



COMMUNITY BOARD 6, QUEENS

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SALUA BAIDA
CHAIR

DONOVAN RICHARDS
BOROUGH PRESIDENT

CHRISTINE NOLAN
DISTRICT MANAGER

CB 6 MEETING MINUTES

April 16, 2026

PRESENT

S. BAIDA, CHAIR

E. ALFONSECA, 1st VICE CHAIR

P. BEADLE, 2nd VICE CHAIR

N. JOHNSON, 3rd VICE CHAIR

K. BATRA, SECRETARY OF FINANCE & PERSONNEL

L.T. CIACCIO, PARLIAMENTARIAN

R. ASHE

A. AYON

H. BIRNBAUM

E. BRENNAN

H. CHUNG

K. CLARK

V. CRESPO

L. DAVIS

J. DERESZEWSKI

H. BEERS-DIMITRIADIS

K. FUENTES

A. GUO

S. JAIN

M. LASTER

P. MORGAN

N. NIEVES

J. PRATT

R. PUNJABI

G. RIVKIN

L. ROBINS

P. RODRIGUEZ

S. ROLNICK

G. SANDOVAL

D. SCHANTZ

H. SCHONHAUT

A. PRATAP SHAH

E. SHVARTSMAN

L. SINGH

L. TECPANECATL

M. TUCKER

D. WALCOTT

E. ZAKRY

ABSENT

D. ARONOV*

A. FERATOVIC

T. GAVRIELOF

K. IMAS*

M. LASHLEY-KABORÉ*

S. MUNAWAR*

R. PORTILLA

D. RACHNAEV*

J. SILVA*

D. SOLOW*

A. SOMANI*

*EXCUSED ABSENCE

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

CHRISTINE NOLAN

KEVIN MCALEER

ELIANA SWELL

JORDAN GOLDES

MERCEDES JENNINGS

AMPARITO ROSERO

JESSICA CORTES

DARIN SAWAN

ROKEYA AKHTER

BARBARA VULICH

MICHELLE HETTICH

DISTRICT MANAGER

OFFICE OF COUNCIL MEMBER LYNN SCHULMAN

OFFICE OF ASSEMBLY MEMBER ANDREW HEVESI

OFFICE OF CONGRESS MEMBER GRACE MENG

OFFICE OF SENATOR MICHAEL GIANARIS

OFFICE OF BOROUGH PRESIDENT DONOVAN RICHARDS

OFFICE OF ASSEMBLY MEMBER CATALINA CRUZ

MAYOR'S OFFICE OF MASS ENGAGEMENT

OFFICE OF QUEENS DISTRICT ATTORNEY MELINDA KATZ

COMMUNITY BOARD 6 STAFF

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This meeting was held in person with a limited virtual option via Zoom for individuals with extraordinary circumstances. The following CB6 Member joined the meeting via Zoom: L.T. Ciaccio.

PUBLIC FORUM

GOOD AND WELFARE

Mark Laster

- *On Wednesday, April 1st, 2026, was Census Day. Prof. Jeff Wice and Speaker Julie Menin held a press conference highlighting the need to begin work for the next Census as soon as possible. I attended and had a number of discussions with other advocates supporting this idea. Stay tuned for further details.*
- *Our next Breaking Bread Building Bonds luncheon is scheduled for Sunday, May 17th, at 2pm. We are finalizing arrangements with Queens College to host us. The theme of this will be celebrating both AAPI and Jewish Heritage month.*
- *Central Queens Against Hate will be holding a training with facilitators of our Breaking Bread Building Bonds luncheons on how to lead more challenging discussions. Once trained, we will be deciding on when we will be holding these discussions; topic(s). We plan on inviting over 250 people who have attended at least one of our BBBB luncheons.*
- *The Queens General Assembly will be holding their Installation Ceremony on Tuesday, April 21st. Continuing a long tradition of CB6 members being appointed, I want to congratulate Nile Johnson, for being appointed to the Queens General Assembly this year.*
- *Let's Talk Democracy has created a summer civic boot camp for rising eighth graders to seniors in high school entitled Youth Talk Democracy. The deadline for applying has been extended to Friday. I am proud to announce we have received over 30 applications.*
- *The Forest Hills Green Team in partnership with the First Presbyterian Church of Forest Hills; Central Queens Mutual Aide and the Forest Hills Community Gardens, which was recently closed due to Forest Hills High School needing that space. Are discussing starting a community garden by the Church.*
- *If anyone is interested in learning more about these programs, please email me at mlastercb6@gmail.com*

Pedro Rodriguez

- *We have applied for the Open Austin Street. We are in the notification period, and we are collecting feedback from everyone. If you would like to help us make this a reality, just go to our website on SaferAustinStreet.com or just google it and you will find it.*
- *There was a small business committee meeting yesterday with the Queens Chamber of Commerce. I recommend everyone to go and take a look at the video. It is similar to what Open Street wants to bring to the neighborhood. I was not expecting such a thorough and comprehensive report from the little survey that we all filled out months ago.*

Nile Johnson

I wanted to highlight an event that we're going to be co-hosting with the Land Use Committee. The Housing Stability and Social Service and Land Use committees are going to be doing a Supportive Housing webinar. Thank you to Kandra for helping connect us to the speaker. It's a great opportunity to learn more about supportive housing. We did it on our budget priorities last year, and I think it's good for all the members to hear and listen to all the good work that we can do.

Pat Morgan

This week was Yam HaShoah and the Holocaust remembrance, where we remember the 6 million and more who died. Anti-Semitism has not stopped. It keeps on going. On April 15th, 1945, Bergen-Belsen, which was a death camp with 40,000 corpses, was liberated by the British. In 2007, a shortwave recording was discovered by Mo Ash of WEVD Radio, who had recorded it when he was a teen. And in it, you can hear Patrick Gordon Walker talk about the people there who are burying 10,000 corpses a day! People whose children I grew up with. And one thing happened on the Friday night, which was April 20th. The crowd, for the first time, under Reverend Leslie Hartman, Chaplain of Britain, had their first Sabbath service. And what did they sing? Hatikva! The Hope of Living in Zion. In a Jewish homeland

and what makes it all even more bittersweet is April 20th was Hitler's birthday. And what did he do 6 days later, he and his wife Aver killed themselves. Whenever you hear Hatikva, which is the Israeli national anthem, think about those people in Bergen-Belsen that sang it with the hope of having a Jewish homeland. Anti-Zionism is anti-Semitism.

Peter Beadle

- *I just wanted to let people know that we are getting CitiBike in the northern half of the district from Queens Boulevard to the Grand Central Parkway. This week, CitiBike updated its maps to show those station locations. They're not activated yet, but that's a good sign that over the next couple of weeks, we're going to start seeing the stations get installed. And if they follow the pattern they followed in the past, hopefully the bikes will be up and running by mid to late May. We don't know that for a fact, but that's the typical pattern. So, watch for all of that. Let the office know if you see anything that doesn't look right or even just let them know that, hey, I now have my station. It'll be good to keep track of that.*
- *Land Use committee is going to have a busy May. Not only are we doing this great program with Kandra and Nile, but the following week, it's very likely we're going to be starting to do one of our hearings with respect to some of the applications that are certifying in the district. And then by the end of May, early June, we might be doing another hearing for another set of applications. Let me know in advance if you have any schedule conflicts, and we'll do our best to work with you.*

Sarina Jain

I am known as the Indian Jane Fonda. I've been in the fitness industry for 25 years. I'm the first to bring Indian dance to the fitness industry at a global level and I'm excited to be celebrating 25 years and I am doing an event in Long Island City with an art space that they're donating to me. This is free to the public. I'm doing a 25th anniversary exhibition. It's open to the public. I would love you to come. It is on May 14th, May 15th, May 17th. This will be from 4pm to 8pm on Thursday and Friday and Sunday will be from 11am to 5pm in Long Island City at 5-11 47th Ave. The name of the event is Celebrating 25 Years of Masala Bhangra.

Heather Beers- Dimitriadis

I wanted to remind everyone that there is a little food pantry outside of First Presbyterian Church from Central Queens Mutual Aid. As we all know, gas prices are going up, and we all know that this is hurting people in the community. You can drop off dry goods. Don't put anything perishable. Any dry goods that people can use to nourish themselves would be greatly appreciated.

Anisia Ayon

The 112th Precinct Community Council Meeting will be on Wednesday, April 22nd, at the American Legion at 7:30pm.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Chair Baida reminded all speakers that they have two minutes to speak. You can also submit your written comment to include it in the Minutes.

Justine Coughlan

Good evening and thank you for the opportunity to speak. My name is Justine Coughlin, and I'm a graduate student at the CUNY School of Public Health and a local parent. I'm here to speak about the issue addressed by Intro 0536-2024, specifically the ongoing gap between food waste and food access in New York City at a time when many households are facing increased pressure on food budgets and food assistance programs are under strain. Food donation organizations are likely to see greater demand, making it more urgent than ever to strengthen coordination between food retailers and donation networks. Even though this legislation is not currently active, the underlying issue remains large amounts of edible food continue to go to waste, while many New Yorkers still face food insecurity. Strengthening food donation systems through improved coordination, reduced barriers, and increased awareness represents a practical opportunity to address both issues simultaneously. This is a solvable systems issue that aligns with public health, sustainability and community well-being, including here in Forest Hills and surrounding neighborhoods. As both a public health trainee and a parent, I see this as an opportunity to better connect systems that impact the health and well-being of our communities. I encourage the board to support continued attention to this issue and to consider how it can be advanced through policy or partnerships moving forward. Thank you for your time.

Edwin Wong

Hi, good evening, everyone. My name is Edwin Wong, former Community Board 6 board member. Thank you to all of you for serving. Thank you to those who are returning and thank you to those who are just starting. I'm here tonight to speak about the upcoming Forest Hills Memorial Day. It's going to be here in Forest Hills on Sunday, May 24th. I'm the civilian Grand Marshall. I want to just raise awareness for it. It's our nation's 250th anniversary. The parade actually starts at 12 o'clock noon on Sunday, May 24th. There's an actual ceremony that starts at 11 o'clock in the morning, right in front of the American Legion Hall and Metropolitan Ave. I just passed out a few flyers for everyone that you know, don't know about it. It's surprising how many people don't know about this parade. I know it's a month and a half away, it is six weeks away, but we are trying to get sponsors. This parade is fully funded by the public and private donations. If you are interested in donating, scan the QR code and look for the information. Sponsorship levels go from \$100, \$250, \$500 to \$1,000 and I donate personally as well. The Forest Hills Asian Association, which I also represent, also marches in the parade. Hopefully, we'll have members of the CB6 represented this year as well. And if you have any questions, let me know. Feel free to walk down to the American Legion Hall on Metropolitan Ave and if you have any questions, again, please let me know. Again, it's Edwin Wong, also here as the Forest Hills Kiwanis, which is one of the co-sponsors of the parade, along with the American Legion. And thank you for your time.

Amy Wu

Good evening. My name is Amy and I'm speaking on behalf of the Rego Park dog owners. And we're requesting a letter of approval and support for the development of a dog run. There's a growing number of dog owners in Rego Park. There are dogs everywhere. Everybody's got a dog. We need a fenced and gated space for the dogs to exercise, socialize, and play. I have already spoken to Council Member Gennaro's office, New York City Parks department, partnerships for Parks program, and they have requested as a preliminary step to get the board's approval and support. Our proposed location for this dog run would be Lost Battalion Hall Park, which is behind Costco, Rego Center Mall by Queens Boulevard. The park is next to it. There's construction that's been going on for years and the park is underused. It's kind of littered and it just needs renovation. We have already been petitioning, and we have over 200 signatures showing support and interest for this dog run. Ultimately, what we need from the board is just your support and approval, since we know that funding doesn't come from you guys. We just need you're okay before we can continue to work with the Parks Department on next steps. Thank you.

Ariel Tamayev & Albert Tamayev

Hi, my name is Ariel. This is my father, Albert. We want to thank the board for inviting us to talk, and especially thanks to Christine for following up and being just very responsive to our emails. We made a request to make 63rd Avenue, which is the block that we love and live on, into a one-way street. It's currently a two-way street. It's a pretty narrow road, and the reason we put in the request was because we see many accidents happen, especially at our intersection, and as well as many others. We got approval from the DOT to split 63rd Avenue into two one-way streets. We're really excited about that, and we wanted the board's approval to make that a real thing. You have it on your agenda, item 10a. One thing that I sort of noticed, and I'm actually a bicyclist, I bike to the city from my house for about an hour bike each way. There was also a proposal to put a counterflow bike lane. That's fine, if there's room, but the road is very narrow, so if they do put a bike lane, it'll actually cause incidents for the bikers, as I've been in multiple incidents where a driver will open a door last second without looking at both ways. I know DOT approved the conversion to one way. I'm not sure where the request for the counter flow bike lanes comes in. There might be a regulation and if DOT decides that there's not enough room, then that's fine. But I would just be careful kind of putting that in because of this, you know, a narrow sort of road that might not have enough room for bicyclists to bike without incidents. But thank you to the board. I know there's been almost a year that we've been working with you guys and appreciate the responsiveness from everybody. Thank you for having us.

Jonathan Novella

Hi, good evening, Community Board 6. I came early this year to talk about free tax prep. It's April 16th, I really hope everybody completed their taxes, but today I want to talk about our financial empowerment centers. April is known as Financial Literacy Month and at the Department of Consumer and Worker Protection, our Financial Empowerment Centers allows New Yorkers above the age of 18 who lives or works in the city gives you guys a free financial counseling, regardless of your income, your immigration status, the financial empowerment centers can help you with create a budget, deal with debt including student loans, improve your credit, open a safe and affordable bank account, save for the future, and help you separate personal and business finance. Our counselors can speak many different languages and make sure you book an appointment at nyc.gov/talkmoney or call 311 and say financial counseling. I

brought you guys these brochures. They come in 11 different languages, please book an appointment and talk to a financial counsel for free. Thank you, everybody.

Nataneh Schechter

Good evening, everyone. Thank you for having me. I am here tonight to discuss accessibility for our disabled community members in the district. My goal is to raise awareness in our community so that local businesses and regulations reflect the needs of our disabled community. Unfortunately, many of us don't consider that these needs of the community until it hits home and affects someone that we know or love, whether it be a dear friend or a family member. I believe that raising awareness can start immediately with local businesses. All local businesses should have a protocol for accessibility standards. When they're beginning their permit processes in the neighborhood and in the district, many businesses in the neighborhood currently are not accessible for wheelchairs, such as building 7050 on Austin Street, which has multiple businesses within it. With one of them being complete Smiles Dental and La Boulangerie, the French bakery, which we all know and love. Just to name a few, but there are very many that are completely inaccessible. They're leaving our disabled members no choice but to either not utilize the business and leaving them to either have to rely on other people to go there for them.

Building accessibility is also a huge issue and new buildings do have to follow the ADA law, but older buildings should also have to upgrade their standards for accessibility as well. There are ways for older buildings to provide that accessibility without having to do permanent structural changes, and the older buildings should just have to upgrade. Another point I would like to bring up is snow removal. The city does not consider our disabled community when they're shoveling the sidewalks. As many of us have experienced this past winter. The paths that were shuffled were very thin and hard for walkers and even strollers, leaving our disabled communities. Community members stuck in their homes, and even some using the bike lane on Queens Boulevard just to get around, which is anything but a safe option. I hope that I raise some awareness this evening to all those who may not be realizing these are the issues that the community faces. Thank you for your time.

Misa Sawada

Hi, my name is Misa. I am a soprano and a board member of the Forest Hills Choir. The Forest Hills choir was founded in Forest Hills, and we are still in Forest Hills and approaching our 15th anniversary in the fall of this year and we are not a religious choir or school choir, but a community choir. And we'd love to collaborate with our community members, organizations, commercial shops, and so forth. We also love for you to know about us and join us as we make music, in particular on June 6th, we are having All-American composer concert at church in the gardens from 7:30 pm. We would love for all of you to join us. Follow us on our Facebook so that you can find out all our concerts. We also have what's called Summer Sings during the summer, which is a particular very special signature event that we do, possibly the only choir that does in Queens. I hope you can look out for that as well. We are a very diverse group, very open, family friendly. We are made up of teachers, professionals, musicians, parents, retirees. And some of us are musically trained. Others cannot read music. And we just love to sing together.

We have different feelings about America, but on this night, we will sing together, and I hope you will join us on June 6th, at 7:30pm at Church in the Gardens. Thank you so much.

Shahnaz Shalom

Good evening, everyone. My name is Shanaz. I am a retiree. I live in Fontaine Co-op building, which is located at 67th Road, Forest Hills. As was mentioned during the last meeting, there's a proposal to build a high rise between 67th Avenue and 67th Road on Queens Boulevard. We, the residents of Fountain building, strongly oppose this proposal. This high-rise building will be dangerous and harmful to our peaceful community. First, it will block our sunlight of 24 units of the Fountain building and will be affected by this harm. And I'm sure there are some homes and buildings surrounded. Having sunlight is absolutely necessary for our health. Living in a dark place will cause physical problems. It will cause depression and physical illnesses. I already experienced living in an apartment which the sunlight was blocked by a tall building. Thankfully, it was for a short period of time. It was really depressive and cold, especially during wintertime. It was so difficult to keep our home warm. Besides, there will be a financial damage to our units because it will devalue the price of our apartments. Second, the developer must demolish all the stores on Queens Boulevard. These stores are absolute necessary. These stores like CVS and grocery stores for our day-to-day life. And the other issue is the neighborhood will be congested, and this high rise will basically block our sunlight, interrupt our daily life. It's not progress in our neighborhood. And this high rise will bring pain and suffering to our community.

Jen Holden

Thank you everyone for letting me speak. I am a wheelchair user for the last almost two years, and I wanted to talk about accessibility, or lack thereof within our neighborhood. Some businesses try to use a portable ramp to get into their business. However, that is not a safe alternative. It has to be wide enough for a wheelchair to fit and stable. For businesses that are not level ground, they really need to be an ADA compliant entryway. Shoveling the sidewalks within the community and the crosswalks is paramount. I know the DOT has their area, but ensuring businesses take their part and homeowners take their part shoveling and clearing the pathways is crucial, especially in the gardens and on Queens Boulevard and Austin Street. The other thing that I wanted to talk about is accessibility at the schools. There is none. And I'm working with PS 101 to see what we can do, and I know that that's a Department of Education thing, but bringing awareness to the schools is important for the students, for the parents, for the grandparents, for anybody who needs access to a school building in an emergency, not just for the children, but for community-wide events. Thank you.

Angela Ancona-Lisa

Good evening, everyone. My name is Angela Lisa, and I am the very proud principal of Junior High School 157 Stephen A. Halsey in Rego Park. I am here this evening on behalf of our entire school community to urge your support for a project, a capital project that is both urgent and very necessary. The installation of air conditioning in our school auditorium. Our school Halsey is widely recognized for our exceptional and comprehensive arts program, including our band, chorus, visual arts, dance, and theater arts. These programs are the cornerstone of our school's identity and a reason families across District 28 choose Halsey for their children. Throughout the year, our auditorium is the heart of our school community. We host spring and winter band chorus concerts, multiple dance concerts, dance performances, and a full-scale theater performance production. This year, our students presented Clue the Play. However, the lack of air conditioning in our auditorium is no longer simply an inconvenience. It's a health and safety concern for our students and for our families that come to see our shows. The space traps the heat from the stage lighting. The instruments, the large audiences, the temperatures rise very quickly in the auditorium and become unsafe often, especially in the spring and in the late June. We have had bad experiences with our students experiencing dizziness, students fainting, and just last spring at one of our performances, we had a student become so overheated, they became ill. It's very, very hot air condition. Our community is respectfully asking that the installation of air conditioning in our auditorium be elevated as a capital priority, and that you please advocate for its inclusion with the Borough President. The investment will ensure that Junior High School 157 remains a safe place where the arts can thrive and where our students can perform safely, and where our community can continue to gather with pride on behalf of all of our students, families and faculty and myself. We thank you for your time and your consideration.

Maria Kaufer

My name is Maria Kaufer, and I'm a survivor of traffic violence. I became a Families for Safer Streets member on December 13th, 2023, when I was struck by a driver making a right turn in their sedan off Queens Boulevard onto Ascan Avenue in Forest Hills. Where I've resided since 1992. I was walking across the street on the crosswalk with a full right of way and had almost reached the middle of the road when I was struck down by the car. I sustained multiple physical injuries throughout my body. The most serious of which were a left fibular, head fracture and permanent damage to all of the ligaments supporting both of my knees. I have spent the last two years and four months in great pain and in addition to many physician visits and body scans, I've been doing physical therapy two to three times a week. I continue to need physical therapy for different parts of my body. It seems like once we finish hearing, I'm sorry, healing or improving the issues in one body part, pain signals force me to attend to problems in a different body part. Along with physical problems, I have suffered financial, emotional, and psychological trauma. Instead of granting me an unpaid medical leave as a reasonable accommodation to heal from physical injuries, my employer committed disability discrimination and illegally fired me for my job. To add insult to injury, they denied me unemployment benefits, claiming I had violated company policy by going on an unauthorized leave of absence, which is the status they had designated, and forced me to use up all of my savings and periodically tap into multiple lines of credit to pay for my living expenses for the last two years. Not always, but randomly and unpredictably, I have nightmares and suffer post-traumatic stress disorder when crossing streets and have had to see a psychotherapist for trauma-informed therapy. I hope that no other Forest Hills, Rego Park or other New Yorker ever has to endure what I have these past two and a half years. It is a heavy cross to bear. I asked this community board to pass the 20 mile per hour slow zones Sammy's Law resolution that's up for a vote tonight to spare as many New York pedestrians as possible from suffering the immediate impact and ripple effects of traffic violence. Thank you.

Chair Salua Baida thanked all public speakers and closed the public forum.

MINUTES

A motion to approve the minutes for March 11, 2026, was made by Howard Birnbaum and was seconded by Peter Beadle. All were in favor.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Salua Baida welcomed the new members and reported the following:

- I attended the Queens Borough President Donovan Richards Borough Board meeting. It's a gathering of all the Queens Community Board chairs. The Department of Youth and Community Development presented. Folks who applied for the Summer Rising Program, you will receive your application results on April 21st, stay tuned. They provide services of summer camps for over 110,000 youth. It's a massive undertaking. They also encourage families to check out DiscoverDYCD, which has amazing offerings for students, or you can call 1-800-246-4646.
- If you or your organization would like to be an employer hosting NYC youth for summer jobs and internships at no cost, just an opportunity. You can apply to be a Summer Youth Employment program worksite by May 8th.
- We are going to look into a blood donation competition. The NYC Blood Center also presented at the Borough Board meeting. Our office has been communicating with them to plan a blood drive at their center in Forest Hills. Tomorrow, our District Manager, Christine Nolan, and I will be meeting with them regarding details to discuss the possibilities, but I do want you to warm up your arms, your good veins, because we may turn it into a friendly competition with our neighbor, Community Board 9. Careful, it *could* get bloody.
- Our Community Budget Survey is launching, and I'm going to have Nile Johnson speak on that a bit more. It is called Six Clicks for CB 6. We're excited to hear from local folks, especially folks that came and spoke today, we want you to click into this. We want you to submit your priorities. What do you want the Community Board to list as a budget priority that gets shared to the City? Share this with everybody that you know, have them click through. You click through too.
- There are three dates we would like to ask all of our board members to come out and join us at events in the community to represent Community Board 6 with smiles and swag. If you guys want to commit to a 2-hour block where you hang with us, wear your very fancy Community Board T-shirt, hand out swag, and inform community members about how the Community Board can help them. May 2nd is the 63rd Drive Street Fair, May 24th is the Memorial Day Parade and May 31st is the Austin Street Fair. The street fairs will be from 10am to 3pm and the Memorial Day Parade we will meet around 11am to 1pm.
- On April 28th, at 1pm, some of us from the Education Committee will be providing testimony before City Hall regarding the urgent need for Crossing Guards. If any board members would also like to speak and/or support, please contact us. It is going to be directly downtown and is going to be via Zoom.

DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT

District Manager Christine Nolan introduced herself and the other CB6 Staff, Barbara Vulich and Michelle Hettich. She encouraged people to report things to the board office that they see in the community. The board has somehow coined the term, "if you see something, say something... to Christine". If you have issues, email me or call the office. If we can help you, we will and if not, we'll direct you to somebody that can.

DM Nolan also shared that DOT will be starting resurfacing season soon, in our district around July or so. We have some time to submit locations. If anybody has locations in the district that you think need

resurfacing, let us know so we can submit them to DOT, and they can inspect them to see if they can be added to the list.

COMMUNITY HELPERS SPOTLIGHT – ACT CARE FOUNDATION

I am Savva Petrov with ACT Care Foundation, we are a nonprofit serving New Yorkers on Medicaid in Queens, Brooklyn, Staten Island and soon Manhattan. Under the Medicaid 1115 Waiver, New York's boroughs are supported by Social Care Networks, that focus on delivering Health Related Social Needs support to eligible Medicaid members, and to direct other Medicaid members to CBOs and existing state, city and federal supports. Our focus is dealing with issues that may impact health outside of your doctor's office. For individuals that are Pregnant or Post-Partum, children with chronic conditions, recent post criminal justice individuals with chronic conditions, individuals with uncontrollable asthma, serious mental or developmental illness, as well as those struggling with substance use disorder, individuals with 2 inpatient stays or 4 ER visits in the past 12 months, or those in a Medicaid health home program are eligible for a six billion dollar program focused on getting them the social benefits and services they need, running until march of next year. These services include things like: Medically and clinically tailored home delivered meals and food boxes, transportation, utility assistance, continued tenancy supports, home modifications for accessibility, mold, pests, as well as asthma remediation and atmospheric control in the house, cooking supplies, childcare, and other services focused on assisting you in your everyday life. For those on Medicaid that do not fall into these categories, we also direct to local supports such as food pantries and community centers where members can undergo benefit screenings for cash assistance, SNAP, WIC, and other supports such as free internet from T-Mobile or AT&T, depending on the borough. If you are interested in this program and would like to do a screening, or know somebody that would be interested, feel free to scan the QR code on the banner or reach out to our email or outreach number.

WELCOME NEW CB MEMBERS

Chair Salua Baida welcomed the new CB6 board members.

Pat Morgan explained that the board passed a resolution a few years ago that the board would read the following words from Former Chair Joe Hennessy, who was chair for 23 years and a board member for close to 30 years. *"We have one responsibility. Not to yourself but to the community, when you vote. Make sure you vote for your community. It's a commitment that you've made to the city. We're an active board. We're open to any suggestions that people have. We're happy to see new blood coming onto the board. Use these words to guide you. Use these words to help you and when you make your decisions. Remember, do it for your community and who knows, you might even benefit yourself."*

The board members introduced themselves.

CONSUMER AFFAIRS, CULTURAL AFFAIRS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

NEW LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATIONS

1. TIKKA N TALK, 70-11 AUSTIN STREET, F.H. *CLASS CHANGE*
2. MAE CHAN THAI CUISINE, 103-07 QUEENS BLVD, F.H.
3. DIRTY PIERRES, 13 STATION SQUARE, F.H. *ALTERATION*

RENEWAL LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATIONS

1. 718 HOOKAH & LOUNGE, 72-13 AUSTIN STREET, F.H.
2. VERSAILLES PALACE, 63-34 AUSTIN STREET, R.P.
3. PAINTING WITH A TWIST, 97-14 METROPOLITAN AVE, F.H.
4. RAFAELIS PALACE, 113-09 QUEENS BLVD, F.H

Gladys Sandoval the co-chair of the Consumer Affairs, Cultural Affairs, Economic Development committee, reported the following: Tikka N Talk is a class change, it was previously approved for beer, wine, and cider

and now the applicants are adding liquor. Mae Chan Thai Cuisine is a full-service restaurant. This location previously held a beer and wine license under a different ownership, and they are changing their name. Dirty Pierres have an alteration. They are requesting to add sidewalk dining. All of them have been reviewed by the 112th Precinct and reported no issues or concerns. A 311 search was done and there were no issues either. The Committee voted to approve the new and renewal liquor license applications.

The liquor license process was explained for the new members.

A voice vote was taken for the new liquor licenses; all were in favor. A voice vote was taken for the renewal of liquor licenses; all were in favor.

Gladys Sandoval attended a seminar given by OCM and gave a summary of it to the board:

- OCM is now entering into the renewal of licenses for cannabis businesses.
- Community Impact Plan (CIP) will be part of the renewal process.
- The businesses that exist in our community will have to create and draft a Community Investment Plan and they will have to present it with the renewal license to OCM.
- The Community Impact Plan must benefit the community, not the business.

Gladys Sandoval gave a summary of the presentation by the Queens Chamber of Commerce to the board:

- The Queens Chamber of Commerce did a study covering Forest Hills not Rego Park.
- 300 businesses and about 700 consumers were interviewed
- Developing an interactive business map can help our community
- Implementing a local loyalty program for people when they spend the money, they get points or they get discounts.
- Exploring short-term parking initiatives, usually 15 minutes only.
- Expansion of open and green spaces.
- I recommend everyone watch the presentation.

Gladys Sandoval announced that Robert Ashe will be the new co-chair, since Brently Winstead is no longer on the board.

District Manager Christine Nolan added that we did receive notification of our 1st renewal this week. There are two ways that the cannabis businesses are giving back to communities, I just want to make sure everybody's aware of them. There is the Community Reinvestment Fund, which automatically, the tax dollars from the cannabis industry go into grants that are distributed through an application process at OCM. The Community Impact Plan is submitted by each renewal applicant. OCM suggests that we guide them towards our needs statement and our budget priorities. This will tell them what's important in our community, rather than pointing them to specific groups, because we don't want to single out one or two groups. For example, if food insecurity is a priority for our community, one example was a cannabis applicant that did a monthly food distribution in the community. As they come up, we will talk to them to see what their ideas are and make suggestions. If this is something that interests you, come to the committee meetings.

ADULT USE RETAIL CANNABIS DISPENSARY – 104-12 METROPOLITAN AVENUE

District Manager Christine Nolan explained that two months ago we had a cannabis application for the Times Square Shop dispensary. They did not attend the meeting, and we ultimately voted to disapprove of their application. They asked if they could come tonight and talk to the board and answer any questions that we had for them. This doesn't mean that we have to take a new vote but we agreed to let them come and speak and answer questions.

Emmanuel Kayev spoke on behalf of the Time Square Shop dispensary:

- The cannabis dispensary could not make it the last meeting because they had an organizational shift. However, they did want to come and represent, to be a good neighbor.
- Trying to destigmatize the approach of cannabis in the neighborhood.
- Trying to educate new consumers to properly consume and elderly communities who are unsure of changes to different modalities of treatment.
- There are many different functions within the store to prevent children from entering.

Mr. Kayev then took questions from the board.

Question: What is your relationship to the business?

Response: I am not the owner. I am the director of the business. I was onboarded about a month ago. They were doing a restructuring and I'm going to be managing the store.

Question: Will the cannabis shop have armed security?

Response: We will have security, but they will be unarmed and trained in de-escalation

Question: What is your plan to give back to the local community?

Response: One of our other stores focuses on education. We do host a lot of information booths. We do contribute back to certain beautifications of neighborhoods or cleanups. We've done this before in Brooklyn, where we would just have people who are volunteering come and clean up the neighborhood.

Question: Do you plan on having a lounge there?

Response: We are not fitted for a lounge. We are just going to be a retail location.

Chair Baida asked if there is motion to reopen our consideration for their application. Martha Tucker made a motion, and David Schantz seconded the motion. The vote was not unanimous. A discussion took place amongst board members.

A motion by John Dereszewski was made to refer this back to the committee. The committee will speak with the representatives and then bring it back to the board. Liz Robins seconded the motion. Anisa Ayon made a friendly amendment to the motion for the applicants to send a new application to CB6. Ephraim Zakry added that this could set a precedent for future applications.

The board voted on the motion and approved sending it back to the committee and requesting a new application, 36-Yes, 2-No.

FY2028 BUDGET PRIORITY OVERVIEW

Nile Johnson presented an informative slideshow of the Budget Priority:

- The presentation showed the Community Board's role in the city charter mandated process.
- Every year there is a budget process, and the Community Board is asked what our capital and expense budget requests and district needs are.
- We will create 40 capital budget priority requests and 25 expense budget priority requests. Christine will come up with a statement of district needs in consultation with the Chair and others.
- This year, instead of using the Department of City Planning (DCP) survey to get public input, we are going to solicit public input from our own survey. The decision behind this was because DCP only asked for what areas members of the public are interested in seeing funding in. It is not enough of a response or specific enough of a response to be useful for our budget priority process.

- We created a survey where you could scan the QR code, read about the budget priority process, and then submit any idea that you would have, and we would share this with all the committees.
- The survey goes live today and will close on May 16th.
- Unlike other boards, we start our process early. Other community boards usually have a full board vote in October about what they want to see on their budget priority list. We do things a little bit differently to make sure that we have input from all our community board members and to make sure that the process is as efficient as possible.
- In each of our committees, we will be thinking about what ideas we want to see. We are going to review what was accepted by the agencies, and what worked, what didn't, and what we still want to keep on our list. Members can suggest their own ideas, and then the committees will come up with their own list of what they want to suggest to the agencies.
- This is sent to the office, and they pool all the committee budget priority requests, and then all the board members vote on it during the summer. Then we come up with a ranking that we decide make our 40 capital and 25 expense list.
- After the ranking phase, we discuss it in our October meeting. If we agree with the rankings and what made the list. We all vote to approve the list, and that list gets sent to all the agencies and all the elected leaders in the area.
- Capital budget priorities are infrastructure, larger types of asks and expense budgets are more service things. Chair Baida added that if you can pick it up and move it or build it, it is usually a Capital item; if you cannot, as with programs, then it's likely an expense.
- Each committee can only send 5 capital and 5 expense requests for each agency.
- Once submitted, OMB distributes to the agencies, and then the agencies will return their answers to us. We have the answers for Fiscal Year 2027. DM Nolan shared it with the board members, and she will share it with the new members as well.
- The agencies will let us know if they have the budget to fulfill that request.
- Agencies can respond and say no. Sometimes they don't support our request or don't understand our request.
- Please attend all of the committee meetings that you are interested in. We would like to hear all of your ideas now.
- DCP has a new GIS tool where you can look at the capital budget priority requests that were passed in the previous fiscal year in your community district, and you can also look up the previous budget requests from CB6.
- Please share the survey with your neighbors, friends, and local organizations. Be on the lookout for your committee meetings, because most likely this month, next month, and in June you'll be tackling budget priorities.

TRANSPORTATION, PUBLIC TRANSIT, STREET SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT

ONE WAY CONVERSION OF 63 AVENUE BETWEEN 99 STREET AND GRAND CENTRAL PARKWAY SERVICE ROAD

Edgar Alfonseca gave an overview of the request. The request is for 63rd Ave between 99th Street and the Grand Central Parkway Service Road to become a one-way street. The primary motivation was that residents had street safety concerns. We sent their request to the DOT for a feasibility study. DOT completed their study and made the following recommendations: Convert 63rd Avenue to a one-way eastbound operation between 108th Street and the Grand Central Parkway Service Road. Convert 63rd Avenue into a one-way westbound operation between 108th Street and 99th Street. The committee discussed this and decided on approving the DOT recommendation and adding the following suggestion: Counter flow bike lanes to be

included on both segments on 63rd Avenue in order to maintain accessibility for cyclists and act as a traffic calming measure by narrowing the roadway.

A discussion took place amongst board members.

Question: Did DOT survey the local neighborhood?

Response: To my knowledge, they didn't do that. It is not in the DOT letter, and they didn't bring it up in the committee briefing.

Question: Did only two people request this?

Response: Mr. Tamayev put in the request on behalf of himself and other residents. There was no petition.

Comment: I live on 63rd Avenue, and I never heard of this until I got the email. I don't agree with it turning into one way. I don't see an issue with traffic flow or accidents on the strip that I live on 63rd Avenue. The two ways are wide enough. No bus goes down there. There's no excessive traffic that I've noticed, and I've lived there for 5 years.

Comment: I do think that before we vote on things, we need to really hear from the people who it affects the most, the people who live on those blocks, and most of them never heard about it. What was the problem? What are the statistics on that? How is this specifically going to improve the situation? I think we need to have more information.

Comment: I strongly encourage everyone to go to the next transportation committee meeting. There are a number of people who have a lot of serious questions about this, and I truly hope that the people who have strong feelings and thoughts about this go to the committee meeting.

Pedro Rodriguez made a friendly amendment: I would like to add into the letter that one of the reasons why we're asking for this is we are trying to encourage modal shift in the neighborhood, and the narrowing of the roadway to keep it safer.

Edgar Alfonseca accepted the friendly amendment.

District Manager Christine Nolan pointed out that when community members make requests, the Community Board will make a request to DOT for a study without requiring a petition. Once DOT decides if it's feasible or warranted, they ask us to weigh in. That is the point when the community members have a chance to speak about it. In that area, most of the other streets are one way (especially the streets of this width).

Ephraim Zakry made a motion to table this and send it back to the committee for further review. The motion was seconded. The board voted on the motion to table this and sent back to the committee, 26-Yes, 11-No and 0-Abstain.

20 MPH SLOW ZONE-SAMMY'S LAW-RESOLUTION

Peter Beadle gave an overview of Sammy's Law-Resolution. In 2024, Governor Hochul signed into law what's known as Sammy's Law, after Sammy Cohen Eckstein, a 12-year-old who was killed on Prospect Park West, when a driver pulled around from a driver who had stopped for him and then slammed into him and killed him. His mom, Amy Cohen, had fought for this law. This law is a home rule law from the state government that gives the city of New York the power to set our speed limit as low as 20 miles an hour on most local streets. The exceptions are things like Queens Boulevard, Woodhaven Blvd, the large avenues in Manhattan, because they have 3 or more lanes in a single direction; that is not covered by this.

A discussion took place amongst board members.

Question: What's the enforcement mechanism for it?

Response: The enforcement mechanism is the same as any speed limit in the city. If this person's transiting in an area that's covered by a speed camera, that would be the direct enforcement mechanism.

Question: I'm curious to know the logic for asking for it everywhere, as opposed to focusing on the highest risk areas.

Response: It doesn't really make sense in terms of focusing on the high-risk areas, where crashes are most prevalent. First thing to know is, speed limits right now, the citywide speed limit is 25 miles an hour. In the last 5 years, we've had a death almost every year, and we've had 2,228 serious injuries during that whole time in a relatively small period, approximately 3 miles from corner to corner diagonally. Even in this small area, it's all a priority zone.

Eugene Shvartsman made a friendly amendment to the original motion to ask DOT to focus on enforcement in high-risk areas within the district. Peter Beadle accepted the friendly amendment.

A voice vote was taken for the below resolution and asking DOT to focus on enforcement in high-risk areas; All In Favor.

WHEREAS,

- *In Queens Community District 6, there have been 5 traffic fatalities and 2,228 injuries in the last 5 years.¹*
- *New York City's Vision Zero statement says, "no level of fatality on city streets is inevitable or acceptable".² According to Vision Zero, "For too long, we've considered traffic deaths and severe injuries to be inevitable side effects of modern life. While often referred to as "accidents," the reality is that we can prevent these tragedies by taking a proactive, preventative approach that prioritizes traffic safety as a public health issue."³*
- *Despite the City's intention to eliminate traffic violence, the threat remains, diminishing the ability of community members, especially seniors and children, to move about the neighborhood freely and independently.*
- *We know reducing speeds lowers the risk of serious injury crashes;*
- *In 2024 Amendments to VTL §1642(a)(26)&(27) known as Sammy's Law granted NYC the authority to lower speed limits on most city streets to 20 miles-per-hour and to 15 miles-per-hour on streets adjacent to schools by the NYC DOT specifically so that the lowering of these speed limits would save lives;*
- *The NYC DOT issued a short list of streets around the City where speed limits will be lowered, but none of these were within Queens Community District 6; and,*
- *In 2025 Queens Community Board 6 unanimously passed a resolution calling on the implementation of 15 mile-per-hour slow zones on all streets adjacent to schools in the District in accordance with Sammy's Law. This request has not yet been implemented by NYC DOT.*

THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED THAT

- *Queens Community Board 6 requests the NYC DOT lower the speed limit of all streets in Queens Community District 6 with fewer than three lanes of traffic to 20 miles-per-hour and lower the speed limit on all streets adjacent to schools in the District to 15 miles-per-hour as authorized by Sammy's law; and*
- *In the event NYC DOT determines not to lower speed limits on any such street in Queens Community District 6 it shall provide the Community Board with a written explanation for that determination.*

¹ Use <http://crashmapper.org/> to find data on crashes in your CB.

² [NYC Vision Zero Task Force, "Vision Zero in New York City."](#)

³ [Vision Zero Network, "What Is the Vision Zero Network."](#)

PARKS AND RECREATION, LIBRARIES COMMITTEE REPORT

RESOLUTION FOR ADDITIONAL MOBILE LIBRARY HOURS AT RP LIBRARY

Kavish Batra presented the background for the resolution to the Board. Since we are getting a new library at Rego Park and it is getting renovated, and during this renovation period, we're only getting a mobile bus for one day a week. The committee feels that it is not good enough. We're asking for 2 days a week.

Question: Why are we asking for just two days?

Response: Based on our committee discussion, we went with 2 days.

DM Nolan added that all libraries in Queens that are under construction get one day a week library mobile service. To ask for 3 days, the library may not take us seriously. We're also asking for evening service, we're asking that one of those days be evening service.

A voice vote was taken to approve the resolution below. All were in favor.

WHEREAS,

- *The Rego Park Branch of the Queens Public Library is currently undergoing renovations; and*
- *During the renovation period, a mobile library unit has been deployed to provide interim service to the Rego Park community; and*
- *The mobile library unit is currently scheduled to operate only one day per week from 10:00am to 5:00pm; and*
- *One day per week of service is insufficient to meet the needs of residents who rely on consistent access to library resources, including students, seniors, families, and individuals requiring internet and educational services;*
- *Many residents in this community need to utilize the library services in the evenings due to work and school obligations;*

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,

Queens Community Board 6 calls upon the Queens Public Library to extend the operating schedule of the mobile library unit serving Rego Park to a minimum of two days per week, including at least one evening session, for the duration of the renovation period

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF NEW YORK FOR ALL ACT (NY4ALL)

Chair Salua Baida and First Vice Chair Edgar Alfonseca drafted a resolution in support of New York For All Act. Chair Salua Baida presented the background for the resolution to the Board.

Kandra Clark made a motion to approve the resolution, and Pedro Rodriguez seconded the motion.

A voice vote was taken to approve the below resolution, All were in favor:

WHEREAS,

- *Nearly 50% of our neighbors in Queens Community District 6 are foreign-born (approximately 57,000, nearly half of our total population¹).*
- *Approximately² 28,000 neighbors in Queens Community District 6 have Limited English Proficiency (LEP).*
- *Our borough of Queens had three of the most diverse census tracts in the nation³ according to 2020 Census data.*
- *Our neighbors already acknowledge their love of this community's diversity, as reflected by the popularity of the 'Queens World's Borough' sign⁴ when it was in MacDonald Park.*
- *On September 8th, 2025, a Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS) ruling stayed a lower court injunction⁵, allowing immigration agents to continue to detain individuals based on factors like ethnicity, ancestry appearance, and language, while the case proceeds⁶. In essence, if we look or sound foreign-born, ICE agents may racially profile, question, or detain any of us and our neighbors, including U.S. citizens, in the name of immigrant policing;*
- *U.S. citizens are repeatedly and wrongfully arrested and held by ICE⁷, including U.S. veterans of color⁸, a Queens grandmother and home health aide arrested at LaGuardia airport before a Thanksgiving flight and detained for two weeks⁹, and multiple persons dragged out, handcuffed, and searched without consent or explanation during a large-scale raid on Canal Street¹⁰;*
- *As of October 2025, at least 170 U.S. Citizens¹¹ were illegally detained and abused by federal immigration officials;*
- *Americans feel less safe when federal agents are in their communities, conducting heavily armed immigration enforcement raids like they did to our neighbors in Jackson Heights on December 4th, 2025¹²;*

- *Communities are less safe where local police collaborate with ICE via 287(g) and similar agreements¹³. These agreements frequently result in local police becoming deportation assistants¹⁴, with local resources being diverted from community policing efforts, to targeting individuals for minor, non-violent infractions¹⁵ rather than the targeting of serious criminals. In addition, residents are less likely to report crimes due to fear of immigration involvement¹⁶;*
- *Students miss more schooldays in communities where local law enforcement partners with ICE, and each day of increased absence per year is associated with lower achievement, less likelihood of reading on grade level, and significantly increased risk of dropping out of high school;¹⁷*
- *ICE detains on average about 170 children per day¹⁸ under inhumane conditions;*
- *Since January 2025, ICE has killed 76 people and injured 38 people, including U.S. citizens¹⁹;*
- *The New York For All Act seeks to build a permanent firewall between local police and federal law enforcement²⁰;*
- *The New York For All Act is more comprehensive than Governor Kathy Hochul's alternative proposal, the 'Local Cops Local Crimes Act'²¹, which is a non-permanent change to the law, expiring in three years;*
- *Governor Hochul's alternative would only void formal 287(g) agreements, but would not stop local law enforcement from voluntarily and informally assisting federal agents²²;*
- *Immigrants contribute over \$74 billion in taxes and \$160 billion²³ in spending and economic stability for New York, and the New York For All Act would ensure immigrants can continue to work, spend, and use public transit without the oppressive fear of a "routine stop" turning into detention or deportation;*

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Queens Community Board 6 urges New York State legislators and our New York State governor to ensure that local resources stay in our communities; that victims and witnesses of crime feel safe coming forward, keeping our entire neighborhoods safer; and that our immigrant neighbors know we have their backs, as:

- *Queens Community Board 6 respectfully requests that all New York State legislative representatives immediately cosponsor the New York For All Act in their respective chambers in 2026.*
- *Queens Community Board 6 respectfully requests that New York State Governor Kathy Hochul sign the New York For All Act into law in 2026.*
- *Queens Community Board 6 respectfully requests that all of the New York City government fully comply and fund enforcement of the New York For All Act once passed by the New York State government.*

¹ [NYC Department of City Planning Population Mapviewer, Social ACS, Nativity Foreign born view of Queens CB6](#)

² [NYC Department of City Planning Population Mapviewer, Social ACS, LEP view of Queens CB6](#)

³ <https://www.census.gov/library/stories/2024/01/racial-ethnic-diversity-neighborhoods.html>

⁴ <https://www.queens-nyc.com/>

⁵ <https://www.dhs.gov/news/2025/09/08/dhs-scores-major-victory-supreme-court>

⁶ <https://www.immdef.org/blog/vpvnoemamendedcomplaint>

⁷ https://www.hsgac.senate.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025.12.8_ICE-Report-revised-FINAL.pdf

⁸ <https://ij.org/press-release/arrested-by-ice-and-held-for-three-days-without-communication-or-a-hearing-citizen-and-veteran-sues->

[feds/#:~:text=LOS%20ANGELES%E2%80%94Last%20July%2C%20George.profit%20public%20interest%20law%20firm.](https://www.feds/#:~:text=LOS%20ANGELES%E2%80%94Last%20July%2C%20George.profit%20public%20interest%20law%20firm.)

⁹ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P_1D1T0ja98

¹⁰ <https://theweek.com/politics/new-york-ice-raids-letitia-james>

¹¹ <https://www.propublica.org/article/immigration-dhs-american-citizens-arrested-detained-against-will>

¹² <https://www.amny.com/news/federal-agents-raid-queens-12042025/>

¹³ <https://www.americanprogress.org/article/287g-agreements-harm-public-safety/#:~:text=Studies%20have%20found%20that%20when.own%20or%20other's%20immigration%20status.>

¹⁴ <https://www.aclu.org/news/immigrants-rights/how-expanded-287g-program-turns-local-police-into-deportation-agents/#:~:text=Local%20law%20enforcement%20participating%20in.member%20or%20friend%20being%20deported.>

¹⁵ <https://www.americanimmigrationcouncil.org/blog/287g-agreement-ice/#:~:text=Latinx%20drivers%20were%2010%20times,platform%20that%20mirrored%20President%20Trump's.>

¹⁶ <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0094119021000772>

¹⁷ <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/23328584211039467>

¹⁸ <https://www.themarshallproject.org/2026/01/29/ice-kids-in-detention-numbers>

¹⁹ <https://prospect.org/2026/01/29/ice-trump-killed-injured-list-dhs-cbp-border-patrol-renee-good-alex-pretti/>

²⁰ <https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/bills/2025/S2235/amendment/A>

²¹ <https://www.nyclu.org/uploads/2026/02/2026-OnePager-NY4AvsHochul-v2-1.pdf>

²² <https://www.nyclu.org/commentary/ny-for-all-act-is-the-best-way-to-protect-immigrants-and-communities#:~:text=By:%20Donna%20Lieberman%20Executive%20Director,and%20rip%20their%20family%20apart.>

²³ <https://www.newsnationnow.com/us-news/immigration/how-much-do-immigrants-in-new-york-pay-in-taxes/#:~:text=Citing%20data%20from%20the%20American,into%20the%20economy%20every%20year.>

REPORTS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS' REPRESENTATIVES

STATE SENATOR MICHAEL GIANARIS

Mercedes Jennings reported the following:

- The Senator is working very diligently to make sure that our state budget finally passes. It did go past the deadline of March 30th. If there is any legislation that you would like passed, or any budgetary things that you wanted to focus on and make sure that it's passed before budget session is up, please feel free to let our office know.
- Real ID DMV Event is still in the works. We may be able to have another pop-up event in 2026. We will continue to keep you posted.
- Our office has helped with tracking the implementation of the Queens Bus Redesign. The Senator has also been successful in ensuring that stops that were supposed to be removed from several bus routes in the district remain due to constituents with disabilities or children who attend schools near stops that have shown hardship if the stop is removed. We are continuing to do this so please reach out to our office if your bus stop that has been removed is causing significant hardship for your commute.
- Our office continues to work with the MTA to see if any complaints that we received from constituents about OMNY cards are being resolved as the OMNY card system becomes fully implemented. Also please note that buses will stop taking change sometime in the Spring of 2026.
- Our new office location is 37-18 Northern Blvd, Long Island City, NY 11101. Please feel free to contact us at 718-728-0960/646-598-8583 or email us at jennings@nysenate.gov or gianaris@nysenate.gov

OFFICE OF BOROUGH PRESIDENT DONOVAN RICHARDS

Amparito Rosero reported the following:

- I would like to congratulate all our new Board Members. I'm looking forward to working with all of you. We had 962 applicants, and out of that 367 were appointed to our Boards. That is a great number of people who are interested in working for our communities. I just wanted to make sure that everyone of the new members is aware that we are having the swearing-in ceremony on Monday, April 20th at 6 pm at Borough Hall. For new members, this is required, as you will receive an onboarding training explaining the roles and expectations as a new member. This includes training on the land use process, conflicts of interest, and the New York City budget.
- On Wednesday, April 22nd at 6 pm, we will host our Parent Advisory Board meeting and film screening of Left Behind, which is a documentary and an inspiring story of a group of determined moms who band together to create the first public school for students with dyslexia in New York City.
- On Thursday, April 23rd, at 6 pm, we will be having an Arab American Heritage celebration.
- On Thursday, April 30th at 6 pm, we will host our Annual San Kran celebration.
- On Thursday, May 7th at 6:30 pm, we will be having the Education and Wellness Summit.

OFFICE OF ASSEMBLY MEMBER CATALINA CRUZ

Jessica Cortes reported the following:

- On Saturday, April 25th, we will be hosting a Health Resource Fair with ECRC at PS 14.
- We have a Job Fair at Elmhurst Hospital on May 2nd on the 4th floor.
- NYLAG Mobile Clinic will be at our office.

OFFICE OF ASSEMBLY MEMBER ANDREW HEVESI

Eliana Swell reported the following:

- Spring cleanups are starting. We have one on Saturday, April 25th in Forest Hills.

OFFICE OF COUNCILWOMAN LYNN SCHULMAN

Kevin McAleer reported the following:

- Participatory budgeting is this week. I left flyers, please vote!

OFFICE OF CONGRESS MEMBER GRACE MENG

Jordan Goldes reported the following:

- On Friday, April 19th from 9am to 2pm there will be a passport event for people to renew or apply for a passport, at the Flushing Post Office. We rotate post offices and we did one at Forest Hills a few months ago.
- We have weekend office hours, on Saturday, May 9th from 10am to 1pm, at our Forest Hills office.
- At our Forest Hills office, we did free tax preparation for the past two months and it was very successful.
- We will have VA office hours on Thursday, May 7th from 10am to 2pm at VFW 551 in Middle Village. Again, we rotate, we did Forest Hills a few months back, and next one will be Middle Village.
- On Saturday, June 27th we are having a Graduation event, for local graduates to get certificates from the Congresswoman.

OFFICE OF QUEENS DISTRICT ATTORNEY MELINDA KATZ

Rokeya Akhter reported the following:

- NYPD detective Dillard was shot and killed in 2024 in Far Rockaway. The defendant was convicted of aggravated manslaughter in the first degree for the attempted murder of an NYPD sergeant, and other related charges. The defendant is facing 90 years to life in prison when he is sentenced on April 27th. She made it clear that her office would be always asking for the maximum time of 90 years to life in prison.
- In Flushing, an 82-year-old woman was pushed and shoved in the train subway platform. This was in October 2024. Thankfully, she survived and the guy who did this is going to spend 15 years in prison. District Attorney wanted to make sure that everybody knows that her office will always continue to aggressively prosecute those who endanger our transit riders, because our people here.
- We have a Memorial Day event coming up at Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Elmhurst Park on Thursday, May 21st at 11am.
- You can register with NYC Acris to get Deed Fraud alerts.
- The District Attorney has mobile office hours every month, twice a month, in Queens in different libraries.

MAYOR'S OFFICE OF MASS ENGAGEMENT

Darin Sawan reported the following:

- I have been working with your District Manager Christine, and I have met your Chairperson. We are working on escalating the Crossing Guard issue. We already brought that up to the Mayor.
- To get more engagement, Community Boards can advertise for free on Link NYC.
- I look forward to working with you all to escalating issues and making sure that Queens really is the future.

The meeting adjourned at 10:08pm.

Minutes are submitted by Michelle Hettich.

Meeting recordings are posted on YouTube (www.tinyurl.com/cb6youtube).

Meeting minutes are posted on the CB6 website (<https://www.nyc.gov/site/queenscb6/indexpage>).

CB6 VOTING SHEET 4/16/26	NEW LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATONS		RENEWAL LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATIONS		TABLE VOTE & SEND BACK TO COMMITTEE FOR REVIEW OF ONE WAY CONVERSION OF 63RD AVENUE	CANNABIS DISPENSARY 104-12 METRO. AVE TO FILL OUT NEW APPLICATION AND MEET WITH COMMITTEE FOR REVIEW
EDGAR ALFONSECA					NO	YES
DAVID ARONOV	ABSENT		ABSENT		ABSENT	ABSENT
ROBERT ASHE					YES	YES
ANISIA AYON					YES	YES
SALUA BAIDA					YES	YES
KAVISH BATRA					NO	YES
PETER BEADLE					NO	YES
HOWARD BIRNBAUM		A		A	NO	YES
EDWARD BRENNAN		L		L	YES	YES
HOWARD CHUNG		L		L	YES	YES
L.T. CIACCIO					NO	YES
KANDRA CLARK					YES	YES
VERONICA CRESPO					YES	YES
LATRICE DAVIS					YES	YES
JOHN DERESZEWSKI					YES	YES
HEATHER DIMITRIADIS					YES	YES
ALEM FERATOVIC	ABSENT		ABSENT		ABSENT	ABSENT
KARLA FUENTES					NO	YES
TAMARA GAVRIELOF	ABSENT		ABSENT		ABSENT	ABSENT
ANDY GUO					NO	YES
KAREN IMAS	ABSENT		ABSENT		ABSENT	ABSENT
SARINA JAIN		I		I	YES	YES
NILE JOHNSON		N		N	YES	YES
MARCELLE LASHLEY-KABORE	ABSENT		ABSENT		ABSENT	ABSENT
MARK LASTER					NO	YES
PAT MORGAN					YES	YES
SABAH MUNAWAR	ABSENT		ABSENT		ABSENT	ABSENT
NATHALIE NIEVES					YES	YES
RICHARD PORTILLA	ABSENT		ABSENT		ABSENT	ABSENT
JOI PRATT					YES	YES
RAJ PUNJABI					YES	YES
DIANA RACHNAEV	ABSENT		ABSENT		ABSENT	ABSENT
GARRI RIVKIN					YES	YES
LIZ ROBINS					NOT PRESENT FOR VOTE	YES
PEDRO RODRIGUEZ		F		F	NO	YES
SHARI ROLNICK		A		A	YES	YES
GLADYS SANDOVAL		V		V	NO	YES
DAVID SCHANTZ		O		O	YES	YES
HERBERT SCHONHAUT		R		R	NO	YES
AMIT PRATAP SHAH					YES	YES
EUGENE SHVARTSMAN					YES	YES
JEAN C. SILVA	ABSENT		ABSENT		ABSENT	ABSENT
LAURA SINGH					YES	YES
DANIEL SOLOW	ABSENT		ABSENT		ABSENT	ABSENT
ADITI SOMANI	ABSENT		ABSENT		ABSENT	ABSENT
LOU TECPANECATL					YES	NO
MARTHA TUCKER					YES	YES
DIANA WALCOTT					YES	YES
EPHRAIM ZAKRY		▼		▼	YES	NO
TOTALS:	ALL IN FAVOR		ALL IN FAVOR		26 - YES; 11 - NO	36 - YES; 2 - NO

CB6 VOTING SHEET 4/16/26	20 MPH SLOW ZONE -SAMMY'S LAW RESOLUTION PLUS DOT TO FOCUS ON ENFORCEMENT ON HIGH RISK AREAS	ADDITIONAL MOBILE LIBRARY HOURS RESOLUTION	NEW YORK FOR ALL ACT RESOLUTION	
EDGAR ALFONSECA				
DAVID ARONOV	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	
ROBERT ASHE			A	A
ANISIA AYON			L	L
SALUA BAIDA			L	L
KAVISH BATRA	A			
PETER BEADLE	L	I		I
HOWARD BIRNBAUM	L	N		N
EDWARD BRENNAN				
HOWARD CHUNG			F	F
L.T. CIACCIO			A	A
KANDRA CLARK			V	V
VERONICA CRESPO	I	O		O
LATRICE DAVIS	N	R		R
JOHN DERESZEWSKI				
HEATHER DIMITRIADIS				
ALEM FERATOVIC	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	
KARLA FUENTES				
TAMARA GAVRIELOF	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	
ANDY GUO				
KAREN IMAS	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	
SARINA JAIN				
NILE JOHNSON				
MARCELLE LASHLEY-KABORE	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	
MARK LASTER				
PAT MORGAN				
SABAH MUNAWAR	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	
NATHALIE NIEVES				
RICHARD PORTILLA	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	
JOI PRATT				
RAJ PUNJABI				
DIANA RACHNAEV	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	
GARRI RIVKIN				
LIZ ROBINS	NOT PRESENT FOR VOTE	NOT PRESENT FOR VOTE	NOT PRESENT FOR VOTE	
PEDRO RODRIGUEZ				
SHARI ROLNICK	F			
GLADYS SANDOVAL	A			
DAVID SCHANTZ	V	NOT PRESENT FOR VOTE	NOT PRESENT FOR VOTE	
HERBERT SCHONHAUT	O			
AMIT PRATAP SHAH	R			
EUGENE SHVARTSMAN				
JEAN C. SILVA	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	
LAURA SINGH				
DANIEL SOLOW	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	
ADITI SOMANI	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT	
LOU TECPANECATL				
MARTHA TUCKER				
DIANA WALCOTT				
EPHRAIM ZAKRY	↓	NOT PRESENT FOR VOTE	NOT PRESENT FOR VOTE	
TOTALS:	ALL IN FAVOR	ALL IN FAVOR	ALL IN FAVOR	