



Donovan Richards
Queens Borough President

Community Board No. 2

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Anatole Ashraf
Chairperson

May 7, 2026

Community Board 2 Meeting Minutes

This meeting was held in person and teleconference on Zoom

Board Members – Present: Melissa Aguirre, Anatole Ashraf, Karesia Batan (PV), Nicholas Berkowitz (PV), Danielle Brecker, Isabella Bustamante, Evelyn Chango (PV), Tannia Chavez (PV), Osman Chowdhury, Stephen Cooper (PV), Kevin Davis, Warren Davis (PV), Morry Galonoy, Dr. Rosamond Gianutsos, Camille Gray, Kenneth Greenberg (PV), Leo Guttman, Corey Hannigan, Michelle D. Hernandez, Mohammad Hossen (PV), Christine Hunter, William Jourdain, Bradford Leibin (PV), Patrick Martinez, Bill Murray, Eric Narburgh, Mario Nnani, Reilly Owens, Rafael Perez, Randy Plemel (PV), Zaakirah Rahman, Ryan Smith, Lauren Springer, Alaina Van Slooten (PV), Leticia Vasquez, Zev Wineberg, Michael Zoorob

Board Members – Absent

Unexcused: John Bahia, Lisa Charles, Alyssa Sawicki

Excused: Amparo Abel-Bey, Nellie Afshar, Cheryl Apicella, Carlos Castell Croke, Alexandra Gonzalez, Prameet Kumar, Pia Rahman, Amaurys Valdez

Community Board 2 Staff: Rafael Nava, Community Assistant

Elected Officials / Representatives:

Adam Lee, Representing Congressman Grace Meng
Jacqueline Crossan, Representing State Senator Michael Gianaris,
Karen Sheu, Representing State Senator Kristen Gonzalez
Joshua Lopez-Braganza, Representing Assemblymember Steven Raga
Erica Landau, Representing Assemblymember Claire Valdez
Clare Collins, Representing Queens Borough President Donovan Richards
Elmo Tumbokon, Representing Council Member Julie Won

City Agency Representatives

Feigele Lechtchiner, DCP
Tara Das, NYC EDC

Public Comment

Chris Cardone, Charlton D’Souza, Alisha Shah, Jenille King, Gisela Garrett, Walter Aparicio, Simon Suli

Guests

“Serving the Communities of Long Island City, Sunnyside, Woodside, and Maspeth”

Richard Lobel, 21-31 46th Avenue Rezoning
Nick Liberis, 21-31 46th Avenue Rezoning
Amanda Iannotti, 21-31 46th Avenue Rezoning
Victoria Colores, LIC Feral Feeders
Janetul Ahmed, LIC Feral Feeders

Note: Reference to the YouTube video and the associated time-in-meeting stamps are offered here as a service to community members who wish to review the meeting.

Time (Approximate, from YouTube Video)

YouTube Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XzN58KMO5vo>

0:06:27 At 6:36 PM, Queens CB2 Chairperson Anatole Ashraf welcomed the community together with elected representatives and other guests.

0:06:40 **Pledge of Allegiance**

0:08:46 **Adam Lee, representing Congresswoman [Grace Meng](#)**, provided the following updates:

- Programming information from the Congresswoman's office, including weekend office hours.
- Legislation introduced by Congresswoman Meng, including the Protecting Human Rights and Public Health in Foreign Assistance Act. Information regarding the bill was provided.
- Congresswoman Meng's support for measures supporting the Transportation Security Administration (TSA), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and U.S. Coast Guard.

0:11:18 **Jacqueline Crossan, representing State Senator [Michael Gianaris](#)**, provided the following updates:

- The state budget process remains ongoing. Constituents were encouraged to contact State Senator Gianaris' office to schedule appointments regarding budgetary or legislative matters.
- The State Senator's office continues to advocate against the proposed removal of the Q32 bus stop at 37th Street and Queens Boulevard.
- State Senator Gianaris' office provides constituent services, including assistance with resolving OMNY-related issues through the MTA.
- Q&A

0:15:14 **Karen Sheu, representing State Senator [Kristen Gonzalez](#)**, provided the following updates:

- State Senator Gonzalez remains committed to priorities including protecting immigrant communities, data privacy, and revenue-raising legislation to fund City services and programs.
- The State Senator's bill, the Consumer Utility Protection During Investigations Act, passed the Senate last month. Information regarding the bill was provided.
- Recent events attended by State Senator Gonzalez and her office, as well as upcoming programming, including office hours at the Long Island City Library.
- Q&A

0:18:00 **Joshua Lopez-Braganza, representing Assemblymember [Steven Raga](#)**, provided the following updates:

- Previous programming events hosted by the Assemblymember, as well as upcoming programming, including a concert at Big Bush Park on June 13 from 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM.
- The state budget process remains ongoing.

- Legislation introduced by Assemblymember Raga, including the Commercial Tenant Opportunity Purchase Act. Information regarding the bill was provided.

00:21:00 **Erica Landau, representing Assemblymember [Claire Valdez](#)**, provided the following updates:

- Events attended by Assemblymember Valdez, including joining climate organizers in Albany to oppose the Governor's proposed rollbacks to climate laws.
- Programming information, including an e-waste event on June 6, 2026, at Sunnyside Community Services.
- Legislation introduced by Assemblymember Valdez, including a bill to provide unemployment benefits for workers in academic settings.
- Other legislation introduced by the Assemblymember, including the ARTIST Act, workers' compensation for delivery drivers, and a bill repealing Executive Order 157 targeting Palestinian advocacy.
- Q&A

00:23:40 **Clare Collins, representing Queens Borough President [Donovan Richards](#)**, provided the following update:

- Programming information, including a Community AI Literacy Workshop and cultural events.

00:25:38 **Elmo Tumbokon, representing Council Member [Julie Won](#)**, provided the following updates:

- Encouraged attendees to attend the OneLIC Task Force public meeting at CUNY School of Law on June 17, 2026, from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM.
- The City Council passed a package of legislation to combat vaccine disinformation. Specifics regarding the legislation were provided.
- The Council also approved legislation to improve coordination during future Code Blue emergencies.
- An update was provided on the results of participatory budgeting. A total of 9,883 votes were cast, with high school and middle school technology upgrades receiving the most votes.
- An upcoming executive budget hearing was announced, where community members will be able to share advocacy priorities related to parks, education, transportation, and other issues.
- Programming information was shared, including upcoming movie nights.

00:28:12 **Chris Cardone, of [Sunnyside Community Services](#)**, provided the following update:

- Programming information, including a candidate forum for New York's 7th Congressional District Democratic primary on May 20, 2026, at 6:30 PM at Sunnyside Community Services.

00:29:14 **DCP Update**

Feigele Leichtener, of the Department of City Planning, provided the following update:

- Two rezoning applications are expected to come before the Community Board in the coming months:
 - 50-02 Queens Boulevard
 - 44-17 Greenpoint Avenue

General Public Comment

32:28 Charlton D'Souza, President of [Passengers United](#), shared MTA-related concerns. He supports preserving the Q32 bus stop at 37th Street and Queens Boulevard.

00:35:00 Alisha Shah and Jenille King expressed support for New York City Council Intro 0536-2024, stating that it would strengthen coordination between food retailers and community organizations by improving use of the City's existing food donation portal and supporting more efficient food recovery efforts. They encouraged support for legislation advancing these efforts.

00:38:27 Gisela Garrett spoke about Community Supported Agriculture (CSA), including the Dutch Kills CSA program, which connects local farms with community members and provides access to fresh produce. Information regarding subsidized memberships was shared, and attendees were encouraged to apply, with registration open through June 1.

00:41:29 Walter Aparicio expressed concerns regarding Mayor Mamdani's administration, citing quality-of-life issues.

00:44:57 ULURP Application # C 250125 ZMQ - 21-31 46th Avenue Rezoning

Richard Lobel and Nick Liberis provided a presentation on a proposed rezoning that would convert the existing site from an M1-4/R6B zoning district to an R7X/C2-5 zoning district by extending the existing R7X/C2-5 district over the site ([Click here to view](#)).

- The presentation included a project summary and proposed development features, including 84 residential units, 21 of which would be affordable.
- Q&A

1:27:34 Public Comments Following the ULURP Presentation

Simon Suli expressed opposition to the proposed rezoning, citing infrastructure and safety concerns, increased traffic, and concerns that the development would be incompatible with the neighborhood's character and overshadow nearby buildings.

1:32:24 Hunters Point South Ferry Landing Replacement Presentation

Tara Das, of the New York City Economic Development Corporation, provided a presentation on the Hunters Point South Ferry Landing Replacement ([Click here to view](#)).

- The presentation provided an overview of the NYC Ferry system, locations studied for the landing, survey results, and design changes implemented in response to community feedback, including visualizations of the proposed landing.
- Q&A

1:49:35 LIC Feral Feeders Presentation

Victoria Colores and Janetul Ahmed, of LIC Feral Feeders, gave a presentation ([Click here to view](#)). The presentation provided an overview of the organization's cat rescue, foster, adoption, and volunteer programs. Information was also shared regarding the organization's efforts to establish a community space within CB2.

- LIC Feral Feeders is seeking to furnish an already acquired space of approximately 400 square feet in CB2 to serve cats and the community.
- Q&A

2:04:15 Attendance

Board Members Present in Person: 27
Board Members Present Virtually: 10

Board Members Excused: 6
Board Members Absent: 7

Quorum: Yes

2:11:46 Approval of Minutes:

Bill Murray made a motion to approve the April 9, 2026, Community Board Meeting Minutes, which was seconded by Eric Narburgh.

- The motion carried with 32 in favor, five abstentions, and no opposition.

2:12:13 Chairperson Report

Anatole Ashraf, Chairperson, delivered the Chairperson's Report. He shared the following:

- Wished those celebrating Cinco de Mayo, Mother's Day, Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, and Memorial Day a happy holiday.
- Recognized outgoing Board Members and thanked them for their service. New Board Members were also welcomed.
- Reported that the OneLIC Oversight Task Force began meeting two weeks ago.

2:14:10 Treasurer's Report

Michael Zoorob delivered the Treasurer's Report ([Click here to view](#)). He shared the following:

- Information regarding the Community Board's Annual Community Needs Survey outreach efforts and the status of the Board's operational budget.
- An update on two votes scheduled to take place during the meeting, including:
 - A \$500 allocation for branded materials ("swag") to be distributed at community engagement events.
 - The allocation of funds to promote Rafael Nava to Community Coordinator.

2:23:40 Motion to Support Funding for Branded Promotional Materials ("Swag")

A motion was made by Michael Zoorob, and it was seconded by Dr. Rosamond Gianutsos.

The motion was as follows: Queens Community Board 2 authorizes the allocation of up to \$500.00 from its other than personal services budget for branded promotional materials ("swag") for public events.

- The motion carried through a roll call vote, with 33 in favor, 2 opposed, and 1 abstention.

2:32:30 Motion to Promote Rafael Nava to Community Coordinator

A motion was made by Stephen Cooper, and it was seconded by Anatole Ashraf.

The motion was as follows: Queens Community Board 2 approves the Personnel Committee's recommendation to promote Rafael Nava to Community Coordinator, effective as soon as practicable, and authorize the allocation of personal services funds consistent with applicable city rules and the Board's budget.

- The motion carried unanimously with 37 in favor, no oppositions or abstentions.

2:39:56 Office Report

Rafael Nava, Community Coordinator, delivered the CB2 Office Report. He shared the following:

- Expressed gratitude for the Board's trust in promoting him to Community Coordinator.
- LinkNYC kiosks throughout the district will display Community Board meeting information to increase community engagement.
- Requested that new Board Members sign a document acknowledging receipt of the City of New York Equal Opportunity Policy.

2:41:51 Reilly Owens, Chair of the Transportation Committee, provided a summary of the [May 5, 2026, Transportation Committee meeting](#), including an update from the 108th Precinct that bicycle collisions are down 40% this year and that 51,000 parking summonses have been issued this year. He also

provided a summary of QueensLink, which was previously presented to the Community Board ([Click here to view](#)).

2:48:48 Motion to Support QueensLink

Dr. Rosamond Gianutsos made a motion, which was seconded by Leo Guttman. The motion was based on the following recommendation from the Transportation Committee:

WHEREAS Community Board 2 will need additional transit capacity in anticipation of the 14,700 new homes and 14,400 jobs expected to result from the OneLIC rezoning; WHEREAS Community Board 2 currently has poor access to large-scale open spaces like Forest Park and Rockaway Beach; WHEREAS Community Board 2 is largely cut off from the southeastern portion of our own Borough; WHEREAS a disproportionate amount of automobile traffic flows through Community Board 2 from neighborhoods without mass transit options, making our roads more dangerous and our air and environment more polluted; WHEREAS a 2019 MTA Feasibility study found that reactivating the Rockaway Beach Branch was feasible, including space for new parks; WHEREAS a 2025 NYU ridership study found that rail reactivation would free up capacity on the Queens Blvd Line, allowing G train service to be restored to Forest Hills and M train service to be extended to Rockaway Beach; WHEREAS this additional service is anticipated to attract over 75,000 riders per day and produce over \$9 billion in total economic output; WHEREAS Mayor Mamdani (as a former Assembly Member), Queens Borough President Richards, Assembly Member Valdez, Senators Gonzalez and Gianaris and many more elected officials all support advancing the QueensLink Proposal; and WHEREAS the 5-acre, \$43 million QueensWay Metropolitan Hub park has been designed so that adding transit would require destroying the park, thus wasting needed public funds and causing unnecessary strain on the community; now therefore be it RESOLVED that Queens Community Board 2 supports the advancement of the QueensLink Proposal, and requests that DPR, EDC, and the Mayor pause development of the QueensWay Metropolitan Hub park to convene a City/State interagency committee, with direct community representation, to review how to design the RBB corridor with parks and rail transit for the benefit of Queens and New York City and State, and ensure that the QueensLink subway extension with parks is included in the MTA's 2030–2034 Capital Plan.

- The motion carried with 35 in favor, two opposed, and no abstentions.

3:10:16 Motion to Support the ULURP Application # C 250125 ZMQ - 21-31 46th Avenue Rezoning

A motion was made by Bill Murray and seconded by Danielle Brecker with the following conditions:

- Improve lot line treatment (facade continuation or mural by local artist).
- Add more greenery / landscaping.
- Eliminate parking spaces.
- If parking is retained, narrow the curb cut.
- Commit to prioritizing arts-related businesses as tenants for the first-floor retail space.
- Include a green wall adjacent to the existing house for the height of three stories and other treatment above.

- The motion carried by a vote of 32 in favor, 2 opposed, and 1 abstention.

3:20:34 A motion was made by Anatole Ashraf to skip committee reports, and it was seconded by Morry Galonoy. There were no abstentions or oppositions.

3:20:50 A motion was made by Morry Galonoy to adjourn the meeting, and it was seconded by Anatole Ashraf. There were no abstentions or oppositions.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by,

Rafael Nava

Reviewed / Revised and approved for distribution by

X Anatole Ashraf, Chairperson, CB2

X Ryan Smith, Secretary, CB2