



The City of New York

Manhattan Community Board 1

Catherine McVay Hughes CHAIRPERSON | Noah Pfefferblit DISTRICT MANAGER

Chairperson's Report for August and September 2015 **Catherine McVay Hughes**

With your ongoing support, Community Board 1 has had another two busy months, especially for the summer. Together we continue to make our neighborhood better and stronger. Here are some of 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

- **Peck Slip School (PS 343) Opened** – joined school staff, students, families and Councilmember Chin, Senator Squadron, Manhattan Borough President Brewer for the ringing of the bell for the first day of school; thank you everyone for making this a reality (09/09/15)
- **Sandy Recovery and Resiliency**
 - Mayor de Blasio announced **\$100 Million For Storm Protection Project** that the city will invest for storm protection in Manhattan. The project involves building flood walls and levees from Battery Park around the tip of Manhattan and up to the East Side. The funding is part of a demonstration of the city's commitment to a contest, sponsored by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development that will reward \$500 million to the city that presents the best resiliency project.
 - City's Request For Proposals for the Lower Manhattan Comprehensive Coastal Protection Study to design and engineering firms to come up with specific protection measures was issued 09/28/15: <https://www.nycedc.com/opportunity/cdbg-dr-lower-manhattan-coastal-resiliency-consultant-services-rfp>. This is great news and one step closer to finally getting the protection that CB1 has been asking for.
- **South Street Seaport**
 - **HHC announced that they will not include a canopy on Pier 17** at the Seaport/Civic Center Committee (09/24/15) – Public hearing on Certificate of Appropriateness for “a modern pier and retail structure approved by the Landmarks Preservation Commission (LPC) in 2014 on the application to demolish the Link building, modify the façade and construct a rooftop pergola structure” was postponed from July 21 to August 4 which allowed CB1 resolution to go to full board and be submitted to LPC. LPC requested HHC to return with revisions to their 30-foot canopy on Pier 17; CB1 had asked that HHC return to CB1's Landmark Committee on Thursday, October 10th to present their revised plans prior to returning to LPC and to include visibility studies.
 - HHC has been invited to present "for information only" their revised Pier 17 proposal to CB1's Landmarks Committee on 10/10/15 before their LPC hearing date on 10/20/15.

- **World Trade Center**
 - **Pope Francis makes historic visit to the 9/11 Memorial and Museum** – where he paid his respects to the victims and led a multireligious peace gathering. He became the first pontiff to visit the Memorial and Museum since its opening to the public. (09/25/15)
 - **9/11 Blue Lights at National Memorial Plaza** (09/11/15)
 - **September 11th Commemoration Ceremony** – attended with Mariama James (09/11/15)
 - **9/11 Community Evening for 9/11 Memorial Museum** (09/10/15)
 - **2015 Travelers' Choice TripAdvisor World Wonders ranks The National September 11 Memorial: [#5 Top Landmark in U.S.](#) and [#20 Top Landmark Worldwide](#)**
- **22 Affordable Units at 465 Washington Street** – lottery schedule has been pushed back and the affordable units are now tentatively slated to go to market later in October. People will be able to apply on nyc.gov/housingconnect once they launch. In the meantime, sign up for the inquiry list at www.affrental.com. To do this by mail: send a postcard or letter with complete name and mailing address to: Bridge Land West LLC, 1357 Broadway, Box 438, New York, NY 10018.
- **Gaslights back on at City Hall Park fountain** – thank you NYC Parks (08/28/15)
- **Joint HRPT and CB1 Pier 26 Forum** – introduction of design team (Olin Studio) and general discussion of the start of the design/programming process; Monday, October 19 from 6:30-8:00PM at 120 Warren Street

Press Conferences

- **James Zadroga World Trade Center Health and Compensation Act Reauthorization** – joined Congress members Carolyn Maloney, Jerry Nadler and Peter King, first responders and survivors to urge passage of an extension of the Zadroga Act (7 World Trade Center Park, 09/03/15)
- **Mayor de Blasio, Lower Manhattan leaders announce new \$100 million City commitment to coastal resiliency** – attended with Senator Squadron, Manhattan Borough President Brewer, Councilmember Chin, Downtown Alliance President Lappin and others; City will leverage commitment to bolster National Disaster Resilience Competition (NDRC) Application, potentially securing additional funding for Lower Manhattan resiliency with extensive Community Engagement planned. New Lower Manhattan Flood Protection will complement extensive resiliency investments already underway across City. Also, handed out emergency supplies at an event on storm preparedness on the 10th anniversary of Hurricane Katrina. (Alfred E. Smith Recreation Center - Roundtable; Alfred E. Smith Park - OEM Fair and Gaggle, 80 Catherine Street, 08/27/15)

Testimonies

- [Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer Public Hearing on Manhattan Congestion](#) (BMCC, 09/17/15)
- [New York City Phase 2 Application for U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development National Disaster Resilience Competition](#) (Southbridge Towers, 09/10/15)

Events

- **Health and Hospital Corporation (HCC) Board meeting** – Dr Raju, the President of HHC and a thoracic surgeon, acknowledged the WTC Health Program at HHC. His comments were a call-to-action moment for the reauthorization of Zadroga and I joined Dr. Joan Reibman, Kimberly Flynn

and Maggie Garcia to exemplify the importance of it and our role in making it happen; what an honor (09/24/15)

- **Stock Exchange ring bell at close with The Battery** – joined President Warrie Price and others in celebration of the wildly successful opening month of SeaGlass Carousel (09/23/15)
- **Rockefeller 100 Resilient Cities** – Chief Resiliency Officers Onboarding Visit: Living Lab New York City; participated with City and PANYNJ in an event dedicated to helping cities around the world become more resilient to the physical, social, and economic challenges that are a growing part of the 21st century. 100RC supports the adoption and incorporation of a view of resilience that includes not just the shocks – such as earthquakes, floods, disease outbreaks, etc. – but also the stresses that weaken the fabric of a city on a day to day or cyclical basis (09/21/15)
- **14th Annual Battery Park City Block Party** – attended with Borough President Brewer, Council Member Chin, Senator Squadron, President/COO Hyman, BPC Chamber and Anthony Notaro; spoke and honored Tessa Huxley for her decades of dedication and vision for BPCA parks (09/20/15)
- **Tribeca Small Business Roundtable sponsored by the Office of the Manhattan Borough President & CB1** (IPN, 09/16/15)
- **9/11 Dedication Full Circle by Battery Park City Authority and Battery Park City Parks** – joined President/COO Hyman, Former President/CEO Carey and Assemblymember Glick and spoke (09/10/15)
- **Cuomo’s announcement of ENOUGH IS ENOUGH** -- New, Uniform Sexual Assault Policy to Protect New York’s College Students. The new “Enough is Enough” legislation requires all colleges to adopt a set of comprehensive procedures and guidelines, including a uniform definition of affirmative consent, a statewide amnesty policy, and expanded access to law enforcement. With this law, all of New York’s college students are better protected from rape and sexual assault (09/02/15)
- **Carl Weisbrod CityLaw Breakfast** – discussed progress made on Mayor Bill de Blasio’s affordable housing plan, <http://www.citylandnyc.org/live-video-the-127th-citylaw-breakfast-with-carl-weisbrod/> (08/28/15)
- **Battery Dance Festival** – spoke at free cultural event organized by 40 year downtown organization (Robert Wagner Jr. Park, BPC, 08/20/15)
- **Grand Opening of SeaGlass Carousel and the Tiffany and Co. Foundation Woodland Gardens at The Battery** – spoke at ribbon cutting (08/20/15)
- **Individual and Community Preparedness Workshops – FEMA Region II** (08/18/15)
- **National Night Out** – Citations presented to thank Transit District 2 and NYPD for keeping downtown safe in the subways and above ground (08/4/15)

Public Forum

- **Lower Manhattan Development Corporation Public Forum Allocation of \$50 Million in Settlement Funds** (Fiterman Hall, 09/16/15)

Meetings

- **Talking Resiliency: NYC** – included overview of the City's Phase 2 application for the National Disaster Resilience Competition; sponsored by The Municipal Art Society of New York, NYC Mayor’s Office of Recovery & Resiliency, NY Rising and Rockefeller Brothers Fund; attended with Michael Connolly and Bob Schneck (09/29/15)
- **NYP/Lower Manhattan Hospital Community Advisory Board Meeting** (09/21/15)
- **Manhattan Borough Board Meeting** (09/17/15)

- **Chinese Planning Group** with Micheal Levine; CB1 continues to share our experience of public participation progress and community participation with others from around the world (09/17/15)
- **NYC Parks Manhattan Listening Group** – Mayor de Blasio is committed to addressing the issue of aggressive and illegal vending from costume characters, ticket sellers, and others in highly used parks around the city and has asked Parks to lead a working group of city agencies, local electeds, and community groups that identifies ways we can improve the situation for park users, local businesses, and vendors alike. City will be releasing next steps in a few weeks (Arsenal, 09/16/15)
- **World Trade Center Health Program Survivors Steering Committee Meeting** – attended with Mariama James, Kathleen Gupta and Bob Schneck (09/03/15)
- **Panhandling Study in CB1** – with CB1 Planning staff (08/27/15)
- **USPS Meeting convened by Congressman Nadler’s office** – joined by representatives of Borough President Brewer, Senator Squadron and NYC Council member Chin, Anthony Notaro and others on following up on postal issues downtown including post office facility closed in Greenwich Street South that covered Financial District and Battery Park City, updating USPS map of blue mailboxes in CB1; requested USPS to attend a CB1 BPC Committee meeting for an update about locating a Contract Postal Unit to replace the Alternate Access Point (ACP) location that was eliminated near Battery Parking Garage near the tunnel on Greenwich Street (08/17/15)
- **Manhattan Borough Board Meeting** (08/20/15)
- **Community Board By-Laws Working Group convened by Borough President Brewer’s Office** – joined by other CB1 members (Notaro, Connolly, Kennell and Frohman) (08/19/15)
- **State Liquor Authority Chair Vincent Bradley and Community Boards 1, 2, 3 convened by Senator Squadron Meeting** – attended with Assemblymember Glick, Jeff Ehrlich, Noah Pfefferblit and others (CB3’s office, 08/5/15)
- **Community Assistant Unit's Small-Business Resiliency and Sustainability Workshop** – joined by Michael Connolly; energy efficiency initiatives (08/5/15)
- **Resiliency Meeting convened by Dan Zarilli** – with Seaport/Civic Center Committee Chair Marco Pasanella, Planning Committee Chair Michael Connolly and CB1 Planning consultant Michael Levine (07/31/15)
- **World Trade Center Health Program Survivors Steering Committee** – joined by Kathleen Gupta and Bob Schneck (08/4/15)

Announcements

- **Noel Jefferson** is resigning from CB1 after 14 years of volunteer service; thank you very much
- **Francis Curtis** has been appointed to **Bellevue Hospital Center Community Advisory Board**
- **Tamar Hovsepian** is out on maternity leave and we wish her a happy and healthy delivery. **Diana Switaj** is now full time until her return
- Welcome this year’s **Fund for the City of NY Urban Fellow**, Cammie Flippen, who just started
- **Preliminary CD Needs Statements and CB Budget Requests** – submitted to Department of City Planning and the Office of Management and Budget (08/10/15). Final CD Needs Statements and CB Budget Requests are due 10/30/15. Thank you Diana Switaj for your work on this document
- **Carl Glassman and April Koral** were honored by NYC Council Member Chin and Speaker Mark Viverito at City Hall for their many years running **The Tribeca Trib** – Congratulations! (09/30/15)
- **CB1 office moved on Friday, July 31** – a big thank you to Lucy Acevedo for the successful transition! This seamless move could not have happened without her; thank Diana and Lucy for working out the logistics for the larger committee room with the Borough President Brewer’s office