

Community Board 1, Queens – Full Board / Public Hearing Meeting Minutes

May 16, 2023

Meeting opens with Chairperson, Marie Torniali, at 6:30 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING ITEM:

Borough Planner Derek Jasmin from Department of City Planning (DCP) will provide an informational session on the City of Yes citywide initiative, Zoning for Carbon Neutrality. Joined by Jasmin Tepale from DCP Community Planning Engagement. (Presentation attached).

Chairperson Marie Torniali If you have questions, please use the raise-hand function.

I just want to mention that there will be no vote tonight. This is an informational session, but they will be going to the Land Use Committee and the vote will not be before June.

Elizabeth Erion Yes, that's correct. We're going to take this up at the Land Use Committee. We are having a dialogue with City Planning Representatives at that meeting, and we will make a recommendation for the Community Board June meeting at which time that's when they'll vote on the text amendments that are being proposed. I'm still in the process of reading all of the text that is being proposed to be changed so I believe it's been distributed to the Board and the Committee Members. We urge you to read it. It is an annotated text and it's written in a way that explains what's happening so that could help you also to understand what the zoning is, what the changes are going to be in the zoning resolution.

Question and Answers:

Antonella Di Saverio Less density might help decrease the carbonization in our area, so we might want to consider that. How is this program managing the supply of power while making the environment more green? We don't want a situation like in California, where you can't charge electronic vehicles or not be able to use air conditioning in the heat of summer and then also have you discuss dirty electricity?

Jasmin Tepale My name is Jasmin. I'm here to support Derek. I'm part of a team in the DCP called Community Planning Engagement, and we just recently formed a few months ago. To your first question, can our energy grid currently handle all that extra technology like EV Chargers, solar panels? Is that a correct way to think about it?

Antonella Di Saverio Just to have enough so that we don't tell people in the heat of summer, especially elderly people or people who are vulnerable, that they can't use air conditioners. Where it's going to contribute to blackouts, we've had blackouts in Astoria. I want you to address that. We have to find a really good balance between the two, and if we can't find a balance, then we have to work slowly towards it until we can get to that balance.

Jasmin Tepale We have been working with Con Ed, specifically to think through the energy grid and if community members were to add this technology, can the energy grid handle that?

In their opinion, they thought that the energy grid has room to grow, because they're trying to add a lot more energy capacity to the grid across the outer boroughs, Queens, Brooklyn and the Bronx. I know that's one of their big initiatives to help with all this new technology that New York City wants to add.

I do know the other side of it. These changes aren't going to be things that are going to happen overnight. For example: solar panels, won't start popping up everywhere overnight and a lot of the green technology will be phased in slowly, because people need financing and people need to go through a permitting process to get all the technology. To your point, though, you said, we need to be conscious about the fact that there shouldn't be a trade-off between being able to run your AC on a really hot summer night and a car charging on the street. It is something that we will bring back to Con Edison because we are working with them on that, and hopefully we can get a better answer from them.

Antonella Di Saverio In the summertime, with solar panels I over produce and \$30-\$50,000 bills. If they are going to force people to do solar panels, then they have to make sure that they solve the problems that come along with it. Have you talked about dirty electricity as part of this plan and how to mitigate that?

Jasmin Tepale I think the idea is that, because we're trying to make it easier for people to install larger sources of renewable, clean energy, that a lot of that dirty energy is going to get phased out, which is the hope right now that they don't have to go through a huge process that includes DCP, and it would just be easier to phase out the dirtier energy. Derek and I can follow-up, I have noted it.

Brian Hunt I had two concerns, one of which, being with the phasing out of fossil fuel energy, if there's any safeguards in place to not entirely phase out some of the working-class community. That also puts equity into the energy production that the city relies upon by offshoring energy production. Importing energy from Canada might have risks economically for the working class in the city that rely on energy production that work even for Con Ed. Have you sat down with any professionals from the New York City, Building, Trades or any of the working-class community organizations that rely on energy production in the city and have, for 100 plus years. The other thing is, has there been any talk on thermal energy networks or district heating? Utilizing geothermal options which are essentially heat pumps. There are higher upfront costs a lot with the excavating, but it's been done before. It has been happening all across Europe for a long time now. There was there's a lot of talk on the state level, about subsidizing for geothermal and for thermal energy networks. Penn South in Manhattan is a good example. They're going to look to take exhaust emissions from the post office on 9th Avenue and their engineers basically decided that it would be fill the heat about two full city blocks. It's just another option in addition to the solar and wind energy solutions. I didn't know if it had been brought up before or if that's something that could be brought up and be brought into the conversation thermal energy networks.

Jasmin Tepale Your first question about trying to phase out fossil fuel and thinking about energy, coming from faraway places, the interesting thing about this proposal specifically we spoke with We Act, which is an environmental justice group in Harlem, (West Harlem Environmental Action for Environmental Justice) specifically to think through the environmental justice portion of this proposal. There are parts of the proposal that advocate for energy to be put into place. That's community solar, it's actually trying to advocate to have local energy sources, so that, it, helps situations when you have blackouts. Now you have a more local network to tap into, which is also the other side of having energy storage. What ends up happening is that those blackouts end up decreasing so much more because now you can store energy, you can have more local energy sources and one thing that excited We Act a lot was because it's easier to have these local energy grids, which you couldn't have before we made these changes. It's going to support a lot of green jobs here in New York City, instead of it being from other places. To your second question about whether we looked at geothermal. The other cool thing about the proposal is that we're not specifically specifying what kind of energy you can use. Solar is a big part of it, because solar energy is a great renewable source of energy, but the proposal is written in a way that allows for other kinds of technology to take place. We don't want to specify saying you can only do solar here. There are other ways to store energy, there's other ways to get energy, and so it's going to be written in a way that also allows for future technology whatever ends up coming out in the future, because this is very innovative and things change all the time, a lot faster nowadays. So it's written with the idea that, we want to be able to let technology grow, so we don't want our zoning to only focus on just this is one type of energy storage, some type of way to get energy.

Dominic Stiller We have boilers in our houses, and now we've got heat pumps, closed air conditioners and for years people have had window mounted air conditioners. The exterior mounted HVAC heat, pump, condensers look terrible when they are facade mounted. I'm hoping that the code can have a limitation on the appearance of the condenser and also the noise created by new HVAC equipment. My next point, there are; a few buildings in Astoria, that, literally vent their exhaust airflow onto the sidewalk, so I'm, hoping that the code can have an exclusion at ground level that no HVAC equipment can vent onto the sidewalk where pedestrians walk so I'd, be curious to know what our (Land Use) Zoning Committee thinks about these facade mounted heat pumps because I think done wrong, they look absolutely terrible. The appearance and the noise from these heat pumps is any of that managed in the code. I just want to say to the Local (Union) 638 gentleman Brian yes, geothermal is probably the quietest way to take energy from the ground and use it to take advantage of that heat and then heat a house. Is the code making it easier for geothermal installations to be started and finished in New York City? Lastly, about installation and windows, not glamorous no government credits, but the best bang for your buck for an existing house is to put in modern insulation and windows. Is that mentioned in the code?

Jasmin Tepale Our zoning text change is not a mandate of any sort or any kind. It's just changing the zoning text. If a developer wants to do it, they can, if they don't want to do it, they don't have to. There are still other rules that might make them/force them to upgrade their buildings. For example, there's Local (Law) 97, which was passed a few years ago by the City Council and that's been a huge law for a lot of bigger buildings because they need to upgrade their buildings by a certain year. But this specific zoning text won't force anyone to do anything, it's optional. Sony ends up doing or having played a part in the wall mounted ones. Sometimes they're not built to get all the development rights that they have, sometimes they're what's called underbuilt. So they built it a little bit smaller, and now they have an extra space that they could build on if they wanted to so for places that, where they're, just hey I actually have a little bit more toning left over, they could put those wall mounted once because that ends up pushing their home out a little bit more for things that. They can technically actually just do that, normally or as we call it as of right. So, the zoning won't this change, won't actually control, the visual appearance of it. I think, the other side of it, is there's this huge conversation amongst architects too, about the visual appearance of these things. So it comes down to a lot of Urban Design principles, about the visual appearance of those things, but it is something I can take back to the team to see what their initial reaction and thoughts are to it, because I'm not 100% sure if there is an actual visual right.

Dominic Stiller For example, they have something called permitted obstructions. I am suggesting some type of permitted obstruction, maybe a limitation so that you can't have this exhaust come right out below 12 or 20 or 30 feet, and that the person you just mentioned who has the ability to put these condensers on their façade. I'm just hoping the code addresses that as early as possible.

Jasmin Tepale That's great feedback. I'll, definitely bring it back to the team and similarly to Antonella's question it's something we can bring back also and refer back to.

Huge Ma I have two questions. The first is about density. There was a point earlier about suggesting that we reduce density in order to reduce our carbon emissions. Research has shown that density, greater density actually reduces carbon emissions, and you think about it. People who can't live in the city live in, let's say Long Island. Every time they try to drive into the city for work for dinner. All of that carbon expended that day to day going to pick up a coffee add it over years, is greater than the carbon spent building up a tall building. So my question: is there an initiative to eliminate single-family housing so that we can have a duplex or a triplex in place of single-family housing and number two I didn't hear anything about parking requirements. Are there plans to change that and eliminate those in the city?

Derek Jasmin First in regards to the parking I know, it seems a little counterintuitive, but the parking component will actually be in one of the later zoning text amendment initiatives that will be coming out next year, I believe, that's Housing Opportunity, correct me Jasmin, so the changes to parking regulations will be a part of that component and as far as changes to single-family zoning I don't know. If Jasmine do you have a more direct answer to that?

Jasmin Tepale At this time they're not considering ending single family home zoning, but in our housing opportunities proposal that Derek, had mentioned that is coming out, it's going to get referred out and be public next year, but there's definitely opportunities to talk more about that proposal. I know right now we're thinking through carbon neutrality and we definitely don't want to overload the Board with too much, because there are two other proposals, but that proposal is really going to think through, changes and housing and trying to diversify housing options across the city, so stay tuned for that one, and we can definitely come back to the Board to give more information about that text amendment. It is going to go through the same exact process as this initiative same exact process, we're just trying to stagger them out so that we're not overwhelming all the Community Boards with three text amendments at the same time.

Dino Panagoulas In the past year, we've all seen our Con Edison bills go up. There's been an average of an increase of maybe 22%. I've seen increases of ninety-five dollars, a hundred dollars and then oftentimes we get these text messages from 311 "we know it's a hot day, but don't turn on your AC, because you are going to overload the grid". The move now to go towards building electrified buildings will only serve to overload the grid even more. The move to now go away from gas stoves will only serve to overload everything that we currently have and not only am I worried about the fact that Con Edison has the monopoly on, but there are energy suppliers in X, Y and Z, and I'm still ending up paying a lot more from Con Edison bill than I was two three years ago: I'm only seeing it go up and that's not fair to New York residents, that's not fair to anyone that is looking at these proposals that sees the money coming out of their pocket. So that's my first concern the other concern where we are now sitting saying we are going to move to all electric we're going to move to cars, we're going to move much to Antonella's kind of thing. I have to now decide potentially, if I'm going to turn on my AC, charge my car or charge my phone charge, I don't want to get there. I want to introduce you if you've never been to South Africa, it's a beautiful country and I would want everyone to go visit, but they have a concept called load shedding that I don't ever want to experience here in New York City, and this is the route that I think that we're taking right now, because we're moving towards dependency on just electric. If you look statistically speaking on how much dependency we have on natural gas and we've now made a phase out for this moving into electric will put us into a load shedding scenario where every single resident will have to have a generator to keep their refrigerators powered to do all of that stuff and generators use fossil fuels. It is counter-intuitive to me, it just does not make sense.

Jasmin Tepale I think that's a really important point. I know it's insanely difficult because again, you mentioned, Con Ed has a huge monopoly here in New York City. You said there are other energy options. It is part of the hope, with all the new energy sources also comes energy storage. It's something that, everyone's trying to stress the importance that you can't only just have solar panels. You can't only just have the geothermal. You have to have some way to store it, so that we don't need generators so that we don't have these blackouts constantly. So with more energy storage, the hope is that, we won't have these huge neighborhood blackouts, we'll have better ways to tap into local networks and so that we're not relying on fossil fuels all over again. It is not easy, and it's going to be really tough. These are really difficult conversations and I'm sure so many organizations, so many levels of government are having right now. I do take your point, though, that you are right, it's not fair to be seeing your bill go up and also us talking about new technology coming through. I don't have a good answer for you to fix that problem, but it is something that we can talk more with Con Ed about on our end, to be able to advocate, because we are hearing these similar things not only in this Board but in other Boards as well.

Dino Panagoulas The other thing is to take into consideration the smaller buildings, specifically Dutch Kills is full of smaller apartment buildings, not the larger ones, the high rises, and so these are single building landlords. When these initiatives come out, they are hit and tacked with the bill of having to retrofit everything and they're not able to afford that. What ends up happening is that all of those residents that are in there, the owner, will end up selling the building. Those residents that lived in that building will end up having to find another place, usually at a more expensive rate. They will probably have to move out of the borough and maybe out of the state. So all of those things are things to think about, because I have seen the City Council specifically take on laws and push things that are killing small landlords that

are killing small property owners and it's not fair. Everything specifically is targeted to these big buildings. Everyone thinks, if you own a building in New York City, you're a multi-millionaire, and that's not the case, and so people need to stop with that kind of mentality and think about better, more holistic things and bringing more people to the table.

Jasmin Tepale New York City is definitely different. It's not other cities and you're right, there are a lot of people whose only income is through these buildings. Sometimes these smaller buildings, a lot of them owned by seniors and people of color and but I will leave you all with one resource though. I think it's important for the Board to understand where Local Law 97 and those laws are specifically targeted to. I'll have Derek when he follows up after. There is an address thing that you can basically put any address in your neighborhood, and you can see if you have to comply with Local Law 97. If you are forced to upgrade your building, I think that's definitely one way to keep the local owners informed about what their requirements are because I think the cap is at a certain square footage and I think a lot of those lower smaller apartment buildings might actually not meet that threshold. They won't have to make those requirements, but I will send that to everyone with Derek when we follow up afterwards.

Richard Khuzami My comment is that I agree with what others have been saying, that there needs to be really good programs to help financing, particularly for the smaller building owners. You had that big build-it-back program that just came out of Washington. The majority of that money should go to financing for small landlords and for other landlords in order to make these proper retrofits. It's not going to happen properly without that. So that's my comment as far as questions goes, I've always been a big advocate to have developers internally handle energy and sewage internally within their developments as much as possible to take the strain off of the local public infrastructure as much as possible, and three of those items that I think should be looked at is number one, the use of concrete people don't talk about that, but that is one of the major contributors to global warming in the world is concrete and the manufacture of that so incentivizing developers to use other materials would be a great help. Independent energy and sewage right now that's being done to a certain extent, there's the Durst Corporation it did do a Blackwater system and their building that they put here on Howard's Cove and as far as I know, it's working well I'd like to see that expanded. I think also the development of the independent grids you talked about, is much more secure. That way, even if you end up with a problem of a virtual attack, when somebody's trying to close down a grid, if you have these smaller independent grids, you're going to be guarding against that happening, and the last thing is window solar, that's being developed. Now there's a lot of windows. There are materials now that are being used to generate electricity and it would be great to incentivize developers to use those.

Jasmin Tepale Actually thank you for bringing up the concrete stuff, because I think it's a big reason why part of the proposal is something we did 10 years ago with the other proposal that we had. This started basically with Zone Green. So this is a lot of us updating, Zone Green and when we did Zone Green, we wanted to do similar to what you had mentioned, that we should try to find a way to move away from concrete, and so we try to make it easier for developers to use a more porous pavement instead of concrete. Apparently when they crafted the rules back then it ended up not being clear. There were no developers who ended up using that provision and the zoning text. Now we're trying to clarify that so that is now an option for developers to use this permeable pavement.

Richard Khuzami I am not only talking about pavement. Concrete is used in the actual structure of the buildings.

Jasmin Tepale Quite a few buildings are going up now. Some significant height throughout the city or through this country that are wood construction. That's actually been in Europe, quite a bit of that going on.

Richard Khuzami I just think that is something that needs to be incentivized because concrete literally, is one of the most polluting materials we have on this on the planet.

Jasmin Tepale I'll bring that back to the team, because I'm not sure if they've looked into that, but it could be something that we research more okay and the windows too.

Gerry Caliendo I am just curious when the actual text will be published, the physical written text to be reviewed, the devil is in the details, besides to have a presentation of generalities, but the language that's written, is what's legal and binding. The second question is with respect to what I saw in the presentation about rooftop greenhouses. Will those greenhouses be counted as floor area, and would they also be a permitted obstruction?

Derek Jasmin My understanding is that they as rooftop space, would not be counted as building space. It would remain counted as the rooftop space. Jasmin is the permitted obstructions for the rooftop greenhouses that I believe that is currently not allowed and it will be allowed as a permitted obstruction. Is that correct?

Jasmin Tepale I have to double check how the zoning text is written right now, I know, ultimately, because we're making it allowing buildings to have those rooftop greenhouses now without going through DCP anymore, it still has to go through DOB, so I know they're going to have a bunch of requirements for those greenhouses, even though we won't have review, they still definitely will so I'm, not sure what their requirements are. I will double check and get back to you on that.

Gerry Caliendo The point being, then, what is the incentive to do it if it counts the floor area? All these buildings are maxed out already. Nobody builds a building and leaves floor area on the table. If you train incentivize greenhouses okay build your greenhouse and it would be a permitted obstruction number one above the maximum height and number two, would you count as floor area when that incentivize it otherwise, they're not cheap by the way. that they're expensive structures, because they can't blow away in the wind. It's a significant structural element and it's costly. So why would anybody do it, and many of these greenhouses have roofs that are also solar panels? So if you could combine the two you'd incentivize, the capture of solar electricity, as well as have farming on the roofs? These buildings, Queensbridge houses and all that stuff, most of these buildings are all maxed out in their floor area. They don't have anything left. A lot of the buildings, multiple dwellings throughout the city prior to '61 buildings that are maybe in an R5, Zone and they're six stories high, obviously they're all over built. Where's the encouragement with the incentive to say: you can put a food producing greenhouse on your roof. There is none right and the other question I just want to reiterate again and ask again is: when will the physical text be published to everyone?

Jasmin Tepale I realized that we didn't answer that question during the last one, but that the text is actually available right now to anybody, so it was published I want to say a few weeks ago, so the Community Board received a notice letting them know here's all the application material, including the zoning text. Please forward it to all your members, we're more than happy to re-forward that email. It has a PDF copy of the text, but we're more than happy to find a way to send the physical copy. You can read the actual physical text is available right now.

Derek Jasmin Yes, I believe Liz had mentioned looking it over earlier this evening.

Jasmin Tepale I wanted to make just one quick comment about the greenhouse. I didn't have the answer before, but I just finished finding the answer that for the greenhouses they're exempt from the FAR and they are permitted obstructions above the height limits up to about 25 feet, so they're not changing. Apparently, that's the current rules and they're not changing it, they're just making it so that you don't need to go through DCP for an approval for that anymore.

Frank Fredericks I just had a couple of point of information since the comments that were said before and then I had one question for our guests. A lot of research shows as you increase population density, you decrease consumption per capita, a very well researched phenomenon. I think we can lean into that pretty confidently and also lowering density would end up being a big pain for their third primary point coming

in next year around affordable housing. Obviously second thing is I know one of our members mentioned a concern around as we switch to electric then having an increased chance of blackouts. Just two things: I want to informationally point out number one, smart grids, minimize those threats by then being able to do lots of different technical things to diffuse when and how energy is consumed and stored in a way that minimizes those problems and also products that I can even tap into a feedback loop from those things that maybe your dryer will automatically start at night instead of the day time. There are all sorts of cool things that come with that, but, more importantly, I actually really love the idea of as more people can generate energy at their own homes. It creates autonomy around your energy consumption. So if there is a blackout-and you happen to have cells-and you have the proper setup at your home-maybe you're not able to generate enough energy for everything you need, but in terms of getting the most basic things covered for the safety and security of family members is something that you might be able to do so in terms of making ourselves more resilient against blackouts. These are all things that will improve that, not increase the likelihood of blackouts. The two questions one is just I know it came up earlier, but getting more specificity on how folks who have made these changes to their homes already without permits, are able to become compliant. I think it's going to be huge, don't want to call out my neighbors, but I walk down the block. I see a lot of the heat pump units and other things that I'm sure are not permitted and finding a way to not punish the people who've already invested in clean energy, while simultaneously not creating risks for the community is a tough balance, but we'll be looking for clarity on that. When the proposals are actually coming to fruition, that's less of a question or more of a request. That's something we're going to want to see as a Board moving forward. The big question I have is, it does seem there's these contingencies, that if there's not enforcement of this, then you end up that this is just kind of a PR stuff. It's not meaningful. If there is enforcement, it becomes arduous, for especially small homeowners and other folks that we mentioned may be financially vulnerable. The way to mitigate that is, okay is if money is available or financing available to those folks, and if that's the case, then it's going to require a lot of funding and from our state and from our city, government and I didn't see much around how we're planning on paying for this. I imagine it's probably a pretty big financial lift if we actually want to do this meaningfully, and this is coming from a Mayor's Office who respectfully is not demonstrating at least so far, a huge desire to invest in our communities in another than policing. This all sounds great, but either show me the money and is this the person we're going to trust to show us the money, how's it being paid for? What's the vision there and that's a question I think I and some others would love to hear sooner than later.

Jasmin Tepale The one big resource we have is from there's a as part of all those initiatives rolling out. The Mayor's Office of Climate Environmental Justice made sure to set up a program to at least start those conversations of how are we paying for these things? It's called the Accelerator Program, they're the ones charged with figuring out what programs are coming, what programs are out there and to help connect everyone with those resources. What's really tough, is that I know, even on our end, we could fully understand what the funding looks like, because it's really complex-and it's not this easy thing where, here's this application, apply to this pot of money and you'll be okay. What makes it difficult is it's basically an assessment of your home, it's an assessment of your building to see what could they put there and what could they help fund. A big thing is one going to Accelerator, but two also what I learned today, because it came out this week NYSERDA, there's a lot of federal money right now for doing energy upgrades and moving towards greener infrastructure. A lot of that money is being finally, headed to the state right now, so they actually created a web page to start listing out funding sources. I'll send that along to Derek and I know it's something that we need to take a deeper dive and talk to NYSERDA about to understand it more. For now we have those two resources and as we figure out more we'll definitely come back to the Board after we talk to NYSERDA to learn more about what the programs are.

Tom Ryan Why are we not considering nuclear? The reason why I asked that everyone's saying this happened, but I'm looking at the U.S Navy and the U.S Navy is nuclear power with a very good safety record. Why aren't we considering nuclear power as part of this clean energy which can be constant as opposed to solar or wind or whatever that fickle the best? So that's one thought two storage. If we do this whole thing, how many days, let's say the whole city goes out, how much storage can we pass it? Could we actually have-and my question with storage is right now the toxins used to create these batteries and the fire safety with these batteries. Now lithium batteries can burn without oxygen and not be easily extinguished, so I'm thinking, okay, there's another matter to consider. Also, the gentleman just brought up by finance I would love to see someone that actually crunch the numbers and see where all this money is coming from. You're talking about a huge financial situation, in theory, it sounds great, but I don't know I'm wary of the other system. Another gentleman brought up about backup. We can ensure that, as we bring online all these new items that we can we keep sufficient back up and don't replace it back, it'll turn off until we can smartly take it offline. The other thing is when you introduce this plan about zoning in the Sand where's, the master plan involved with all the things that are going to be affected. I mean this is just a very small points and I'm just raising points. I don't expect answers. The other thing is I'm looking at my household and my hot water heater, my boiler, my stove, my dryer, all-natural gas. Will I have money to replace, would I have money to upgrade my electrical system. I'm assuming that role is new demand. My own electrical use I'd have to upgrade my electrical system, so we're talking about a lot of money that would be needed by each and every homeowner. My other statement is we want to move away from this, but I look globally, China and India are still burning coal. We haven't talked about the methane generated by farm animals. We haven't talked about clearing out the Amazon (forest), which is not about helping us and your timeline, has someone really thought this out because as smart as it is, I can't see this happening in the time frame setup.

Jasmin Tepale I wanted to raise one point about Con Ed. Con Edison is only delivery. The delivery system is not up to modern needs, that's going to cost money. Con Ed has nothing to do with the rising energy costs. These all have factors we have to think about, and what you're proposing is this I'll say a footnote to the bigger picture, and that also concerns me, because the city never seems to think beyond five ten years, so a lot of open items that need to I think be sufficiently addressed and I'd to hear more about that in the future.

Derek Jasmin Sure first I can speak to just your question about nuclear power. I mean the power sources that we're discussing here this is a zoning text amendment. What we're discussing here is mostly just things that property owners and building owners. What we're discussing here is mostly just things that property owners and building owners can implement on their own, such as you know, solar and wind. In terms of nuclear power, these are larger facilities generated by large companies, and this is, I would say is outside of the purview of DCP. In relation to just the potential fire hazards from batteries and their storage. We have worked with FDNY and Department of Buildings, both of whom have standards and regulations for battery and energy storage in these buildings, so those standards and regulations will be incorporated into our code and will be applied accordingly.

Stella Nicolaou I was going to follow up with what a few people said, especially about the high prices of what's happening with Con Edison. If we do go more into the electric they'll have less clients for gas and more for electric, and it will even rise even higher. I understand they need money to keep the infrastructure, but, according to the bills, it seems the delivery is twice the amount of what you spend on gas. If you, for example spend as small homeowner \$300 on gas, you have to pay almost \$600 on delivery and I don't recall it ever being that high and it's going to get worse. Is there any way to get an accounting firm at Con Ed? Why does it have to be so high? Well, yes, I understand the infrastructure needs help here and there, but that's extremely high and I know there was a meeting a while back with some of the elected officials inquiring about this, but we do need to follow up with them and they need to have to prove an accounting to us.

Jasmin Tepale Why the super, high delivery, cost I think that's a really great next step, because I think it's something in general, this isn't the first Community Board that I've heard this and it's definitely affected so many other Community Board members and to that point, I think, collectively, we've just been letting them know that. This is something everyone should be advocating for with their local elected officials. That, this, is getting out of control and they need to be able to connect with Con Ed and I basically, greater change is only going to happen if, we're, able to communicate that effectively with the people who are trying to advocate on, on our behalf, so I think that would be an amazing, great next step to continue and follow up with that you're elected, because you already started that conversation on our end I think it's something we can definitely bring back to Con Ed as well, because we're talking about them through this text Amendment, but unfortunately, there's nothing on the text amendment. That could really help with the actual money usage of Con Ed, but I definitely take your

points that, it's, really not fair to any residents that everyone's being affected by this, and everyone feels the fact that, everyone's energy bill has gone up.

Stella Nicolaou I also noticed that Con Ed encouraging people to go to other providers, and it's supposed to be less (expensive). I'm wondering if you're not one, or if you're, not one of the original clients and you go to another provider, you're paying less because you're not paying so much for the delivery. But maybe, if that's needed, that delivery has to be spread out. Otherwise, it really kills the middle cause. The small homeowner, the family homeowner. This is too extreme so that the point will take in and I think. Another thing about having the opportunity for this amendment to be able to have more local energy I think is the hope that, if more of that infrastructure is built in our local neighborhoods, , for example, to have Community solar, where, just one neighborhood, is tapped into a row of solar panels. For example, it'll help basically kind of not have the Monopoly over all the energy, but again I know that there's it's partly wishful thinking, because I know there's a lot of funding that needs to go into that infrastructure. But it's just something to think about too foreign.

Evie Hantzopoulos It was brought up before about the battery storage. I would like a little more detail on that, because it says some facilities would be allowed as of right in all areas so what are you talking about because even FDNY has concerns. I know they have guidelines, but they haven't allowed a lot of it because of safety concerns, so I'm just wondering what's magically changing, and so what does that look like in a little more detail. My other question is regarding composting. If you could give a little more detail about that, because there are cuts being made to community composting that part of the DSNY budget line and that's the most hyper local kind of composting, you can do. You're, not trucking things out, so I'm, trying to understand how The City of Yes composting is really working when they're cutting community composting.

Jasmin Tepale I think what this proposal is trying to do is that in zoning composting isn't even in our zoning time it's not a use, it's very ambiguous so for the places that DSNY was able to say spaces to compost. It was not easy for them, so we've spoken actually to a few composting non-profit organizations and for them they were just telling us would be most helpful just to have a direct rule saying this is the use for composting. So once the use, where you're allowed to be now. So that's basically what the zoning text is doing, we're finally putting composting into our zoning text to say now that it's a use group and it's defined in our zoning text now for non-profit organizations or even local community groups who want to do composting. They can now set it up without any ambiguity it's written there and they won't have to deal with DOB and then coming over to find them because it's not really certain that they should be there or not. The zoning text says it is a thing and here's the rule and now, the composting groups, have a lot more flexibility to be here. That's the composting part of it. The second part just talking more about battery energy storage. What the proposal is doing is similar to composting energy storage. It isn't in our zoning text right now, because it was written back in the 1960s and that technology didn't exist. So again, there's a lot of ambiguity around it. So a few years ago, because this technology has been picking up DOB the Department of Buildings and our agency wrote a memo clarifying where that energy storage can be placed, and so because it was just a memo it wasn't in our zoning text just yet. Now we're releasing these changes. We're formally adding it to our zoning. Saying energy storage is the thing and here's where you can place it. A lot of the energy storage, it does say that it'll be allowed in a lot more places up to a certain size, but the one thing that zoning isn't taking away is the rule of where it can go. FDNY and DOB still are going to have a long permitting process for these things. If FDNY doesn't feel comfortable with energy they're not going to approve it and zoning isn't taking away any of that permitting or any of that review. Again, I think, you mentioned if FDNY sometimes does, feel uncomfortable with those energy storage systems, and we have talked with them really closely on this proposal. There are specific criteria that they follow when they want to cite these things so they're going to continue to have oversight over those energy storage, nothing is going to go up without them, first having a hand in it and DOB as well.

Marie Torniali Chairperson Does anyone else have a question? Thank you so much Derek and Jasmin for all this information and I imagine we'll see you at the Land Use Committee meeting.

Derek Jasmin Yes, we'll be back at the Land Use Committee later this time.

BUSINESS SESSION:

Adoption April 2023 Minutes

Motioned by Dino Panagoulas; Seconded by Thomas Ryan (No one opposed.)

Chair Report:

Marie Torniali Chairperson really don't have a report except to say our next Board meeting is June 20th and unless I hear otherwise, I believe that one will also be on Zoom, but in September, we'll be back to the Astoria World Manor, live and in person. So it'll be great to see everybody though I must say, even though this might be more convenient in some ways there's nothing like a personal touch.

District Manager Report:

Florence Koulouris Good evening, I hope you all had a wonderful month. Our office has received some very important updates for residents and visitors. Our District is having tree pruning occur currently. In the vicinity of LGA up to the 40s at this time and contractors are being used. Our trees are receiving the care they so need. Streets are closed during your travels through the district. Please keep this in mind while navigating our streets. During this summer, the Astoria Pool is being renovated, resurfacing, and restoration will be done. The timeline is based on weather permitting. Please follow the Capital Tracker on the Parks website. Calls have come into the office asking for updates. The Great Lawn will have work done approximately beginning either July or August date to be determined & weather permitting. They will be resurfacing the pavement on the paths surrounding the Lawn. The Great Lawn will be completely closed. Events will occur on the North Lawn/Ditmars. Scheduling will be busier this year. Please plan for this. All events will have an opportunity to relocate to other Parks in our District. This will depend upon site availability. Hallets Cove Park is temporarily closed currently. The anticipated opening for the handball court will be in a few months. The Basketball court should open soon. This has been an ongoing project and due to the updates at Astoria Park Community Concerns related to Park use have been voiced. These updates are to assist you in your upcoming summer plans. I also wanted to bring to your attention our district has received two more shelters in the Dutch Kills area. Please keep in mind when doing donations there are people in need in our community, so donate to your food, pantry, shelters, and things of that sort. Thank you.

Committee Reports:

Executive Committee **Marie Torniali** The Executive Committee met with an applicant for a cannabis license for Kush Culture (Industry LLC) located at 36-10 Ditmars Boulevard is in the process of getting the application. He came to the Community Board with a very thorough application. The operating hours will be ten to eight Monday through Sunday. He's going to occupy the ground floor. There's also a basement there that will be used solely for storage. He will have a security plan, including cameras and guards, and protocol for all staff. Of course, they will be checking ID. They are different than the first applicant we have. People may order whatever off the menu, but when they come to pick it up, they will have to go inside the establishment present ID and pay either cash and or do a debit card. Kush Culture (Industries LLC) 36-10 Ditmars Boulevard, we reviewed the application, and we had no reason not to recommend approval. If I can get a motion on the floor to approve this recommendation.

Motioned by Rod Townsend; Seconded by George Alexiou

Marie Torniali Chairperson – Are there any objections (seeing none), the motion carries.

Consumer Affairs Committee Dino Panagoulas

Everyone I'm looking forward to hopefully having an in-person meeting very soon, that'd be great. Just a quick update, Florence thank you and team for sending over the liquor licenses. I think we have a list of 22. None of them have been presenting any issues or any kind of concerns by our partners over at NYPD. We've not had any concern to move forward with approving these licenses. The ones say the one thing that I will continue to say and say every single meeting as the kind of better weather progresses. What I would definitely keep in mind is that we are here in the Consumer Affairs Committee to help with any kind of issues that folks are experiencing in any of the restaurants or any of the night-life kind of appearances. We want folks to be good neighbors. We want folks to be able to sleep at night and be able to not have to listen to crazy loud music, or lots of people out in the street, and so typically, the complaints that come in do in fact make that assertion, then we'll call in the business partners and have conversations with them have them work on those particular issues, look at anything and everything that has been submitted by 311. We have conversations with our NYPD partners to make sure that there are no resource wastes on those particular calls, because again, NYPD should be focused on major crimes, rather than going out and doing nuisance complaints for noise. So with that in mind, I'd like to put forth a motion for approval 22 that are on the docket to be approved for today.

Motioned by Amin Mahedi; Seconded by Jean Marie D'Alleva

Marie Torniali Chairperson Is anyone opposed? Seeing none, (unanimous) the motion carries.

Environmental/Sanitation Committee Antonella Di Saverio Link 5 G Towers, last month the FCC sent the letters at City Bridge, saying that the structures are subject to the Commission's Environmental and Historic Preservation review which they have not undergone and so prior to any construction of new ones they have to complete that review process under Section 106 of NHPA (National Historic Preservation Act) and NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act) rules, and then any existing structures need to be brought into compliance.

Housing Committee Katie Ellman We had our first meeting in a long time the other day and we had representatives from DEP and HPD (Housing Preservation Development) and the Department of Health present on lead in buildings, with guidelines and advice for families that potentially have children exposed to lead in their apartments or homes. It was a really interesting and informative session. It was also advice if you want to get your water tested. There's free kit from DEP and Florence has this information. If anyone needs more information, Florence can share. There's a free kit, that's mailed to you, and then you fill it with water first thing in the morning and then mail, it back and you get a test. The turnaround is rather quick, actually and then Department of Housing Preservation Development presented on how many lead complaints or how many building plates they receive annually and then what property owners and residents can do if they need help with their unit and or building and shared information on grants and potential loans if you need to Abate lead in your home. So it's a very serious issue and I hope that we can continue the conversation as a community and a Community Board to amplify the message of safety around lead, poisoning and homes.

Land Use and Zoning Committee Elizabeth Erion We do not have a meeting in April. We will be having an upcoming meeting on this application before that's going to be before you next month. The text amendments for the carbon neutrality text changes. In addition, there will be two other applications that the community, the Land Use Committee reviewed that are expected to be certified in time for the June meeting. So it will be the same night, but they are two projects that really had no issues raised by the committee members. So we will issue a report to you and it should be smooth sailing, at least on those two.

Land Use and Zoning Committee Gerry Caliendo Well, it's about 140 pages of the text amendment, it's a little complicated I just found it, and, I said the devil is in the details. I think the Committee will review the text. I'll try and highlight some of the pertinent changes that affect our community and impact the homeowners and we'll bring it up to the next committee meeting.

Transportation Committee Dominic Stiller May 10th, we had a Committee Meeting. The Department of Transportation Queens planner, Chris Brunson, along with Cristy Vanterpool-Germaine and Jason Banray, gave a presentation about Northern Boulevard Bus Safety Improvement Project. Basically, it's the addition of a dedicated bus lane in both directions from Queens Plaza to 114th Street, jointly with CB3. Presentation discussed safety improvements DOT previously installed along the corridor, including pedestrian islands, leading pedestrian intervals or indicators and painted curb extensions. The benefit of this design is intended to improve bus speeds and travel times. Prioritize public transit, a sustainable transportation mode. The offset bus lane is intended to allow bus priority while preserving curbside uses such as parking, commercial loading, traffic calming, pedestrian refuge and allow buses to pass a stopped bus in a stop. Chris Brunson DOT Queens stated that the presentation would be online, but I cannot find it and that he would email a link to the Board. I have a second comment, but as I finish this one. Florence, have you gotten that link from Chris Brunson, and if so, can you email a link to that presentation.

Florence Koulouris I did not receive anything. I will ask for it tomorrow, it did not arrive.

Transportation Committee Dominic Stiller Second, in our meeting under new business, the committee reviewed a suggestion from Committee Member Adam Fisher Cox, requesting to DOT to install curb extensions for safer street crossings as part of any road construction maintenance project. The actual draft verbiage DOT followed New York State law. Install curb extensions or daylighting at all intersections, starting with intersections within a one block radius of any school senior center or facility for the disabled and at any intersection affected by a future resurfacing or sidewalk reconstruction repair project. The suggestion is to send a resolution from CB1 to DOT and officials. The discussion included reviewing photographs of existing successful and less successful curb extensions so that best practices can be installed at CB1 intersections so as to best protect all road and sidewalk users. There's a lot of discussion and we've scheduled a supplemental June 1st Transportation Committee meeting Thursday June 1st so that a finished resolution can be brought to this Board in the June meeting that hopefully will be voted on and approved before the summer to support DOT in physical implementations and show the community that this Board is serious about Traffic Safety Action, so June 1st, all members, please thank you.

Marie Torniali Chairperson I have a question about the bus way on Northern (Boulevard), did they also implement “No Left turn” “No Right turn” (signs) on any of those intersections?

Dominic Stiller If Florence could get the presentation, I don't remember how many of those changed. What they did say is that they had previously brought about seven of those I believe from my memory into mainly CB3, so I don't know what percentage of those changed in CB1.

Marie Torniali Chairperson So when you get the presentation with know more.

BUSINESS SESSION:

ELECTED OFFICIALS/REPRESENTATIVES – Announcements:

Dolma Lama Office of Assembly Member Steven Raga I'm thrilled to bring some important announcements, and this meeting was also very helpful and informative. Thank you all for your great efforts. Some of the updates that I bring you here is New York State budget and legislative update. We are pleased to announce that despite a month's delay, the state budget has been officially passed. Some key points to note are

substantial funding for SUNY and CUNY, which has successfully prevented a tuition increase for New Yorkers, in addition to a three billion Capital support for SUNY and CUNY school funding to expand Universal Pre-K, an increase in Medicaid rates and wage increases for home care workers, along with a minimum wage increase of \$17 across New York City. Also funding to increase service and a requirement that New York City contributes \$165 million for Paratransit Services such as Access-A-Ride. Some of the recap of recent events that we have had this month we did in coordination with AARP and Big Six. We had our paper shredding event. This event happened on May 11th, from 11am to 1pm at Big Six. We also recently, just last week, hosted our own rain barrel giveaway. This took place in partnership with Maspeth Federal Savings Bank and New York City Department DP, and it happened on May 13, 9:30 am to 12:30 pm at the parking lot of Maspeth Federal Savings Bank in Maspeth. This was a great event, and we also plan to do more rain barrel giveaways sometime later in June. We had about 86 rain barrels giveaways this time. Something that's coming up for us is this week on Thursday May 18th, we are doing a jobs fair at our district office and the address is 55-19 69th Street. If you would like to RSVP or if someone you know would like to RSVP for the jobs fair, they should call our office at 718-651-3185. All sorts of jobs are included for example, direct care workers, executive assistants, information clerk, social workers, all sorts of jobs. If anyone is interested, please reach out to our office. We also have our AAPI Heritage Month Recognition Celebration this week coming in May 20th Saturday at United Shop Association, it's going to happen in 41-01 75th Street, Elmhurst, New York. We invite all of you to join us in our AAPI Heritage Month Celebration event and we are also hosting know your rights free legal session that will happen on May 22nd on Monday. The know your right session workshop session will happen on Monday from 6 to 8 and we're also doing a separate Legal Clinic where a lot of tenants will be able to interact with attorneys regarding their tenant issues on Tuesday May 23rd from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. We are also planning for self-defense workshop with assembly member Jessica Gonzalez Rojas's office and Congresswoman Ming, and which is scheduled for Wednesday June 28th from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m., at Travers Park in Jackson Heights. That was all my updates. I apologize if it was very long, but it was. Our office is located at 55-19 69th Street Maspeth, New York, we're open from 9 A.M to 5 P.M Monday through Friday, and you can also reach us at 718-651-3185. I will be available if there is any questions from any of you for the remainder of the session.

Allan Swisher Queens Borough President's Office I just want to commend everyone for your very thoughtful and thorough discussion of the Zoning Text Amendment or the zoning text changes for The City of Yes earlier today, that's going to be considered more in depth at a public hearing at Borough Board that our office is going to be holding on June 5th. So there will be more information about that. It's been a very long meeting, so I won't take up your time. I'll just put in our upcoming events in the chat a few that I want to highlight: Tomorrow, there's going to be an M/ WBE Contracting Opportunities Forum held at Borough Hall and then Monday of next week, there's the Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month celebration and on Tuesday the Haitian Flag Raising ceremony, a few other events will be added in the chat but I'll be respectful of everyone's time.

Brian Straub Office of Public Advocate Jumaane D. Williams My name is Brian Straub I'm with the Constituent Services Department for the Office of the New York City Public Advocate so happy to be here. This is my first Community Board meeting so just here to observe and take notes as our office wanted to have a bit more of a presence within the community. The only announcement that I have from our office is that the Public Advocate is hosting his yearly State of the People this coming Thursday May 18th at 8 p.m. I'll be dropping a link for the event in the chat, and it will also be streamed online, so I'll forward any additional information with regards to that to the Board, or you can visit our office's website directly as well. I don't want to take up too much of the space at this time for any particular questions or concerns I'll be dropping a message in the chat as well, to get in touch with our office should you have any questions.

Isaac Blasenstein Office of Council Member Julie Won Thanks for having me just wanted to mention that the Rent Guidelines Board is looking at some pretty significant increases to rent stabilized apartments this year. Council Member Won is supporting legislation calling on the Rent Guidelines Board to roll back rents instead being as there is an affordability crisis in the city. We're encouraging constituents to testify at the Queen's Borough hearing which is Thursday June 8th at the Jamaica Performing Arts Center from 5 to 8 and there's also a virtual hearing on Tuesday June 13th from 5 to 8. I'll put that information in the chat and I also wanted to mention that we've gotten a lot of constituent calls about the recent rainstorms and flooding. We're following up with DEP, to make sure that all the catch basins and sewer mains are cleared we're handing out rain barrels and following up on your requests for rain gardens. So please keep those requests coming and contact us about flooding issues. We want to know where the issues are and we're working with our federal partners to make sure that these sewers get upgraded as soon as possible.

Angela Sherpa Office of Representative Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez My name is Angela Sherpa, and I am with the office of Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez. have quite a few updates to share as well, but I'll try to be quick about it. So our next mobile office hours, we will be in Astoria houses on this upcoming Monday May 22nd we'll be there, along with Council Member Caban, Assembly Member Mamdani and Senator Gonzalez's teams to provide constituent services at the city, state and federal levels. If you'd like to stay updated for upcoming mobile office hours, events or anything like that, please be sure to sign up for our newsletter. I'll drop the link in the chat later. Our office is happy to announce that we have submitted 15 funding requests for important community projects in the district to the House Appropriations Community. These requests include: \$1 million towards Astoria houses, playground, revitalization, \$1 million towards the Malika Organization to acquire a mixed-use property to serve as a violence prevention focused Community Center in Astoria, \$2 million in funding for the Variety Boys and Girls Club, \$1 million in funding for NYC DOT's Capital Improvements for three locations along Astoria Boulevard and a bunch of other projects in different parts of our district as well. I'll drop the link in the chat as well for that if you'd to take a more detailed look at the projects that we have made requests for. In January, the Congresswoman joined the CB1 meeting and during her Q&A speech she briefly mentioned some of the new tax incentives and cost-saving opportunities available through the Inflation Reduction Act and I was just hoping to remind you guys about all of those. For example, homeowners and renters can receive up to \$600 for upgrading to energy efficient air conditioners. There are other incentives, switching to an electric stove, upgrading your clothes dryer, and more drivers also have the potential to receive up to \$7500 for purchasing a new qualified clean vehicle or up to \$4000 for a used one. There is a really great website that is very user friendly and allows you to click through the different tax incentives and opportunities available. It's called <https://www.energy.gov/> Feel free to visit that website if you'd like to take a more detailed look at the opportunities available. Additionally, we're happy to announce that the 2023 Congressional app challenge is open for pre-registration now so middle school and high school students who attend a school within New York 14 are welcome to apply. Students can register as individuals or a team of up to four pre-registration runs till June 15th and then the Congressional app challenge will officially be launched and is scheduled to go until November 1st of this year so folks can register at <https://www.congressionalappchallenge.us/> and then the last thing I wanted to mention as I'm sure that other Congressional offices as well are experiencing a lot of incoming about passports. I just wanted to remind everyone if you're planning on traveling anytime soon, please be sure to check your passport expiration date and get the renewal process started. Early routine passport processing is currently taking 10 to 13 weeks and expedited processing is taking an additional seven to nine weeks. The Department of State recommends that you apply to renew nine months before your passport expires to be on the safe side, since some countries require foreign passports to have several months of validity, so you know, and if your application is currently delayed or if you have a life or death emergency requiring travel, you can always feel free to reach out to us as well.

Javier Figaroa Office of the District Attorney's Office Community Engagement Unit Recently the D.A. was in Astoria. Florence, I think I saw you there as well in the press release picture that we had, but essentially the D.A. is launching a new program called the Astoria Merchant Business Improvement Program. The program is basically to help people who are coming into businesses in the 114th Precinct or within the confines and causing problems for the business owners. They are not exactly committing criminal offenses. The goal is to keep local business owners empowered and operate unimpeded by individuals who are disruptive or committing crimes in or around the establishments. The responding police officers will issue, a trespass notice to the individual and warn them that their continued presence in the store will eventually or could eventually lead to an arrest. Merchants or business owners in the 114th Precinct who are in the confines of

the 114th, should go to the 114th. We already spoke to the commanding officer. I know the D.A. spoke to some folks back at our Local Astoria Merchants business meeting. So if you are a business owner and you want to apply for the program to keep people who are causing the ruckus out of your store, you can feel free to apply through the 114th. If anyone has any questions regarding the program or anything, feel free to contact me I'm going to drop my email in the chat. I'll be more than happy to answer any questions or direct you to the ADA who is basically operating or overseeing the program, and that's it.

Malissa Correa Council Member Tiffany Cabán's Office I'm the Director of Constituent Services for Council Member Tiffany Caban. I have a few updates. There is an executive budget hearing on the 24th of this month at 10 A.M. If folks would like to testify in person or virtually via Zoom, they can register at least 24 hours in advance, and I can definitely pass these notes on to Florence. There's a link here. Some quick District updates, there's a movie night that we are co-sponsoring this weekend at Athens Square Park, it's on Saturday the 20th and they will be showing Inside Out. As Angela mentioned, we are going to have open office hours on Monday, the 22nd so I won't go into that because it's already been mentioned. We will be having a lawyer once a month in our office for any and all immigration questions. The next date that they will be around will be June 12th, we're still waiting on our Potluck and Poly-Ed Program. This will be starting off in June and I think we're going to start off with resisting anti-Semitism and hate violence program. We did release the resisting anti-Semitism and hate violence program at the Astoria Center of Israel, with Rabbi Josh Rabin, comptroller, Brad Lander and Jay Fridge and then last but not least, we will be having your rights, economic workshop tomorrow the 17th at the Astoria Boys and Girls Club. It starts at 7 pm and runs until 8pm. We had sent a letter to DOT where we are looking a partner to create a comprehensive plan to tackle issues of pedestrian safety in a more holistic manner within the district. We are awaiting a response and want to continue to engage in dialogue with constituents about their experiences at different intersections and quarters within the district, and that's all from us.

PUBLIC SESSION:

Marie Torniali Chairperson Are there any members of the public who wish to make a comment or a statement or bring a problem to our attention? (Seeing none.)

Chairperson, Marie Torniali asked for a Motion to Adjourn.

Motioned by Jean Marie D'Alleva; Seconded by Frank Fredericks

Meeting Adjourned: 8:35 p.m.

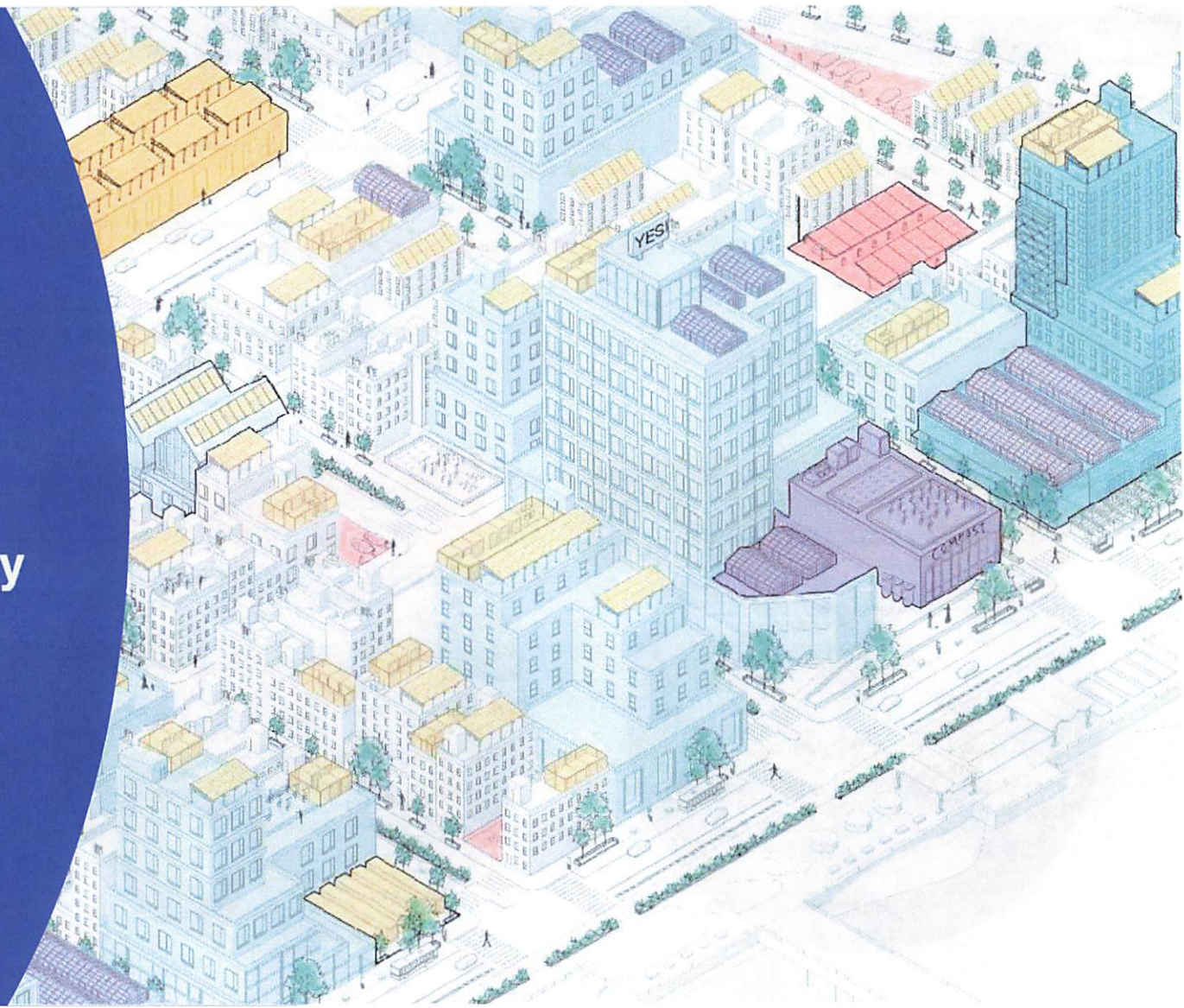
DATE 5-16-2013
6:30 pm

<u>Community Board Member</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abs.</u>	<u>Community Board Member</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abs.</u>
George Alexiou	✓			Huge Ma	✓		
Daniel Aliberti	✓			Athanasios Magoutas	✓		
Louise Bordley		✓		Jeffrey Martin	✓		
Ann Bruno			E	Brian Martinez	✓		
Gerald Caliendo	✓			Sam Massol		✓	
Jean Marie D'Alleva	✓			Amin Mehedi	✓		
Tenzin Dechen			E	Antonio Meloni		✓	
Antonella Di Saverio	✓			Andreas Migias		✓	
Katie Ellman	✓			Doreen Mohammed	✓		
Elizabeth Erion	✓			Stella Nicolaou	✓		
Mackenzi Farquer	✓			Dino Panagoulas	✓		
Frank Fredericks	✓			Juliet Payabyab	✓		
Dean Feratovic	✓			RoseMarie Poveromo			E
Adam Fisher-Cox	✓			Margot Riphagen		✓	
Tyrone Gardner			E	Thomas Ryan	✓		
Shahenaz Hamde	✓			Marisela Santos		✓	
Evie Hantzopoulos	✓			Dominic Stiller	✓		
Christopher Hanway			E	Marie Torniali	✓		
Amy Hau			E	Rod Townsend	✓		
Brian Hunt	✓			Judy Trilivas	✓		
Vanessa Jones-Hall			E	Kathleen Warnock			E
Richard Khuzami	✓			Thomas Wright	✓		
Cristina Lastres	✓			Corinne Wood-Haynes		✓	
Diana Limongi			E	Rosemary Yelton	✓		
Ethan Lowens	✓						
Number Board Members Present _____							
Present <u>33</u>	Absent <u>7</u>	Excused <u>9</u>					
							4 17 2023
							49

city of **yes**

city of solar
city of health
city of energy
city of **carbon neutrality**
city of resilience

NYC
PLANNING





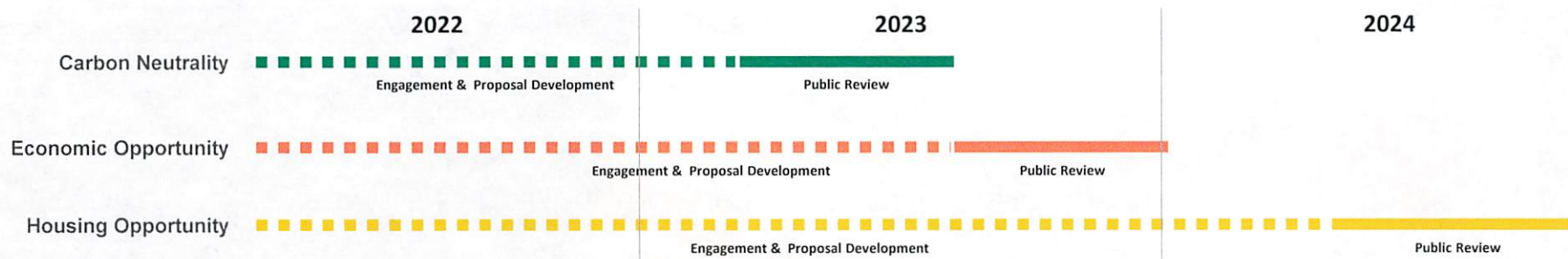
for Carbon Neutrality
Expanding opportunities for decarbonization projects



for Economic Opportunity
Growing jobs and small businesses with more flexible zoning



for Housing Opportunity
Ensuring all neighborhoods are meeting the need for housing opportunities



Slide 2

S(0 [@Jacqueline (Jackie) Strawbridge (DCP)] this is where all the hero slides could replace all 3 icons, eventually.

Sagi Golan (DCP), 2023-04-17T01:24:20.436

Recap

Why carbon?

- We are in a **climate emergency**, caused by greenhouse gas emissions.
- Carbon dioxide (CO₂) is the **primary greenhouse gas** (GHG) emitted through human activities - **80% of US GHG** emissions in 2019.
- CO₂ is largely produced through the **burning of fossil fuels**
- Paris Agreement aims to limit global warming to 2°C and **avoid greater climate damage** by curbing GHG

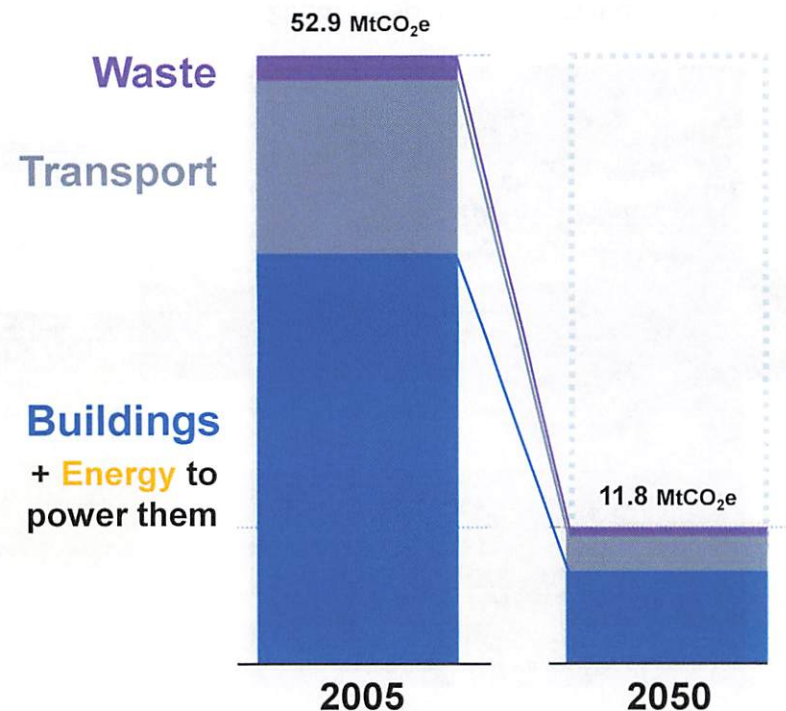


Recap

What do we mean by a "carbon-neutral city"?

It's a city where we've...

1. **Reduced our energy needs**
(retrofit buildings to be efficient)
2. **Cleaned the grid**
(decarbonize the source of electricity)
3. **Electrified buildings + vehicles**
(all remaining energy needs are powered by the clean electric grid)



Necessary operational carbon reductions to meet 2050 goals, in millions of metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent.
Source: NYC's Roadmap to 80x50

Recap

What has New York City already done?



Engagement process to date



to date:

Four open-to-the-public pre-referral info sessions

100+ meetings with stakeholders

Two in-depth working sessions convened with Urban Green Council

Meeting the challenge of our climate crisis is a massive undertaking.

We've worked with our partner agencies, as well as dozens of non-profit and private-sector groups, to understand what they're working on – **and how zoning can help support their efforts.**

Goal 1

Decarbonize our energy grid

By 2040, the New York energy grid must be 100% renewably-based

see: 2019 NYS CLCPA

The grid of the future will be less centralized with 'distributed resources' spread across the city

see: 2015 NYS Reforming the Energy Vision

Since 2016, we have an ambitious goal for solar in NYC – and to date, we're only a third of the way there.

see: 2016 Climate Week NYC

To store clean energy, and respond to demand, gigawatts of local energy storage will be crucial.

see: 2022 State of the State

Goal 1

Decarbonize our energy grid



1. Rooftop solar:
remove zoning
impediments to
allow up to 100%
coverage



2. Parking lots:
ensure zoning
always allows
solar canopies



3. Community Solar:
allow renewable
energy generation in
all zoning districts



4. Energy Storage:
allow some facilities
as-of-right in all
zoning districts



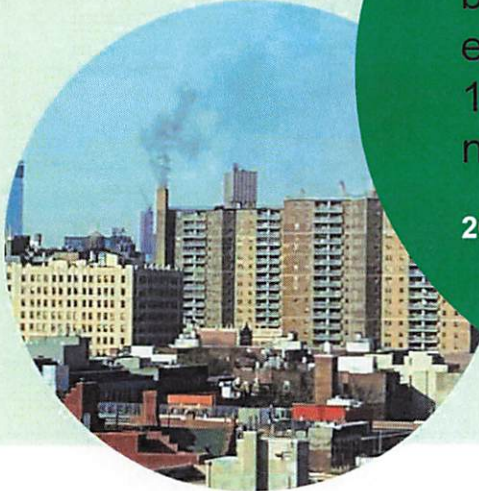
5. On-shore wind:
create a tool for
future review of
proposed wind

Goal 2

Decarbonize our building stock

Our buildings are
NYC's biggest source
of CO₂ emissions

see: 2019 NYS CLCPA



To decarbonize our
building stock, virtually
every one of our city's
1,000,000+ buildings will
need to be retrofit.

2015 Roadmap to 80x50

Windows and walls will
need to be improved or
replaced with new
efficient ones.



Large buildings
(> 25,000 sf)
that fail to cut their CO₂
emissions will face
steep fines

**2019 NYC Climate
Mobilization Act
(Local Law 97)**

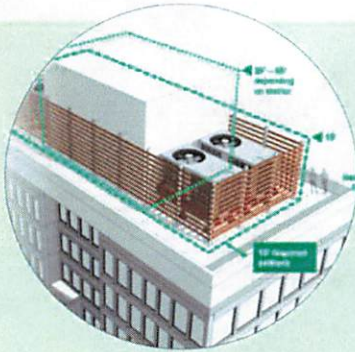
New buildings will be
prohibited from installing
fossil-fuel equipment
Local Law 154



Boilers and furnaces will need to be
replaced with all-electric heat pumps

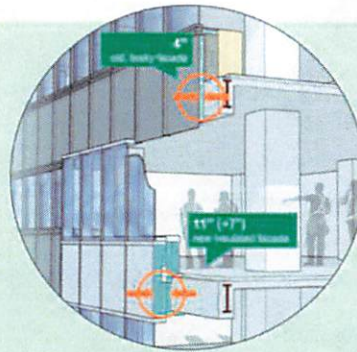
Goal 2

Decarbonize our building stock



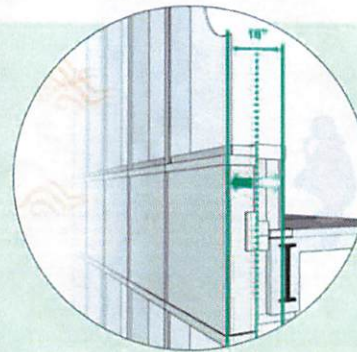
6. Electrification retrofits:

expand rooftop and yard allowances to accommodate increased need for outdoor electrified equipment like heat pumps



7. Building exterior retrofits:

fix rules to ensure that the widest range of exterior retrofits are allowed.



8. Fix Zone Green:

update and improve this floor area exemption to ensure it continues to promote better-than-code performance.



Funding?

NYC Accelerator from the MOCEJ can help connect homeowners to funding assistance.

Goal 3

Decarbonize our vehicles

Less than 1% of the 2,000,000 cars registered in NYC are zero-emission.

see: NYS DMV, 2021



One of the biggest hurdles to achieving **EV adoption** is finding a place to charge overnight.

see: The New York Times

By 2035, all vehicles sold in NYS must be EV; demand for charging will rapidly increase

see: NYS Adv. Clean Cars II

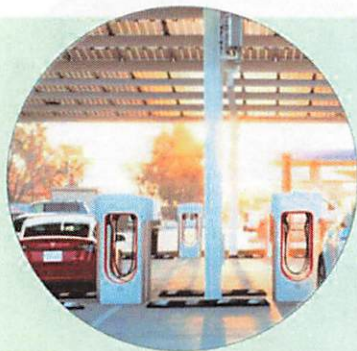


A one-to-one transition to EVs is not the solution. We also need to promote greater use of **bicycles**, **e-mobility**, and **mass transit**.

see: 2016 PlaNYC

Goal 3

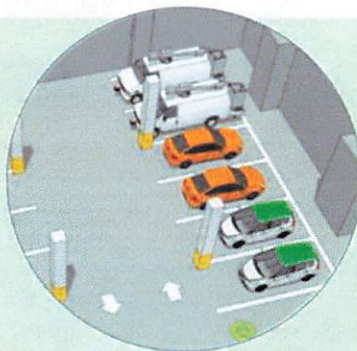
Decarbonize our vehicles



9. Vehicle charging:
expand allowance to
all Commercial
Districts



10. Charge-sharing:
allow a % of
residential spaces
to be shared w/
the public



11. Parking flex:
streamline car-
sharing, car rental,
and commercial
parking rules in non-
residential facilities



12. Automated parking:
expand rules to
encourage more
automated facilities
outside the
Manhattan Core



13. Bike parking:
add rules for
storage and
charging

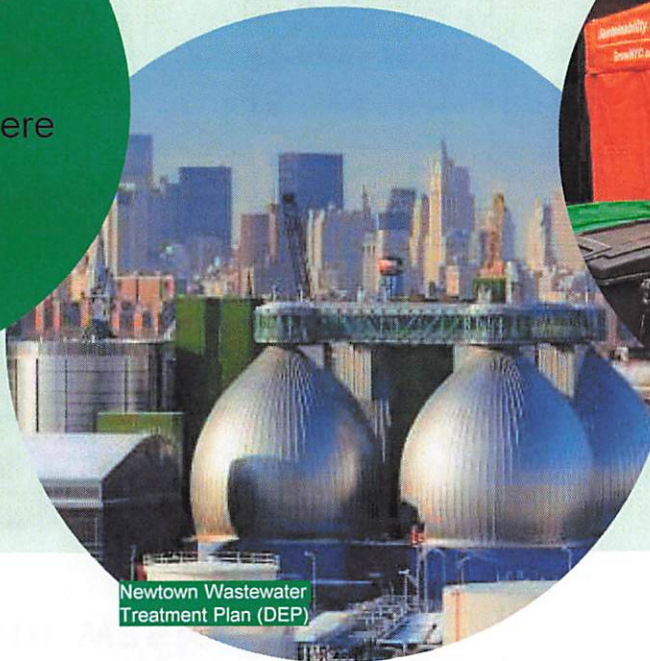
Goal 4

Decarbonize our waste streams

Our waste stream only accounts for 4% of our City's greenhouse gas footprint – but there are some **clear steps** to take.

80x50

Reducing stormwater runoff also reduces the need for energy-intensive stormwater treatment



By diverting organic material from the waste stream, we can reduce our solid waste by **45%**

Supporting local food systems can also play a role in reducing CO₂ associated with food.



Goal 4

Decarbonize our waste streams



14. Porous paving:
clarify language to ensure permeable paving is allowed.



15. Street Trees:
update rules to accommodate new rain garden prototypes



16. Organics:
add new use regulations clarifying when composting and recycling are allowed.



17. Rooftop greenhouses:
simplify the process for adding them by allowing as-of-right

Summary of proposal



ENERGY

1. **Rooftop solar:** removing zoning impediments.
2. **Solar parking canopies:** remove zoning impediments to allow.
3. **Solar:** ensure standalone generation is allowed
4. **On-shore wind:** add a new tool for the CPC to consider future applications
5. **Energy storage (ESS):** add new rules to allow grid-supporting ESS in a wide range of zoning districts



BUILDINGS

6. **Electrification retrofits:** expand rooftop and yard allowances to accommodate increased need for outdoor electrified equipment like heat pumps
7. **Building exterior retrofits:** fix rules to ensure that the widest range of exterior retrofits are allowed.
8. **Fix Zone Green:** update and improve this floor area exemption to ensure it continues to promote better-than-code performance.



TRANSPORTATION

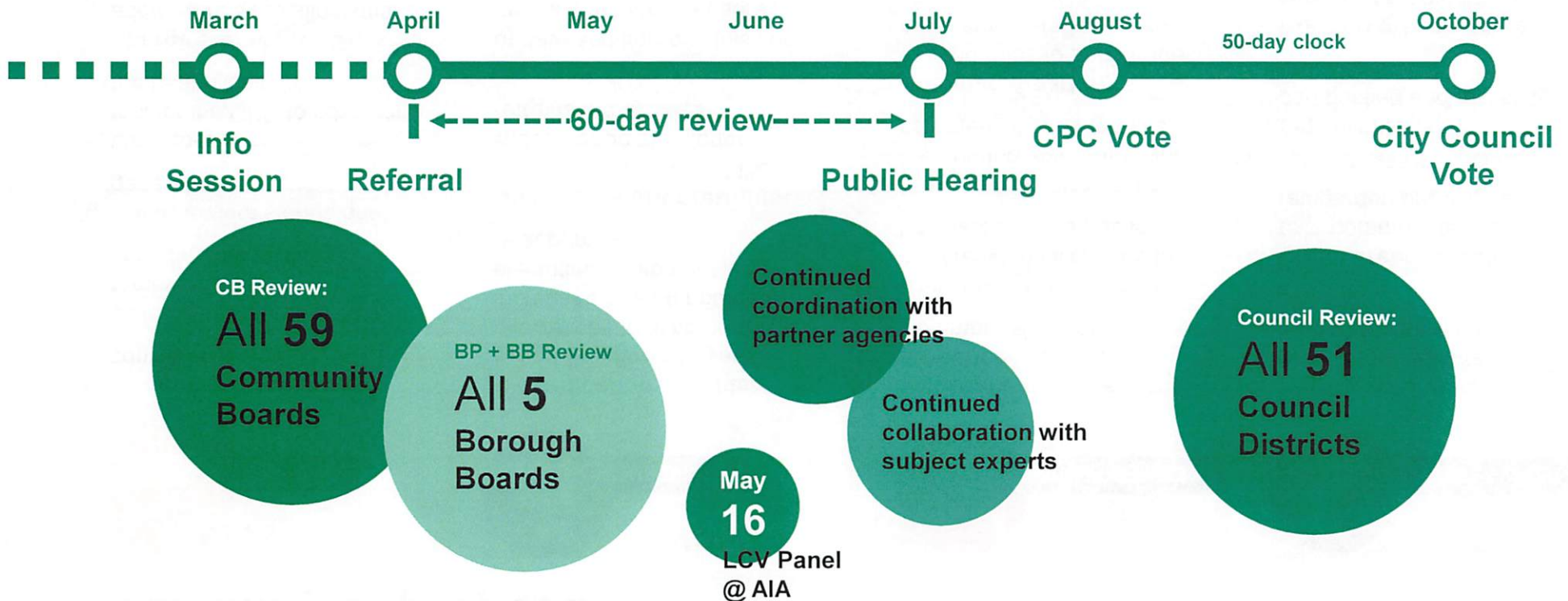
9. **Vehicle charging:** expand allowance to all Commercial Districts
10. **Charge-sharing:** allow a % of residential spaces to be shared w/ the public
11. **Parking flex:** streamline car-sharing, car rental, and commercial parking rules
12. **Automated parking:** expand rules to encourage more automated facilities
13. **Bike parking:** add rules for storage and charging



WASTE & WATER

14. **Porous paving:** clarify language to ensure permeable paving is allowed.
15. **Street Trees:** update rules to accommodate new raingarden prototypes
16. **Organics:** add new use regulations clarifying when composting and recycling are allowed.
17. **Rooftop greenhouses:** simplify the process to allow them as-of-right

Beginning the public review process



Approximate schedule of public review, for illustrative purposes only

An aerial, isometric illustration of a city grid. Buildings are colored in shades of blue, yellow, red, and purple. Some buildings have labels like 'YES!' and 'COMPOST'. A large green banner with the text 'Thank you!' is centered over the image. The grid includes streets, trees, and small figures of people.

Thank you!

QN01@cb.nyc.gov (CB)

From: Derek Jasmin (DCP)
Sent: Tuesday, May 16, 2023 10:05 AM
To: QN01@cb.nyc.gov (CB)
Cc: Colin Ryan (DCP); Hye-Kyung Yang (DCP); Jasmin Tepale (DCP)
Subject: City of Yes: Carbon Neutrality presentation 5/16
Attachments: COYCN CB Presentation .pptx

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hi Florence,

I am reaching out to confirm that DCP will present at the full board meeting this evening May 16th held from 6:30-8:30. I will be the main presenter, and this evening I will be joined by my team: community board liaison Colin Ryan, Western Queens Team Leader Hye-Kyung Yang, and Jasmin Tepale from Central Division, Community Engagement Studio. Please see attached for a copy of tonight's presentation, and if you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact me at (718) 520-2091.

Thank you,
Derek

Derek Jasmin

Borough Planner • Queens Office
(he/they)

NYC Department of City Planning

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