAGER

## **Chairperson's Report for November 2014** **Catherine McVay Hughes**

It has been another extremely busy month for Community Board 1 since the October monthly meeting. Together we continue to make our neighborhood better and stronger than ever. I would like to report on the important issues and milestones that we have worked through with fellow board members, the CB1 staff, elected officials and government agencies. Thank you everyone.

### Updates

- South Street Seaport Update: Heard proposal at a CB1 Seaport/Civic Center Committee to build on footprint of Pier 14 as an alternative to the mixed-use project north of Pier 17. This site has both environmental and zoning issues that remain unresolved.
  - Seaport Working Group Meeting – members of the Seaport Working Group met to receive a revised presentation of the Howard Hughes Corporation's (HHC) mixed use project for the South Street Seaport, which incorporated many of the Working Group's recommendations to enhance the vitality, amenities and livability of the Seaport District. CB1 recommended Helicopter Pier 6 which is owned by NYC Economic Development Corporation as an alternative site; needs to be studied (11/19/14)
  - Seaport Working Group follow-up meeting to provide additional feedback to HHC (12/03/14)
  - CB1 Special Landmarks Committee Meeting 1 of 2 to consider application for Tin Building, Pavilions under FDR Drive and Link Building by Howard Hughes Corporation (Wednesday, 12/10/14 – location TBD)
  - CB1 Special Landmarks Committee Meeting 2 of 2 for above – Resolution (Monday, January 12, 2014 – location TBD)
  - Landmark Preservation Commission public hearing likely in January 2015
  - No news or timetable yet for "mixed-use" ULURP project
- Pier A plaza fences came down in association with the opening of a restored Pier A and its esplanades to the public after decades along with a passage to Battery Park, also reopened after renovation (11/14/14)
- Fulton Center and Dey Street Concourse opening to public after a decade of planning and construction – it is integral to the redevelopment and modernization of public transportation in Lower Manhattan and provides more direct access, easier connections, and many more available entrances to reach 10 subway lines (A, C, E, J, R, Z, 2, 3, 4, and 5); it provides an underground passageway to reach the newly built World Trade Center PATH station; and the new hub is fully ADA-compliant and will include new retail space (11/10/14)
- Reknitting of the World Trade Center site into the fabric of the city continues as workers began moving into 4 WTC (10/27/14) and 1 WTC and fences came down along the north/south/west sides of 1 WTC (11/03/14)

- Peck Slip Parking – DOT crews installed “No Standing Anytime” signs around the perimeter of both plazas to clear the edges of parked vehicles since roadway geometry around the plazas’ perimeters is not wide enough to safely accommodate parking on both sides and a travel lane and it is also very difficult for an FDNY truck to maneuver in event of an emergency; existing alternate side parking opposite the plazas remains unchanged; NYC DOT has alerted NYPD to begin enforcement of the new regulations on Monday; thank you NYC DOT! (10/30/14)

#### Press Conferences

- Pedestrian Safety on Canal Street Press Conference led by Council Member Chin – thank you Mitch Frohman for attending and speaking on behalf of CB1 (11/10/14)
- Opening Fulton Center and Dey Street Concourse – with Acting Federal Transit Administrator McMillan, Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) Chair Prendergast, MTA’s President of Capital Construction Dr. Horodniceanu, Senator Schumer, Speaker Silver, Congressman Nadler, Borough President Brewer, Downtown Alliance President Lappin (Sunday, 11/09/14)

#### Testimonies

- 346 Broadway/108 Leonard Street Landmark Preservation Committee Hearing – thank you Bruce Ehrman for testifying on behalf of CB1 (11/18/14)
- Public Hearing on the Proposed Re-siting of The Peck Slip School (02M343) from Building M860 to New Building M343 in the 2015-2016 School Year – submitted testimony (11/10/14)

#### Events

- 1 WTC CB1 Tour with Port Authority of NY & NJ and Durst Corporation – window washing update; thanks to PAPD, NYPD, FDNY and others for rescue and repair (11/14/14)
- Ebola: Educating and Protecting Workers training class – sponsored by NYCOSH (DC37, 11/10/14)
- Let’s protect our drinking water: fighting hydraulic fracturing in NYS – Town Hall Meeting co-sponsored with Assemblymember Glick and others (10/29/14)
- Announcement to Advance the Creative Sector – Downtown Alliance and Speaker Silver, (150 Broadway, 10/30/14)

#### Meetings

- Manhattan Borough Board Meeting (11/20/14)
- Reimagining Lower Manhattan – attended with Ro Sheffe; preliminary study to determine how to improve pedestrian and vehicular mobility in historic downtown so that residents, workers and visitors can all benefit by the recent resurgence (11/19/14)
- WTC Research Principal Investigator Autumn/Winter Meeting (11/20-21/14)
- NY Rising Meeting – Governor’s Office of Storm Recovery announced a \$1 million proposal to create a one-acre wetland in East River Park; project developed by Lower Manhattan NY Rising Community Reconstruction Planning Committee, will be the first of many community resiliency initiatives to be implemented in Lower Manhattan. Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for \$11 million for Resource Recovery Centers will be available soon (11/18/14)

- Water Street Text Amendment – with City Planning Department, Economic Development Corporation, Downtown Alliance, Financial District and Planning Committee leadership; CB1 requests that there be a formal referral process whereby it can determine what locations are appropriate for which proposed uses and that standards for efficiency and resiliency be written into the text; <http://www.nycedc.com/blog-entry/transforming-water-streets-pops> (11/17/14)
- 346 Broadway meeting – with Borough President Brewer, Council Member Chin and representatives of other elected officials to discuss community space issue (11/12/14)
- Build Schools Now Working Group Meeting – with Pratt GAUD Program/Studio and representatives of elected officials (11/14/14)
- WTC Health Program – Conference Call (11/07/14) and Meeting with Mariama James and Bob Schneck (11/05/14)
- Art Connects New York – with Bob Schneck (Institute for Career Development, 123 William Street, 10/31/2014)

#### Announcements

- Thanks to NYC Department of Buildings Manhattan Commissioner Martin Rebholz for assisting Da Claudio Restaurant on cutting through red tape so that they could open their restaurant and employ a staff after two long years of rebuilding after Sandy (21 Ann Street, 11/14/14)
- WTC Health Program launches online application at: [www.cdc.gov/wtc/apply.html](http://www.cdc.gov/wtc/apply.html)
- Please note changes due to holidays on the CB1 December calendar
- Senator Squadron's Town Hall Meeting followed by a Tenant Resource Fair – CB1 is a co-sponsor. PS 142, 100 Attorney St (Between Delancey and Rivington), Manhattan, on Tuesday, December 2, 2014.