

**Community Board 1 Queens Full Board / Public Hearing Meeting Transcript
Tuesday February 17, 2026**

Present:

Cristian Batres	Stella Nicolaou	Tyrone Gardner
Kian Betancourt	Phyllis Parra	Shahenaz Hamde
Gerald Caliendo	Juliet Payabyab	Christopher Hanway
Christina Chaise	Thomas Ryan	Vanessa Jones-Hall
Jean Marie D'Alleva	Marie Torniali	Richard Khuzami
Katie Ellman	Rod Townsend	Huge Ma
Elizabeth Erion	Judy Trilivas	Brian Martinez
Robert Feltault	Ryan Van Manen	Andreas Migias
Dean Feratovic	Mario Vergara	Dino Panagoulis
Adam Fisher-Cox	Quinella Williams	RoseMarie Poveromo
Evie Hantzopoulos	Corinne Wood-Haynes	Plinia Sarchese
Amy Hau	Excused	Dominic Stiller
Jacqueline Ibarra	Daniel Aliberti	Kathleen Warnock
Athanasios Magoutas	Michelle Amor	Absent
Patricia Mahecha	Stacey Eliuk	Jacqueline Diaz
Amin Mehedi	Frank Fredericks	Pablo Zuniga

Board Staff:

Florence Koulouris, District Manager

Elected Official / Representatives:

Councilmember Tiffany Caban
Assemblymember Diana Moreno
BP Donovan Richards - Claire Collins
Assemblymember Steven Raga - Kazi Maryam
Mayor Zohran Mamdani - Muhammad Alharbi
Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez – Jeffery Montoya
Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz - Colleen Babb
Senator Kristen Gonzalez - Katie Loeb

Chair Evie Hantzopoulos: Meeting called to order at 6:30pm. The Chairwoman presented the agenda then welcomed Councilmember Tiffany Caban.

Councilmember Tiffany Caban - YouTube marker - 0:05:10

The Councilmember reported on the override of Mayor Adams veto of Super Sanctuary Act. The law bans cooperation by any city agency with federal agencies participating in immigration enforcement. The goal of the law is to protect immigrant neighbors. Reintroduced the Delivery Protection Act, which is a bill to regulate last mile delivery facilities for delivery companies like Amazon. The legislation is a safety measure and has broad support. If anyone needs citizenship services, housing consultation, veteran services they can contact the office. Secured 13 new trash bins throughout the district; Preparatory Budgeting - Councilmember held a civic assembly to create ballot projects with dozens of participants, many new to the process. Took the opportunity to educate attendees on the federal environment, about fascism, about authoritarianism, and what local initiatives can be used to ensure the protection of constitutional rights, protect immigrant neighbors, queer neighbors, protect freedom of speech and the right to protest. Ballot projects have been selected and will be announced in the future. April 11-19th is vote week.

Q&A

Christina Chaise: Expressed concern about the large amount of luxury rezoning included in future plans.

Councilmember Tiffany Caban: CM took on the project to do a holistic larger rezoning that was led

by the community to ensure there is open space, support services, infrastructure and to create really affordable housing.

The project spanned over months. CM acknowledges that some of the tools the city has in place such as ULURP are flawed. The plan is designed to address these problems. It will also look forward to next steps on how to get the comprehensive rezoning approved.

Amin Mehedi: Requested that the bike lane area from 31st to Crescent Street be made two ways to reduce traffic.

Councilmember Tiffany Caban: The CM began the process to create a safe environment for pedestrians. Worked with the businesses and accessed studies to support the changes. More changes are needed and the current mayor is making it a priority.

Ryan Van Manen: Asked how the city plans to enforce the Safer Sanctuary Act to stop the abduction of neighbors without judicial warrants and what people should do if they see something.

Councilmember Tiffany Caban: Encouraged everyone to report sightings of ICE to Hands off NYC - if you see something, say something. Hands off NYC is a 24/7 rapid response network. Go to Hands Off NYC social media to see the SALUTE instructions to be a good reporter.

Assemblymember Diana Moreno: YouTube marker 0:23:52

The Assemblymember thanked everyone for allowing her to represent the district. Her first legislative action was to sign on to New York For All which ends cooperation between the state and federal agencies who are involved with immigration enforcement. She also discussed the New York State budget and the New York City budget gap which will be addressed by pushing for the taxation of the wealthiest New Yorkers and wealthy corporations in order to fund the needs and the services that New York needs and that Queens needs.

Presentation - FDNY YouTube marker 0:27:00

Captain Joe Delligatti, Fire Safety Education - The Fire Safety Education Unit consists of veteran firefighters, many of whom have worked locally. The invitation to speak before the board came after a deadly fire on Crescent Street. NYC had 14 deaths so far in 2026 from fires started by smoking candles and electricity. Understanding that fire safety saves lives - the Three P's of fire safety are : 1) Prevention - It is important to make sure lighters and fire starters are stored out of reach of children; that candles are extinguished before leaving the house or going to bed and that there is a clear path from the door throughout the house so that firefighters can get to victims in the event of a fire. Reduce clutter. 2) Protection - Smoke alarms save lives. The Sound the Alarm Program provides free smoke alarms in conjunction with the Red Cross. Call (877) RED-CROS - leaving off the second "S" to claim your combination smoke alarm/carbon monoxide detector. Carbon Monoxide detectors should also be installed on each floor of a home. Also be aware of gas leaks. Go 300 feet away and report them to 9/11 immediately. 3) Planning - knowing where every door and window is located and planning an escape route in case of fire. Have fire drills in your home. You can contact the Fire Safety Education Unit on our website <https://www.fdnysmart.org> if you want us to come out to speak at your school, your house of worship, your civic association, your senior center etc. The presentation usually lasts about 45 minutes.

Q&A

Kian Betancourt - In many apartment buildings the hallway is used as stroller parking and it makes it hard to walk by. I have let the landlord know and notices have gone out but nothing changes. What is the best course of action to take?

Captain Joe Delligatti - Call 311 because it will help you, your neighbors and emergency responders in the event of an emergency. You should know if your building is fireproof or not. You can find that information on the Certificate of Occupancy - what type of material your building is made out of. If you're living in a fireproof building there will be self closing doors. That keeps the heat and combustion inside the apartment. By calling 311, our civilian branch of fire prevention will show up and take a look at the common areas and you can remain anonymous. If we find violations we can issue fines.

Presentation - NYC Council Land Use Office - YouTube marker 0:46:40

Sage Dumont: Sage Dumont and Dana Leventhal and Omar Robbaka, City Council Planning and Land Use Division.

Community Planning Guidelines were created for CD 22 to keep pace with community growth. It will be a resource for the councilmember, the community board and other stakeholders for future decisions. Developing the guidelines was a five-month process. Community engagement included focus groups, online community survey and an open house. Findings in the area of housing, zoning, open space access, amenities, resiliency informed our community planning guidelines. There's been a significant amount of housing growth in the district - about 9,000 new housing units have been

developed since 2010. The concentration is mostly in the area south of Astoria Boulevard. There are 9 goals for Council District 22 based on the feedback that we heard from the community throughout the engagement process. In addition to the goals the guidelines outline the tools available to actually achieve and implement those goals. 1) Create more deeply affordable housing by applying MIH more widely across the district; look at city owned sites; increase outreach and support to nonprofits and mission driven developers. 2) Preservation of existing affordable housing by continuing work with HPD, NYCHA, Tenants' Association; Availability to Purchase Act; 3) Support comprehensive community led planning through New York City's neighborhood planning process. 4) Street Safety by working with residents, business owners, community boards, civic associations, DOT to invest in lighting, sanitation etc. 5) Expansion and improvement of parks and open space by investing in parks with upgrades and amenities and to ensure that there is only a 10-minute walk between parks and residential areas. 6) Investment in green infrastructure for stormwater management that can include investing in permeable pavement or rain gardens in areas of the district that are vulnerable to flooding. 7) Supporting small businesses by working with local stakeholders like SPS or the BID to reduce retail vacancies and encouraging developers to design retail space that can accommodate small businesses on the ground floor. 8) Supporting good jobs in industrial areas by modernizing and strengthening incentive programs to keep industrial businesses in the district. 9) Pursuing all opportunities to add needed services and amenities such as indoor recreation centers; child care facilities, healthcare clinics. This strengthens conversations that the councilmember has with developers when they are seeking a rezoning.

The three main ways that zoning is changed in New York City is: Private property zoning or spot zoning which doesn't include city investment; Citywide text amendments which are led by City Planning and apply changes to zoning districts citywide; neighborhood rezoning which are zoning changes that apply to a neighborhood scale area and filed by the Department of City Planning. These include an extensive community engagement process. This is the rezoning the guidelines focus on because it brings investment for a neighborhood. As of 2016, the city tracks all investments and commitments that are made through neighborhood rezoning which can be accessed online on the New York City Rezoning Commitments Tracker.

Q&A

Adam Fisher-Cox: What are the next steps? Is there anything we need to do to continue to engage?

Dana Leventhal: We would like feedback from the people in the room. Anything missing from the presentation? If you are subscribed to CM Caban's newsletter you will receive updates about what is next in the process.

Chair Evie Hantzopoulos: Less than 1% of the district responded, which is not a great percentage.

Dana Leventhal & Sage Dumont: Engagement will continue throughout the district as well as in specific areas.

Jacqueline Ibarra: Inquired where the respondents came from.

Sage Dumont: There were respondents from every zip code.

Gerald Caliendo: Much of the affordable housing for new development comes from zoning changes. Because of the 485X tax abatement, 99 units cut off with the prevailing wage prevents larger developers and larger buildings from being produced because it's double the cost. I think the City Council should encourage the Governor to change that law to encourage large developments and more affordable housing. Also asked if recreation space included school yards which are currently unused.

Omar Robbaka: The data is from the Parks Department. They did not account for schoolyards that are closed to the public. But there is a program to try to open up schoolyards to the public.

Chair Evie Hantzopoulos: Are the 9000 units you mentioned already developed or are they approved for development? The CB's approve rezonings but then developers don't follow through and we have no recourse.

Sage Dumont & Omar Robbaka: The 9000 has been developed. There are many approved parcels on the map that still haven't been developed. The city can't force a developer to build or build on behalf of a developer. These neighborhood rezonings allow us to create a plan and approve accordingly.

Christina Chaise: Commented that none of the plans are community-led. Many of the plans never resulted in very affordable development such as Innovation Queens and Hallet's Pointe and One LIC rezoning that we just went through but the plan fell through. MIH is just a tax break and doesn't build deeply affordable housing. What can we do to actually get deeply affordable housing built?

Omar Robbaka: Thanked the Chair for the feedback and suggested they work together to get that 1% number of respondents up higher.

Adama Fisher-Cox: Suggested working with a polling firm to get more feedback.

Jacqueline Ibarra: Asked that the area from which they seek respondents reaches beyond Astoria because the council district is more than just Astoria.

Gerald Caliendo: Deeply affordable housing is much less affordable in Queens than in the other boroughs. The other boroughs have HPD and state funded projects and Queens has none. Why not Queens? We have the same needs as the Bronx. I understand EDC is supposedly changing the IBZ zones. Hopefully those underutilized manufacturing areas can become live/work areas and provide deeply affordable housing. The land is cheaper in the Bronx than it is in Queens which makes it more likely to gain subsidies. The only cheap land in Queens is in the manufacturing zones which are underutilized.

Brian Paul: The reason why you see a lot of the HPD 100% affordable term is because that is where the rent market is not very high. Private owners go to HPD because they can get the best return on investment. It's much harder to get private owners in areas that can get high rents to do that because they voluntarily go to HPD to develop. That's why we focused on the two ways to get deeply affordable housing now. Applying MIH which does have an option for 20% at 40 AMI that can be an option now. That is a way to get real, deeply affordable housing. The main reason why only 3% of the housing in the area that's been built is deeply affordable is because MIH is barely mapped in this area. It's only mapped on some of those pink squares on the map. There hasn't been a big mapping of all of 31st, all of 21st, all of Vernon having MIH. Most of the development that's gone up there either has no affordable housing or those horrible 130 AMI units that you referenced. We didn't hear a call for development in industrial areas in the engagement that we did. I don't think the heavy industrial areas would be appropriate. There are pockets that can be looked at. We just have to be careful not to reduce industrial jobs which are really good work for middle class folks without a college education.

Public Hearing Item #1 YouTube marker 1:26:57

BSA Cal No. 246-98-BZ 53-15/21 Northern Boulevard Modification to BSA application filed on behalf of D&F Construction Group, owner, to allow previously-granted Sunday sales at an auto dealership and to review the requested overhead door for the auto showroom. An earlier application (reviewed in June, 2025) was filed for this site to reinstate and amend a prior variance and special permit, request a change in use from auto sales and to repair to exclusively auto sales and to request a variance for open use auto sales.

Elizabeth Erion - In June the Board voted not to approve the change of use of the Board of Standards and Appeals Use Permit from a garage to a car showroom. The BSA did approve the change of use with conditions taken from CB 1's comments. One of the conditions was that the hours of operation be Monday - Saturday 8:00am - 6:00pm. The applicant is now requesting a change in the operating hours to include Sunday from 8:00am - 6:00pm.

Q&A

Jacqueline Ibarra: Wanted clarification on the new requested business hours.

Elizabeth Erion: Seven days a week from 8:00 am to 6 pm.

Athanasios Magoutas: Requested enumeration of the conditions BSA applied to the approval.

Elizabeth Erion: For a 10-year term the property must be kept free of debris and graffiti; no dead storage; no spray painting; comply with the C22 district requirements with respect to signage; curb cut restoration and reconstruction must meet DOT standards; a restriction on access and egress - it shall enter only from Broadway and exit only to Northern Boulevard; shall not be used for storing any vehicles; the rest is all technical stuff about permits.

The Chair asked if any members of the public wanted to speak for or against this project. No one spoke.

Public Session - YouTube marker 1:34:45

Jonathan Nolla, Department of Consumer & Worker Protection: NYC is offering free tax preparation. Families who earn \$97,000 or less or individuals that earn \$68,000 or less are eligible to have their taxes completed by IRS certified volunteers. Many different services include in-person drop-off service, virtual and self-preparation for small business. Owners, freelancers, and gig workers with families that earn \$97,000 or less and with an expense of \$250,000 are eligible for these programs and annually to make estimated payments quarterly and access all year round. Resources include one-on-one consultations, workshops, tool-kits, and recordkeeping. Visit www.nyc.gov/taxprep

Ronnie K. Mina: Regarding the Hallets Pointe project that was approved by the Community Board 29 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstentions - land use review process applications: C090484ZMQ; C130068MMQ; C13244ZSQ; C0904866ZQ - the contractors did not pay the workers the proper rate of pay. Under the approval the developer is to provide a youth center facility similar to the Variety Boys and Girls Club at 21-17 30th Road in Astoria with the indoor multi-use facilities. This facility will

be separate and distinct from the proposed school building. We are asking that you keep your agreement.

Neil Herdan: 31st Avenue was not designed to be a main throughway from Astoria to East Elmhurst and neither are the small side streets. The new design has many flaws including the dangerous turn on 35th Street. It is a small street that can't handle traffic bottlenecks from three directions. 35th Street can't accommodate both passenger traffic and EMS during peak hours. There is no way. EMS can bypass double parked cars and delivery trucks. Related to 35th street, 31st Avenue is never plowed properly and ice accumulates at the corners of 35th and 36th streets.

Tafari John King, Re-settlement - Offering free English classes to Spanish speaking residents who live in the neighborhood - every Tuesday and Thursday from 11am to 2pm. We also have care for children under the age of five.

John Rivera, Director of Family Literacy Program at Jacob Reese - We are based out of the Ravenswood projects. What sets us apart from other literacy programs, is the family literacy component, where we have family members engaging in ESOL learning, while their children between the ages of zero and four are taken care of in a daycare program immediately right next door. The majority of our participants in the program have beginner level skills. We meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11am-2pm.

Kevin Lee: Spoke in support of the testimony of Ronnie K. Mina

Gloria Maloney, Dutch Kill Civic Association: The Judge agreed with discontinuing the bike lanes on 31st Street but the City Council and Mayor will bring it up again. It is not safe getting out of the car. Requested the accident statistics that happened underneath 31st Street. 31st Avenue is a complete disaster. It added so much more traffic to every side street in that neighborhood. The people that are living there are going through Hell and I hope to God that the person who died on 35th Street had nothing to do with the emergency vehicles.

Mary Oliver: Requested that everyone provide comments for the MTA Queen's redesign bus map network. Community input can possibly bring back the Q102.

Charlie Mitchell: Introduced the Birth by Queens Foundation, Inc. which is working to develop the first birth center in Queens with the goal of increasing maternity care options in Queens. Mount Sinai Queens is no longer providing delivery services. The goal is to provide comprehensive services from conception to menopause. Our social media is @birthbyqueens - website www.birthbyqueens.com

Business Section-YouTube marker 1:50:11

Chair Evie Hantzopoulos: Called for a motion to adopt January meeting minutes.

Rod Townsend: Correction to the minutes - Senator Gonzalez is incorrectly listed as an Assemblymember.

Chair Evie Hantzopoulos. So noted.

Motion to accept the minutes with the stated change. Jean Marie D'Allewa; second Marie Torniali; Minutes are adopted unanimously

Chair's Report

Chair Evie Hantzopoulos: Community Board applications closed on February, 13th. Reminded board members whose term was expiring that they had to fill out an application in order to be considered for reappointment. The Borough President's Office will be considering the applications for appointments in April. Starting in 2027 the first class of board members will be term limited so we will be preparing for that. Please fill out the MTA Queens Bus Redesign survey which closes at the end of February www.MTA.info/qbnrsurvey1

District Manager Report

Florence Koulouris, District Manager: The Park Department Spring planting program will target: Astoria, Old Astoria, Queensbridge, Ravenswood, Long Island City, and Steinway Street. Planting locations can be viewed at www.nycgovparks.org/trees/street-tree-planting/neighborhood-tree-planting-program

Please report damaged trees to 311.

Community complaints are as follows: Homeless encampment 31st Street. Street light repair 30th Avenue. Homeless encampment 23rd Avenue; Abandoned vehicles 34th Avenue; Illegally parked motorcycle 26th Street; Icy path Queensboro Bridge; Noise complaint 23rd Avenue; graffiti/hate symbol NQR train; Steinway Street bus cones in the street; parking issues on Steinway Street; bike path snow removal 27th Street; MTA DOT Q69 Q19 slow service due to snow; snow dumped in driveway in IBZ 19th Avenue; snow piles on sidewalks corner of 28th Street-Broadway; Q69 bus route snow removal necessary; dangerous fire-FDNY response 31st Street, 31st, Avenue; snow/ice complaint 27th; Teen harassment to pedestrians Ditmars Boulevard; hookah use unlicensed 30th Avenue; snow/ice 23rd Street; Queensbridge parking change request 10th Street to 41st Avenue P rule submitted; senior care ambulance truck 31st Avenue; ice issue Astoria general area - location

provided; 74th Street Ditmars water main work taking up entire area; pothole 20th street; they have new business parking space being held; blocked driveway-Broadway; streetlight outage 14th Street; anonymous complaint for possible street sheds year round impact on the rat population in our area; pothole 82nd Street; commercial vehicle storage on residential road 40th Avenue; 31st Street, 30th Avenue and 38th Avenue potholes.

Committee Reports - YouTube markers 1:56:57

Business & Economic Development: - No Report

Communications and Public Outreach, Quinella Williams: We held a meeting on January 28, 2026. List forthcoming.

Consumer Affairs and Licenses, Marie Torniali: No negative comments from community or NYPD 114 PCT on any applications. Request a motion to approve the legal licenses as listed on excel sheet. **YouTube marker 1:58:20**

Motion to approve liquor licenses as they appear on the sheet- Phyllis Parra; second - Jean Marie D'Alleva

No discussion on the motion. The motion passes unanimously.

Motion to approve outdoor dining application - Gyro World - Phyllis Parra; second - Jean Marie D'Alleva.

No discussion on the motion. The motion passes unanimously.

The committee will be following up on the news story regarding problems at CODE nightclub.

Education/Libraries Committee: No report.

Environmental/Sanitation, Patricia Mahecha: The committee received a presentation by New York City Environmental Justice Alliance on Renewable Rikers - a proposal to transform Riker's Island into a hub of sustainability and resilience. The vision includes developing a new wastewater treatment facility, large scale, renewable energy and battery storage systems and the composting facilities with a strong focus on environmental justice and community benefit. The presentation was followed by a discussion and questions from the attendees and marketing materials which we shared for continued engagement.

Health and Human Services Board Chair Evie Hantzopoulos standing in for Committee Chair: Requested approval from the board for a support letter to go to all elected officials and the Department of Health for Birth By Queens Foundation, Inc. with an anticipated opening date of December 2027.

Christina Chaise: Supports the letter.

Stella Nicolaou: Supports the motion but questions why Mount Sinai doesn't have maternal care even though the community supports them.

Judy Trilivas: Mount Sinai is a community hospital and they are unable to care for critically ill babies so they have partnered with Mount Sinai in Manhattan. The hospital pulled back from developing a birthing facility because this agency is out there. They do deliver babies in emergencies and transfer them to Manhattan. Mount Sinai does not have pediatrics but it does have an ICU.

YouTube marker 2:05:15

Motion to approve the support letter - Katie Ellman; second - Kian Betancourt.

No discussion on the motion. Motion passes unanimously.

Housing, Katie Ellman: Requested that people think about the low affordable housing numbers in the City Council Land Use presentation. The next meeting will be Monday, March 9th.

Land Use & Zoning, Elizabeth Erion: **YouTube marker 2:07:05**

Motion to approve BSA Cal No. 246-98-BZ , which is a request to change the hours of operation to include Sunday from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.; second Tom Ryan

Discussion

Gerald Caliendo: Stated his recusal.

Katie Ellman: Requested a recap of the board vote on the matter in June of 2025

Answer: 13 to approve 19 opposed - the motion was defeated.

Kian Betancourt: **Is this motion on the floor only for the change of hours or is there also a change in use?**

Answer: Solely to include Sunday hours. Change of use was already approved by BSA.

19 Favor 5 Against 1 Ineligible - Motion carries.

Elizabeth Erion: The Mamdani administration has not appointed a head to the City Planning Commission. The acting head is Leila Bozorg, who was a former commissioner on the planning commission who will be working on land use reforms under City of Yes and re-zoning. The next meeting on March 4, 2026 land use committee will review a proposed rezoning from 34th Avenue between Steinway Street and 38th Street. There is an M1 district section that will be retained, but it will be changed to a mixed use. They're proposing a mixed-use zone with an R7A equivalent -two buildings on that site - one 12 story 156 unit and a 9 story 87 units.

Legal, Legislative & Parliamentary, Rod Townsend: The committee reviewed the bylaws that were considered by the board and voted down. We reviewed those items that were in heavy contention during the board meeting and we are presenting a new package that took all those contentions into consideration. Just a reminder that the bylaws amendment process is to present changes at one meeting then discuss and vote at the next meeting. Contained in the yellow packet are the bylaws that were presented to the board in January which were voted down. In the blue packet are the new bylaws that are being proposed by the committee for your consideration and discussion next month.

Budget and Staff, Chair Evie Hantzopoulos: No meeting, no report.

Parks, Recreation, and Cultural: No Report

Public Safety: No Report

Transportation, Athanasios Magoutas: Requested approval of a letter to NYC DOT, FDNY & DSNY suggesting changes to the signage and usage of the road at Queensbridge South adjacent to Baby Park to address parking frequency and emergency vehicles zones - **YouTube marker 2:18:00**

Motion to approve the letter - Athanasios Magoutas; second - Katie Ellman

Discussion

Marie Torniali: The majority of Central Astoria alternate side is 4 days. The transportation committee should reevaluate the whole area because it was only 2 days during COVID but from 38th Street to Astoria Boulevard it is 4 days.

Corinne Wood-Haynes: Is opposed to the letter being sent as is because the letter doesn't reflect the suggestions alternate street parking accommodations that the Chair made. Where it says "it is thought that these modifications may reduce parking stresses caused by a large volume of double parking," It was concluded that the double parking was not the issue. Also we agreed there should be a walk through. Also, as opposed to being four days a week the chair stated one day a week. The letter states 2 days a week. DOT needs to revisit that because DSNY is not sweeping four days a week. I don't think the letter reflects what was discussed at the meeting. It is not double parking.

Phyllis Parra: Would it be better to hold the letter until after the walk through?

Kian Betancourt: I believe the contention is because of the disparate ownership of the street. Queensbridge Baby Park claims they own it and claim they can't make it a public egress because of prior concern that whenever there is traffic that is blocking on 10th or 12th street, the only way out of the parking lot for Queensbridge residents is to escape via that Baby Park. The letter is more focused on DOT looking for solutions on 10th and 12th Street as it pertains to allowing both emergency vehicle access and when they are blocking egress, allowing vehicles to exit the parking lot. I do agree we need a walkthrough - I don't know if that should be in the letter.

Katie Ellman: I am in favor of the letter because we need to keep having conversations with the city agencies responsible for this. I'm happy to revoke my second of the motion to approve as is.

No quorum present to vote on motion. The letter is sent back to the committee.

Old Business/New Business - YouTube marker 2:31:17

Chair Evie Hantzopoulos: Parks is holding a Zoom meeting about Queensbridge Park Natural Turf Ballfield Wednesday, February 25th at 6:30.

Jacqueline Ibarra: Jacqueline Ibarra spoke with Ellie Lauderbach, LUZ Director from CM Julie Won's office on behalf of CB1 LUZ Committee re: Heart of District Study and implementation steps. Ellie stated that the study is now with the Dept. of City Planning who will handle next steps.

Kian Betancourt: What is the best way for Richard to get something in front of the bylaws committee for consideration?

Chair Evie Hantzopoulos: He was at the meeting, and we incorporated everything he mentioned.

Elected Officials - YouTube marker 2:33:51

BP Donovan Richard's Office, Claire Collins: Monday, February 23rd at 5:00 p.m. we're hosting our Lunar New Year celebration at Queens Borough Hall; Wednesday, February 25th at 5:30 p.m. we're hosting our Black History Month celebration; Thursday, February 26 at 6 p.m. we're hosting our

Dominican Independence Day celebration at PS 307; Parent Advisory Board meeting on Zoom on Wednesday, March 11th at 6:30 p.m.- the link is on our website. 70 applications for new members. If you don't receive an appointment, it is because many people applied for 50 spots. So if you do not get appointed, please reapply.

DA Melinda Katz, Colleen Babb: Beware of scams and report frauds and scams. Held a gun buyback in January. We took 127 guns off the street. Prosecuted and received a conviction by our cold case unit - A teenage girl was killed in her home in 1992. We continued to work the case. We had a DNA profile match. The defendant lived in Virginia. We extradited him and he was convicted of murder in the second degree by a jury. We will pursue justice, no matter what the timeline.

Senator Kristen Gonzalez, Katie Loeb: Senator chairs two committees - one on elections and one on internet and technology. The Senator is working to protect our elections from federal interference and is putting safety measures on important things related to the internet, like chat bots, data brokers, making sure that our privacy is safe and that children don't have access or can't be manipulated by these AI chat bots. The Senator presented a \$2 million initiative for AI literacy and a \$25 million initiative for digital equity. As these technologies are ramping up our economy, we have to make sure that they don't concentrate the wealth that already exists and that all communities have access to economic opportunities that come along with new technology. We're also advocating for an \$8 million fund for gender affirming care. As we know, the federal government is trying to target trans youth as a way of stripping more Americans of their health rights, especially around Medicaid funding. This fund would help cover gender affirming care for people who are being threatened by losing their health care coverage. We also know that immigration enforcement in this community has been very difficult for people, so there are provisions in the budget around immigrant protection. Next Friday, February 27th from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. is a healthcare resource fair - health providers from throughout the district will provide resources for people who need them at the Polish and Slavic Center in Greenpoint.

Rep. Ocasio-Cortez, Jeffery Montoya: Earlier this month the Congresswoman held a town hall in Astoria. You can see it on her social media. DHS is currently having a funding lapse. DHS covers more than just ICE, like the Coast Guard and TSA. So, If it affects you or your family, please give us our office a call. We're leading a fight to pass the Defiance Act. It's a legislation which would give victims of non-consensual sexually explicit AI generated deep fakes, the right to sue their abusers. It passed the Senate last month and is awaiting a vote in the House. Last month the Department of State announced the indefinite suspension of immigrant visa processing for 75 countries. If you're not sure if this affects you or your family, give our office a call and we'll see what we can do.

Mayor's Office, Muhammad Alharbi: The Deputy Bureau Director for the Mayor's Office of Mass Engagement for Queens presented himself as a resource. Contact is best through email Malharb@cityhall.gov

Assemblymember Steven Raga, Kazi Maryam: On January 29th we hosted a legal clinic with Communities Resist from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at our district office; on January 31st we kicked off our free tax preparation with Urban Upbounds. These services will go through April 25th to make an appointment please call (718) 651-3185; on February 6th from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. the office of Congresswoman Grace Meng hosted mobile office hours at our office to provide assistance with federal questions and concerns; on February 6th we hosted a Valentine's Day card making event at our district - we thank the 40 volunteers that helped decorate the 900 cards that we gave out to our seniors in our district; we held a free clothing drive with Queens Borough President Donovan Richard's office at Moore Hempstead Park, where we distributed hundreds of clothes; Partnering with Julie Won's office for a Woodside Rapid Response immigrant justice training event Thursday from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. call the office to RSVP; Lunar New Year celebration with CM Shekar Krishnan at Moore Hempstead Park on February 28th from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Motion to adjourn - Marie Torniali; second - Tom Ryan.
The meeting adjourned 9:15pm.

ATTENDANCE FULL BOARD MEETING

Date: February 17, 2026

KEY:
 P Present
 A Absent
 E Excused

Community Board Member	P	A	E
1 DANIEL ALIBERTI			✓
2 MICHELLE AMOR			✓
3 CRISTIAN BATRES	✓		
4 KIAN BETANCOURT	✓		
5 GERALD CALIENDO	✓		
6 CHRISTINA CHAISE	✓		
7 JEAN MARIE D'ALLEVA	✓		
8 JACQUELINE DIAZ		✓	
9 STACEY ELIUK			✓
10 KATIE ELLMAN	✓		
11 ELIZABETH ERION	✓		
12 ROBERT FELTAULT	✓		
13 DEAN FERATOVIC	✓		
14 ADAM FISHER-COX	✓		
15 FRANK FREDERICKS			✓
16 TYRONE GARDNER			✓
17 SHAHENAZ HAMDE			✓
18 EVIE HANTZOPOULOS	✓		
19 CHRISTOPHER HANWAY			✓
20 AMY HAU	✓		
21 JACQUELINE IBARRA	✓		
22 VANESSA JONES-HALL			✓
23 RICHARD KHUZAMI			✓
24 HUGE MA			✓
25 ATHANASIOS MAGOUTAS	✓		

Community Board Member	P	A	E
26 PATRICIA MAHECHA	✓		
27 BRIAN MARTINEZ			✓
28 AMIN MEHEDI	✓		
29 ANDREAS MIGIAS			✓
30 STELLA NICOLAOU	✓		
31 DINO PANAGOULIAS			✓
32 PHYLLIS PARRA	✓		
33 JULIET PAYABYAB	✓		
34 ROSEMARIE POVEROMO			✓
35 THOMAS RYAN	✓		
36 PLINIA SARCHESE			✓
37 DOMINIC STILLER			✓
38 MARIE TORNIALI	✓		
39 ROD TOWNSEND	✓		
40 JUDY TRILIVAS	✓		
41 RYAN VAN MANEN	✓		
42 MARIO VERGARA	✓		
43 KATHLEEN WARNOCK			✓
44 QUINELLA WILLIAMS	✓		
45 CORINNE WOOD-HAYNES	✓		
46 PABLO ZUNIGA		✓	

Number of Board Members Present 27 on February 17, 2026

PRESENT	27
ABSENT	2
EXCUSED	17