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COMMUNITY BOARD 6, QUEENS

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CHRISTINE NOLAN
DISTRICT MANAGER

DONOVAN RICHARDS
BOROUGH PRESIDENT

CB 6 MEETING MINUTES **MAY 13, 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

D. ARONOV

R. ASHE

A. AYON

H. BIRNBAUM

E. BRENNAN

H. CHUNG

V. CRESPO

L. DAVIS

J. DERESZEWSKI

H. BEERS-DIMITRIADIS

A. FERATOVIC

K. FUENTES

T. GAVRIELOF

K. IMAS

M. LASTER

P. MORGAN

S. MUNAWAR

N. NIEVES

J. PRATT

R. PUNJABI

D. RACHNAEV

G. RIVKIN

L. ROBINS

P. RODRIGUEZ

S. ROLNICK

D. SCHANTZ

H. SCHONHAUT

A. PRATAP SHAH

E. SHVARTSMAN

L. SINGH

D. SOLOW

A. SOMANI

L. TECPANECATL

M. TUCKER

D. WALCOTT

E. ZAKRY

ABSENT

L.T. CIACCIO*

K. CLARK*

A. GUO*

S. JAIN*

M. LASHLEY-KABORÉ

R. PORTILLA

G. SANDOVAL

J. SILVA*

*EXCUSED ABSENCE

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

CHRISTINE NOLAN

KEVIN MCALEER

JORDAN GOLDES

MERCEDES JENNINGS

AMPARITO ROSERO

JESSICA CORTES

JAMES MONGELUZO

NERISSA MARTINEZ

BARBARA VULICH

MICHELLE HETTICH

DISTRICT MANAGER

OFFICE OF COUNCIL MEMBER LYNN SCHULMAN

OFFICE OF CONGRESS MEMBER GRACE MENG

OFFICE OF SENATOR MICHAEL GIANARIS

OFFICE OF BOROUGH PRESIDENT DONOVAN RICHARDS

OFFICE OF ASSEMBLY MEMBER CATALINA CRUZ

OFFICE OF COMPTROLLER MARK LEVINE

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 Members joined the meeting via Zoom: Pat Morgan, Diana Rachnaev, Liz Robins.

PUBLIC FORUM

GOOD AND WELFARE

Daniel Solow

- *I want to recognize the office for their due diligence in investigating a crosswalk that I had discovered was missing some very important traffic safety infrastructure, the crossing right in front of Diner Bar was missing the crossing treatment which shortened the walking distance. Christine was able to find out that there was a lapse in the DOT's repainting and they're going to resolve that.*
- *The second thing I wanted to ask the office in this forum was to find out a little bit more about the Lost Battalion Hall and its construction schedule. I was curious about this space. It seems like a little oasis in our community, and it feels like it's been kind of forgotten. The timeline keeps shifting. Is there any information about that?*

District Manager Nolan replied:

The timeline has been shifting, and we've been on top of it but every time they have a rescheduled date, it changes. Since the building was very old, they ran into problems that they didn't realize they were going to have. Currently, they are waiting for C of O's to be finalized and issued and then they will need about 6 weeks for their personnel to get their programming in order. We're hoping in the next 6 to 8 weeks, we will have programs up and running. I can only share what they're sharing with us, but we will keep on them, because at this point it's frustrating for all of us. We've also reached out to Council Member Gennaro's office and asked for their help in putting some pressure on them.

Mark Laster

- *Our next Breaking Bread Building Bonds luncheon will be this Sunday, May 17th, at 2pm at Queens College. We are honoring AAPI and Jewish Heritage Month. We have 90 people registered. If you have not yet signed up, it's not too late.*
- *The Office of Prevention of Hate Crimes has provided a grant for Central Queens Against Hate to organize a series of three healing events to address the growing antisemitism in not only Rego Park and Forest Hills, but it seems to also be spreading to Forest Park. These events need to be organized by June 30th. We have had a series of meetings to plan them out. Our next meeting will be this Monday evening, May 18th at 8pm. If you would want to assist us in planning, email cqah2022@gmail.com.*
- *Youth Talk Democracy, the program being started by Let's Talk Democracy, is moving forward. We are finalizing our first cadre of participants, and we are extremely impressed with the rising eighth graders to High School seniors we have been able to recruit. One of the components of this summer Civic Think Tank will be to have these young people do outreach in the community. If people have any suggestions about what type of activities we can organize, reach out to me.*

Pat Morgan

- *The 112th Precinct Community Council meeting will take place next Wednesday at the Precinct itself. It will begin at 7:30pm. Try to arrive between 7:15pm and 7:30pm.*
- *Queens Pride is next month. It is generally the first Sunday of June. Trans rights are being eradicated across the United States. Right now, if you are Trans in Tennessee. Your rights are non-existent as a Trans person. More and more states are signing up to eradicate the rights of transgender individuals. It's shameful. It's horrible. Trans rights are human rights. LGBTQQIIAA!*
- *Anti-Zionism is Anti-Semitism. You're taking away the rights of the Jewish state to exist.*

Amit Pratap Shah

- *I'd like to begin with acknowledging both Jewish Heritage Month and Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month which we celebrate each May. These observations reflect the strength of our diversity and the richness of our shared history as well as the contribution towards the community.*

- *As someone deeply rooted with the AAPI heritage and proudly representing the Nepali American community and this esteem board, I would like to take a moment to recognize Nepali American Community Media Khasokhas on its remarkable 14th anniversary and outstanding community impacts – they will be speaking later. Founded in 2012, Khasokhas has gain a leadership with the digital media platform serving the impacted immigrants and Nepali community. It generates over 123 million social media views and 112 million web page views. Which is amplifying the voice and strength of civic engagement. I would especially like to recognize Chief Editor Khasokhas Pandi. He is right here. I would like to acknowledge, as well as the photojournalist, Rajan Kapley, and entire Khasokhas community media team for their continuous work informing and empowering and advocating our community through the responsible journalism.*
- *I was the founder and president of the Mithila Centre, it's also known as the Mithila Art and Culture Center, a non-profit organization right here in Rego Park. I'm honored to share that our flags event, art for SDG, the Mithila Heritage, ongoing global exhibition series that connect traditional Mithila Indigenous art to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal is one of the old, most ancient folk-art traditions carried forward powerful stories. Culture identity and sustainability. We're also proud to be a 2026 grantee of New York State Council on the Art, and with collaborating with the Queens Community Board in future look forward to bringing that exhibition to our esteemed members and community.*

Raj Punjabi

I am chairperson of the Community Advisory Board at Elmhurst Hospital. This is just to inform you all that the new CEO of Elmhurst Hospital is Alina Maron.

Nile Johnson

I just wanted to highlight an event from our local Boy Scout Troop, saying this as a proud former Eagle Scout and former member of Troop 96. Troop 96 will be having a clothing drive event this Sunday, May 17th from 10am to 3pm at the Church in the Gardens. If you have any old clothes that you need to give away, I know the troop will appreciate it, I know the community will appreciate it, and we would love to see you there.

Kavish Batra

Good evening, everyone. This is on behalf of Gladys Sandoval. I just want to talk about the People's Money, a New York City wide participatory budgeting initiative. You might have seen the announcements in the subway and other areas in the city. Participatory budgeting began in Porto Allegra, Brazil in 1989 as a way for everyday residents to directly decide how public money should be spent in their communities. Since then, the model has expanded globally and is used in cities like Paris, Barcelona, Toronto, Chicago, and Boston. New York City first introduced participatory budgeting through the city council in 2011. The citywide version, known as the People's Money, officially launched in 2022 through the Civic Engagement Commission after New Yorkers voted to create it through the city charter. Today, New York City allocates approximately 4 million citywide through this process, with each borough receiving its own ballot of projects. Tonight, I'm specifically talking about the Queens ballot. For Queens, there are 10 projects on the ballot. Five projects will ultimately be funded, and each funded project receives approximately \$195,000. Residents can vote on projects involving youth programming, workforce development, arts education, food access, mental health support, senior services, and neighborhood wellness initiatives. One of the most exciting parts is that anyone 11 years and older can vote, regardless of immigration status. Voting is now open through June 21st. I have a QR code if you want to complete the ballot on your phone and it's especially important that the stronger participation becomes the stronger programs become. The more residents engage and vote, the easier it is to demonstrate community interest and advocate for even greater funding and investment in our neighborhoods. This is a unique opportunity because it allows everyday residents, including young people and communities, that may not traditionally participate in elections to directly help shape how public money is invested in Queens. I hope everyone participates and helps spread the word.

Herb Schonhaut

- *I want to mention everyone heard about the horrible antisemitic incident that happened in our neighborhood. In the past, you know, I've been sitting here for 8 years. In the past, the 112th Precinct has come often to our meetings when we held them across the street and previously in the other room. I haven't seen them lately, and for something like this, I'm sure you have reached out and they couldn't make it or something, but it is unbelievable that it's not on the agenda. The police are not going to speak to us about this. I just want to request in the future*

that the police be asked to attend our meetings and report. They report on car thefts, and this is a little more important than car theft. Just a request that this has been reinstated, their usual coming to the meetings or sending one of their community representatives.

- *The Q23 bus has now started to turn in at 70th Road and it clears up the bus stop on 108th Street for the 64, 74.*

Effi Zakry

- *As chair of the Veterans Affairs and Public Safety committee, I want to remind you that, as you saw in the Friday notices, we're going to have a meeting this coming Monday regarding a big project that National Grid, the gas company, is going to start on Metropolitan Avenue. Especially if you live there, you should be aware of what's going on, but even if you don't, it's important to know what's going on. It's one of the biggest projects I think they've done in a while in this area.*
- *We're going to march in the Memorial Day parade. There's a place to sign up for that.*
- *Yesterday, we had a meeting in a synagogue called Machane Chodosh. We have had several meetings there, especially for zoning committee. About a week ago, that synagogue was filled with swastikas and anti-Semitic crimes. We had a few rallies to support the Jewish community since then and it's been relatively poorly attended, especially by people in this room. We represent the community. I'm a little surprised that we don't have more people showing up to these things.*
- *Many months ago, we wrote the resolution, which started as being against anti-Semitism and then it became, we are just against every kind of hate, and it was watered down. I challenge anybody to tell me how that resolution was effective, and who did it help? What good did that resolution do by passing it? I think we just wasted time, it went nowhere, because we watered it down so much that it became ineffective.*
- *Herb said that I'm surprised that there is nobody here from the police department to even talk about this. Several incidents that happened here. There was a bunch of swastikas in Forest Park, in our various synagogues, Rego Park Jewish Center. It's been a lot going on.*
- *A few days ago, a mother called me. She has a girl in one of the public schools in this area, and she said that someone was threatening her. A boy threatened to shoot her daughter. She was so paranoid, she didn't know what to do, and it seems that, unfortunately, the Department of Education is not doing much about it. There's a lot going on.*
- *As a community board, especially representing many Jews in our area, I think we really must step up and start doing something to make that wave reverse. We can't let it continue or get worse. We need to start letting it abate until it disappears.*

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Chair Baida stated that the office received 6 public comments to be submitted into the minutes. Four public comments are not in support of the rezoning of 69-67 108th Street. Two public comments are in support of Austin Street Open Street. 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.

Peter Kaufman

I speak in strong support of Open Street Sundays on Austin Street. I grew up in Forest Hills, and went to PS101, as did my brother, nephew, and father. I went to Russell Sage, very familiar with Austin Street. I've shopped and dined there my entire life. I stride right to Woolworth, to Penske's, to Spicy. After living for some years in both Manhattan and Brooklyn, I'm happy to have moved back here. When I lived in Brooklyn, Brooklyn Heights, Montague Street had Open Streets, and it's usually popular, weather permitting, people sit at tables and talk, kids play games safely. Diners take their time and eat al fresco.

I want to address some criticisms I've heard of Open Streets. And the one I hear the most is that it's bad for merchants, as if the majority of their customers arrive by pulling up to the door of their stores in a private car or taxi, and that they are the only people with money to spend.

In fact, the overwhelming majority of shoppers on Austin Street and Continental walk, take transportation, bicycle. I'd much more be wanting to linger, stroll, and go into different stores on Austin if it wasn't choked with traffic, drivers making illegal U-turns, incessant horn honking or worrying that I need to feed a meter. Stores along Fulton Street Mall in Brooklyn have the highest per square foot rental asks in Brooklyn, and that's, you know, no cars. Higher than hipster Bedford Avenue. But you would think the world was ending, that Austin Street is going to be suddenly flooded

with hippies and anarchists. Dancing around a bonfire in front of a giant statue. Austin Street has been closed to private cars before and spoiler alert, the world didn't end.

What I believe motivates this hysteria is our opponents are afraid that people are going to see how enjoyable it actually is, and they'll want to see more of it in more places. The people seeking to stop this have the worst case of Stockholm syndrome I've ever seen. I've never seen prisoners fight so hard to keep the jail they've locked themselves into. For a few Sundays a year, we can show that a different, better world is possible.

Zachary Mack

I am the new principal of PS101. I just wanted to come and say hello to Community Board 6.

I know a lot of you are familiar with the school already. We're a blue-ribbon school. We're for the third year in a row one of US news and world reports best public elementary schools. Truly a public school with a really diverse, amazing group of students will be coming to the community board for support for a number of initiatives over the years. I just wanted to start off with an introduction. Right now, we're looking for funding for a Resolution A grant through Lynn Schulman or Borough President Richard's office.

for a technology update, that is sorely needed in the building. And we're also looking at perhaps putting some raised crosswalks on Ascan. I'm sure all of you know better than I do that Ascan Avenue can be a real drag race sometimes and we would work with the Forest Hills Gardens Corporation, of course, to do something like that.

Jonathan Rinaldi

I'm here tonight to talk about some new ideas that can help bring people back into the Democratic process. Ideas like participatory budgeting and citizen assemblies. Participatory budgeting gives residents direct input on how public money is spent in their community and citizen assemblies bring everyday residents together to shape public policy. These ideas are about making government more open, more transparent, and more connected to the people it is supposed to serve. And honestly, we need that today more than ever.

Our district is the only district in the neighborhood with contested primaries for Congress, State Senate, and State Assembly, all happening at the same time. That should be creating energy, discussion, and public engagement throughout the community. But instead, there has been almost no effort to create open public forums. No debates or meaningful civic involvement around the issues and policies that affect people's lives. The reason for that is because too many gatekeepers in this very community want to control the conversation. They want politics to stay behind closed doors. Controlled by insiders instead of residents. They decide to get who gets heard and what discussions are acceptable and which policies are allowed serious attention. That is not healthy for a democracy. Because this community does not belong to political insiders or gatekeepers. It belongs to the residents, to the working families, to the seniors, to the small business owners, and every person who deserves a real voice in the future of this neighborhood. The people deserve transparency. The people deserve involvement, and the people deserve a government that actually listens to them. We need a debate in this community.

Michael Niamehr

I'm representing in part, Neighbors for A Safer Austin Street, a group of volunteers in the area that would like to improve Austin Street, making it safer, more walkable, easier to get around. I'm frustrated, I grew up in Rego Park, and I've been living now in Forest Hills. I love it here so much, as many other people do in this area, but over the last few years, I've seen the soul of our downtown really entirely be sucked out, in part by corporate stores moving in, where our small businesses have failed. I don't want Austin Street to become, like, Times Square, as Peter mentioned in previous comments, but I do want to see it be a little bit more refreshed when I'm walking down the street, I don't want to be sad and frustrated. I don't want to be stressed out from constant honking and struggling to just get across the street from one sidewalk to get the other. In the last few months, I've actually seen it getting even worse. Some of our lovely small businesses have been struggling to stay open. I'm seeing families and people with disabilities struggle to make their way down the street. I'm already struggling, I can't imagine walking as well with a stroller down these sidewalks in Austin Street. For every car, I see dropping someone off on Austin Street or actually managing to get one of the spots that are never enough on Austin Street, I see dozens just passing through traffic that should be reserved for Queens Boulevard. We need to do something new here, even if it's just a trial run. We haven't had a lot of things being worked on Austin Street over the last maybe decade and we really need to try something new here.

I am in support of the summer Open Street. I think it'll be a perfect experiment for what it'll be like to have a safer, more livable Austin Street. While the street fairs that we have very often there can be fun, they bring competing

vendors to our small businesses right of their front doors. The income that's used from those fairs goes to essentially a shell of a Chamber of Commerce that doesn't do enough to support businesses with those funds.

Kimberly Scelta

I wanted to speak about Open Streets for Austin Street. The Chamber of Commerce's presentation at the last meeting provided a lot of valuable evidence as to why hosting Open Streets in the summer is in the best interest of both the community and the businesses.

According to the merchant survey, 35% of businesses cited low foot traffic as their top challenge. The purpose of Open Streets is to literally create the opportunity for customers to walk up and down Austin Street without having to worry about rushing to avoid cars and see all of the local businesses our community has to offer. The survey also cited that 19% of businesses had challenges with marketing and advertising costs. Open Streets being promoted within and beyond the community is a method of free advertisement to draw customers to our local stores. Further, 28% of businesses cited a desire for more community events and 21% wanted more open space.

Open Streets is an answer to what businesses want while simultaneously fulfilling the requests of consumers. The consumer portion of the Chamber survey found that more community events was the most desired change, being cited by 37% of respondents and 30% wanted more open space. The results of the survey demonstrate that the requests of businesses and consumers are aligned and hosting Open Streets can satisfy the needs of both. Given this evidence, I ask for the members of the community board to vote in favor of having Open Streets on Austin streets this summer.

Deanna Condino

I'm concerned about Open Streets to make Open Streets, you know, from August 30th to September 2nd. How are the stores on Austin Street going to get their deliveries? I think there are deliveries on Sundays, and we don't have much space because we designed the streets in such a way that now there's so much more traffic in certain areas and other areas, it's just not very good. I mean, how are they going to get there? The supplies they have to have the stuff delivered to them and so many stores have already closed because the Department of Transportation has taken away so many parking spaces. People like to come into this neighborhood because it's beautiful. They like the gardens. They like to go to natural from different places. Where are they going to park? Why would anyone want to come to Forest Hills if they could shop somewhere else where they have free parking, like Roosevelt Field? You go to Roosevelt Field, parking is free. You have many, many stores. You know, I'm afraid for the stores, because a lot of wonderful stores have closed. Strawberries, Woolworths, Rite Aid, I loved Rite Aid.

Well, these stores are closing and nothing, not enough is done for small businesses. The city doesn't care.

During the pandemic, Hochul was giving lots of money to tenants, and the tenants many times didn't even pay the landlords. Landlords were having to pay all their bills, and they still have to pay their bills and during the pandemic, nobody was helping them. They were left. I'm not talking about Elon Musk, about the rich, I'm talking about the regular, small little landlords.

I also find that, say you want to come here. Try to find a parking space. I mean, they keep on taking away when Mamdani wants to take away all the parking spaces. I mean, this is such a beautiful neighborhood, it's so pretty, and they went and put more people. Rezone, rezone, you know, more and more people, no parking space. He wants to get rid of all of them. It's better enough you have to pay for them.

I'm 81 years old, and I have an aid that comes to me twice a week, and she can't. She has to go spend 30 to 45 minutes finding a parking space. And then after she does, then she has to walk here, then put money in the meter. I mean, it's not right, the parking. People got to do something about the parking, you know? It's all get rid of the streets, get rid of the streets, but what about people who want to come here? They're not going to come here if they got to pay so much money. And why can't everybody come here?

Joshua Gold

I'm probably a day late for this, but I came here to voice my opposition to the rezoning development of 69-67 108th Street. I wasn't able to speak last night, I'll just say my piece here. I've lived and supported Forest Hills for 20 plus years. My kids went to public school here, played a little league here. My wife and I hope to stay here indefinitely. My goal here tonight is really just to add my voice as one of the people who will be actually have to deal with the impact of this development, increased traffic, which traffic is one thing, endless honking is just terrible. Less parking in an area that already has limited parking at best, increased litter on a street that already has a tremendous amount, and all this, not to mention the building design is completely out of step with the with the surroundings.

At the meeting last night, people were comparing the higher buildings that span between 108th Street and Queens Boulevard as an example of similar buildings. People were looking at their phones to see the surrounding area. I encourage you, go walk around that area and take a look, and I'm sure you'll see what I mean. At the meeting last night, when the developers addressed the impact that the development will have on the community, they started the C Corp manual. But the C Corp manual does not live in the neighborhood. Please take what the people who live in that area have to say to heart. Their quality-of-life matters. I know the mantra in New York now is build, build, build, but look around at Forest Hills. We've been overdeveloped, and keep in mind. That once these zoning and rules are changed, they tend to stay changed, and precedent matters.

Donald Laghezza

I'm a little puzzled. I understand the Community Board is supposed to be interested in the interest of the community, and for the life of me, I can't see what positive good will come from adding more high-rise buildings along 108th Street. The piping, water, sewage, electrical every other year they're repairing.

It cannot withstand what we have now. There are people who were living behind on the east side of 108th Street that have single-family homes and their value is going to plummet, if you start capping the end of their streets with these monsters. It just doesn't make sense right now. It seems like a gradual flow, where gradually 108th Street is going to start putting up these high-rise buildings one at a time. Right now, we have a number of community religious houses of worship. There are community centers, there are children, and a lot of young families bring their kids up and down that street. There are school buses. There's a lot of traffic, but it's all for the community. I don't know where the 100 or 200 new cars are going to park on 108th Street or on these side streets. I just don't understand it. I don't understand who's going to fix the piping. Who's going to rewire the streets, under the streets? And if you can tell me what's in the interest of the community to build these buildings, I'd love to hear it, but I haven't heard it.

Kishor Panthi

Today I stand before you with deep gratitude and immense pride. As the founder and editor-in-chief of Khasokhas, as we celebrate our 14th Anniversary and step into our 15th year. I'm reminded of a journey that began with a simple but powerful dream to provide our community with a voice that is both authentic and reliable. In 2012, we started Khasokhas to create a trusted platform for Nepali community here in Queens across New York and throughout the USA. What began as a humble printed tabloid, the first Nepali Weekly published in the USA, has evolved into a leading digital media organization. While we have embraced new digital strategy to ensure verified news reaches our community, our core values remain the same. We recognized early on that our community needed more than just headlines. They needed a source that understood the nuances of their daily lives. The complexities of immigration, the challenges of housing and healthcare and the aspirations for their children's education.

Over these years, Khasokhas has become more than just a news outlet. We stood together through the COVID-19 crisis and navigated everyday struggles side by side. We have championed the achievements of our students, small businesses and cultural leaders who make the fabric of Queens show vibrant.

It's particularly meaningful to speak here during Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month. It serves as a reminder that our stories are American stories, the true measure of our success is not found in analytics, but in the trust the community places in us. None of this would have been possible without the support of our readers, our dedicated editorial team, and the local leaders who support a free and diverse press. As we look forward to the future, I renew my promise. We will continue to innovate to amplify the voices of our community and to serve the people of New York with integrity.

Ed Wong

Thank you again for giving and providing us with this opportunity to share more about the Memorial Day Parade. I know Effie mentioned it earlier, but I wanted to share something that is new for the first time this year. The Forest Hills Memorial Day Parade is coming up on Sunday, May 24th, it starts at 11 o'clock, which is the ceremony and 12 o'clock is the actual parade march. For the first time this year, we're going to try to broadcast the parade live. If you have marched in the parade before, Tom, the manager of Nicks Bistro, always makes announcements. They set up a really nice place where people can sit down if they want to. We're going to kind of try to grow that this year. Tom will still be there making his announcements. We're going to give him a list of all the people marching and parading. Thank you to Christine for referring us to Mark Moss. They're going to be doing the live broadcast. I got the idea from CB6 because you guys are doing this here. I thought, hey, why don't we try to do it at the parade? It's never been done

before, what better than to do something that's never been done before? Hopefully we can make it work. We actually tested it out. Mark said everything's okay. You know, hopefully you guys can all join that parade.

I do want to remind everyone that's interested in sponsoring. The sponsor's dinner is this Friday, 15th at the American Legion. If you donate, they do a nice job of printing out a flyer and it's a catchy poster. This is our nonprofit that does it. They put the logo for you. If you want to donate individually, they'll put your name on it for you. This is just an example of what my family has in terms of donating and our association does to support the parade. We welcome everyone to come on Friday. If you want to sponsor, you can still sponsor afterwards.

The Forest Hills Asian Association will also be running in the AAPI 5K run for AAPI Heritage Month. It's going to be Saturday, May 23rd, the day before the parade. We're just raising money for our association so we can continue to serve the community. If anyone wants to support us, I'll share some information with the office, and they can share with you guys.

Jay Sherman

I've lived in Forest Hills all my life, and I'm a member of QueensLink, which is the organization which is trying to reactivate the Long Island Railroad right of way between Rego Park and Far Rockaway, so that the people in central Queens can have a mass transit link between our area and Manhattan. The advantages of this is the area where they want to build the Queensway, which will be a park. I believe that the QueensLink is a better alternative, because it combines the advantages of a park along this right-of-way plus a vital mass transit link. Research shows that it would generate \$9 billion a year in economic growth.

It would provide mass transit for all of the people who live in central Queens and now have to either take their cars or take the bus or some other inferior forms of transportation. It would provide subway access for 75,000 daily riders. It would take 4.7 million cars off the road annually and it would reduce carbon dioxide pollution by 7,200 tons annually. I think it's very shortsighted for the community to ignore this great possibility for expanded and improved mass transit for all of the citizens of Queens.

Carly Tribull

I'm a homeowner around Ascan and Metropolitan. I'm a soon-to-be parent in about a month. Yes, this is fun. But as a person who's lived here for around seven years. I have to say I'm extremely in support of Open Streets. I wish I could say I spent a lot of time on Austin Street, but honestly, Austin Street is extremely unpleasant to me right now. I've almost been hit by a car several times, I've almost observed children being hit. I'm not particularly excited about spending time there as a parent of a young child. It strikes me as an extremely dangerous driving situation and I went to the Open Street last year, the single one that was done as a trial, and it was amazing. I actually went into businesses I'd never gone to before, I went to Ugly Donuts, I had a snack, it was great, I sat outside. I met with my neighbors. I went into the stores and unlike the street fairs, which were selling stuff that benefits other people, I felt like I was helping local businesses. I have friends that live in other parts of the city where the entire summer they close it off. We're just looking at doing four right now. I think this is a reasonable ask and I think it could really show us how Austin Street can be improved in the future to be the jewel of our downtown area, it should be and I'm extremely in support of this as a current homeowner and soon-to-be parent of the area.

Sharon Suggs

I've lived in Forest Hills for over 30 years. I come before you tonight to oppose the zoning map amendments to facilitate a new building at 69-67 108th Street. I proposed a new building to be six floors of living space composed in red brick to maintain the character of our neighborhood. This building should not exceed six stories, so existing neighbors will have access to their home windows for sunlight and fresh air. I would like to reiterate that it is not a convenience to have a window. It is a necessity for emergencies and mental health for our existing residents. Our neighborhood is a fallen victim to overdevelopment and overpopulation that is not expected within these quiet family blocks. If these types of proposals are allowed, then every spot in Rego Park and Forest Hills area will become a spot that developers will deem suitable for structures that do not fit the character of the neighborhood. I ask that this proposal be reconsidered to be six floors for living and no commercial space.

Candida Uy-Beriro

I am a long-time resident here in Forest Hills and as somebody said love to love it here and would like to stay here for a very long time. I just want to say something about the rally, I was there and they interviewed a lot of people, the

leadership, and then they interviewed me. What I said is that one hit for a culture is a hit for everyone. We have all to get together and we're doing something with Mark and Amy at Central Queens Against Hate.

When we say something is compelling, it means that it hits so close to home that you cannot ignore it. Standing here tonight to talk about what the right thing to do and it's the right thing to do is basically to look after our neighbors. The right thing to do is to protect the middle-class families, retirees, the first-time buyers in our co-op and condo who are lying awake at night wondering how they will afford to stay to keep their homes. I said, my name is Candida, I belong to the QCANN project. It's a new, freshly launched organization that is working on co-op and condo affordability. And it's called QCANN.

We are trying to work on 3 different things, and we would like to invite you. There are 2 events that we are going to be doing, and we are super excited about it. The first is going to be at the Austin Street Fair on May 31st. And the second one is July 19th. We're going to have flyers down to you and I just say that we would like our goal here is to raise awareness and to let people know how we are financially struggling because of the Local Law 97.

Marcia Hittner

Thank you for the opportunity to speak. I am here today to strongly urge the board to deny the requested zoning amendment for 69-67 108th Street. Just consider the many areas that'll be negatively impacted by the proposed change, and I hope that I can get through all these in 2 minutes. The 112th Precinct, adjacent property owners, air circulation, Amazon bike lanes, buses, the canyon effect of wind patterns and snow accumulation. City services, common carriers, community support, Con Ed, crowded high schools, daycare, daylighting, delivery systems, DEP, District 28, DoorDash, DOT. Double parking, DSNY, E train, the e-bike charging and storage, e-bike, moped traffic, e-commerce logistics, electric grid, Engine 305, environment, F-Train, FDNY, FedEx, fiber optics, fire safety, food delivery, foot traffic, Forest Hills Library, freight, green cabs, green spaces, healthcare providers, HVAC maintenance, Instacart, Ladder 151, LIRR, Lyft, M train, McDonald Park. Microclimate, micro mobility, MTA, National Grid, New York City Transit Noise Pollution, NYPD, overbooking after school programs, overcrowded elementary and middle schools, parking, parking infrastructure, Parks department, patrol requirements, peak storm backflow, pedestrian crossings. Pedestrian traffic, pets' services, pharmacy stock, private carting services, public safety, public schools, Q23, Q60, Q64, Q74, QM4, QM44, quality of life, R-Train, Rat Remediation, Sanitation, school bus traffic. Secondary lobe voltage networks, sewer social infrastructure, Spectrum, street parking, subway platforms, supermarket supply chain, taxis, telecommunications, traffic flow, traffic signal management, transportation, turning maneuvers, Uber Eats, UPS, Urgent Care, USPS, vehicle storage, Verizon. vermin control, water, Wi-Fi, and Yellowstone Park.

Jeremy Aguillar

I am speaking tonight to express my opposition towards a rezoning application. 71-74 Yellowstone Boulevard. This is where Vitelio's marketplace is, I'm aware tonight we're talking about rezoning applications, I thought this fit. This proposal is seeking to demolish five long-standing local businesses. Vitelios Marketplace, JD Pharmacy, Symmetry Hair Salon, The Neighborhood Laundromat, and the Champions Martial Arts Gym. Now, there aren't luxury storefronts or empty commercial spaces. These are community services and essential businesses to the area. What concerns me isn't the egregious 14-story building that they want to build or the fact that this application was done under the noses of the tenants. I spoke to one of them, they didn't even know it was going on. The fact that the landowners had said in their EAS filing that they wanted to begin demolition in April of 2026. That was last month, the application isn't providing any meaningful plans for the residents who would be affected by it and as for the affordable housing units that are plans. There's no such thing as affordable housing. We live in one of the most expensive neighborhoods in the city. Over the past few months, I've had the chance to speak to some of the residents in person and online. I have a 1,026-signature opposition towards this development. One of the gentlemen in the blue sweater before had mentioned that there is crazy traffic and local businesses are closing everywhere. I believe Deanna had said that. I think that this is a red stop to this kind of development. Forest Hills is not known for its luxury buildings, it's about local businesses and character. I urge the community board to put in an advisory against this development when the time comes to vote for it.

Charles L'Fassy

I've been in the neighborhood for about 47 years. Obviously, I love the neighborhood. I actually walk every day, close to that project, 69-67 108th Street. I'm here to voice my opposition to it, very strongly for these kinds of reasons. The number one, the height. This proposed rental billing is grossly out of character for the neighborhood. The lawyer for

the developer compared this building to the neighboring buildings in terms of height, saying 11 stories is compatible with neighboring buildings. What was misleading is that he failed to state that virtually all of the tall greater than six stories, neighboring buildings are luxury co-ops and condos. I do not believe there are any tall rental buildings in the immediate area. The parking situation is horrific. I actually have to strategize. I own a house on 68th Avenue, when to go out and venture on 108th Street. I avoid certain times. It's just impossible. My daughter lives right there too, across from the project. The proposed building will have 59 units, but no parking will be created. Street parking is already at a premium. It's so scarce. Developer estimates that 11 cars in need of parking spaces. That said. It is certainly possible 59 residents will bring more than 11 cars. And what about the visitors? They drive, too, and deliveries. And between the bicycle lanes on Queens Boulevard, few others than delivery people seem to use, and then the ghastly looking casket-sized cement blocks that now line up 108th Street. Dozens and dozens of street parking spaces have been eliminated. This building will only create more parking issues. It's going to be nightmare. Since the developer lives locally. I suspect he has noticed how brutal the traffic has become on 108th Street and on Yellowstone Boulevard. Especially on weekdays, during the morning and evening rush hour, this building with the added cost, population, and resident visitor delivery will certainly aggravate situation. The commercial space, a board member mentioned that any commercial space in the area at 108th Street and Yellowstone is almost exclusively medical, dental, or similar businesses. He is correct. There are no retail stores, grocery stores, bodegas or fast food. It should remain that way, there is sufficient commercial space on Queens Boulevard, Austin Street, and Continental Avenue.

Jessame Hannus

I'm a Rego Park resident and before I ever came to move to Queens, one of the only places I had ever been was Austin Street. When I was thinking about, should I take this amazing apartment, one of the pluses was I'd be living really close to that shopping district. Then I moved here and I was like; this isn't as great as I remembered. It seems so cute, but boy, you know, all this traffic is pretty awful. The sidewalks are so narrow and last year it was so wonderful to get the chance to kind of come out and have the community have the street for a change, and it was local nonprofits, and it was like businesses you don't usually see at those events. I got to talk to Lynn Schulman, my City Council person, because she was walking around on the street. I met neighbors. My friend who lives in Bayonne came and spent the day with me and we shopped at many of the businesses on the street and I'm one of the community members that doesn't own a car. Regardless of the cramped sidewalks, I am there all the time. You will see me at Station House on the sidewalk pretty much every week. She came over, we spent tons of money in the community that day and I really liked the idea of having 4 weekends to have this happen so that we can get into the rhythm of it, the community can understand that it's there, and we can see what that impact is and how good it can be for the community and for the local businesses. I want to be where the people are. Not I want to be where people drive their cars.

Kanak Somani

I'm a resident of Rego Park and I want to actually speak in favor of the development on 108th Streets. To me, it's like for a young person having these apartment buildings, having these affordable housing. To me is only a benefit especially when if I want to move out, especially if I want to be able to afford a house in the future. I know rental prices are only going up. People are struggling to afford a place to live, but also just to afford basic living. To have somewhere where I can actually afford to live, I think that's only a good thing for me. I just live in the neighborhood to be able to be in the neighborhood where my parents are, so even if I move out, I can still be around family and friends. I just have a place where I can call my own but also be able to afford it and not have to live in these luxury buildings that keep popping up. Having a building that's not built as luxury, in my opinion I think that's only a good thing for me and for people around in and around my age and definitely my friends would say the same thing.

The following comments were submitted in writing for the minutes:

Joseph O'Rourke

I want to express my support for the rezoning and redevelopment of both 69-67 108th Street and 108-05 68th Rd. As a new resident I have come to appreciate Forest Hills mixture of zoning, and I believe this zoning should reflect what makes the most sense. I walk past these places on a daily basis, and I find myself wishing for some more mix use along 108th; perhaps a place I can quickly stop in to get a quick bite to eat or just sit for a bit and watch people walk by. My only concerns that I hope the Board considers include that parking is a concern for the area. I do not know what the regulations are, but I hope along with the redevelopment includes parking for residents (and perhaps a few customers)

that may be occupying the space. Additionally, I do hope that the Board considers third spaces in any proposal, as I believe these are crucial to a community and something we desperately need.

I also support the Open Street Application for Austin Street. I believe this has been done in the past, and if similar to other ones I've been to are often viewed positively by the business and the community. These things usually drive money into the local economy, which I think is necessary for our struggling mom and pops stores; as well as serving as a point of pride, if you will, for the community to be a part of.

Na Xu

As a long-time local resident, I strongly object to the proposed rezoning and construction of a 7-story building in our neighborhood. The project's size and scale are inconsistent with the surrounding community's character and will place additional strain on parking, traffic, infrastructure, and public services. Many residents are concerned that the development will increase congestion, reduce privacy, and negatively impact the quality of life for those who already live here. Furthermore, I contend that the proposal does not sufficiently address the concerns of current residents nor demonstrate substantial community benefits to warrant the rezoning request. Recent rezoning initiatives along Queens Boulevard in Forest Hills have already received approval, including a 17-story building at 102-51 Queens Blvd, located two blocks from 108-05 68th Rd. Overdevelopment within the same neighborhood is likely to markedly affect the lifestyle, environment, air quality, and noise levels of local residents, particularly the esteemed NYC Park, Yellowstone Park, situated between 102-51 Queens Blvd and 108-05 68th Rd. The lives of many children and residents will be substantially impacted, and the environmental hazards are irreversible. I respectfully urge the Board to deny the rezoning application, as it better reflects the needs and character of the existing community. I also request that the concerns of local residents be fully considered during the review and public hearing process.

William L. Mander

I had some thoughts I wanted to share with you before the Community Board takes its vote tonight:

- 1. Height: This proposed rental building is grossly out of character for the neighborhood. The lawyer for the developer compared this building to neighboring buildings in terms of height - saying 11 stories is compatible with neighboring buildings. What was misleading is that he failed to state that virtually all of the "tall" (greater than 6 stories) neighboring buildings are luxury co-ops & condos. I do not believe there are any "tall" rental buildings in the immediate area.*
- 2. Parking: The proposed building will have 59 units, but no parking will be created. Street parking is already at a premium. The developer estimates 11 cars in need of parking spaces. That said, it is certainly possible that 59 residential units will bring more than 11 cars. And what about visitors? They drive too. And deliveries? And between the bicycle lanes on Queens Blvd - that few, other than delivery people, seem to use - and the ghastly looking, casket-sized cement blocks that now line 108th St., dozens and dozens of street parking spaces have been eliminated. This building will only create more parking issues.*
- 3. Traffic: Since the developer lives locally, I suspect he has noticed how brutal the traffic has become on 108th St., and on Yellowstone Blvd., heading to and trying to cross Queens Blvd. - especially on week-days - during the morning & evening rush hours. This building, with the added car population, of its residents, visitors, and deliveries, will certainly aggravate the situation.*
- 4. Commercial space: A board member mentioned that any commercial space in the immediate area - on 108th St. and on Yellowstone Blvd. is almost exclusively medical, dental or similar businesses. He is correct. There are no retail stores, grocery stores, bodegas, or fast food and it should remain that way. There is sufficient commercial space on Queens Blvd, Austin St. & Continental Avenue.*

Jean Liu

I am Jean Liu, have been living in Forest Hills since 1990. I went to the board 6 public hearing meeting last night. My neighbors and I in my building on Yellowstone Blvd strongly against the proposed building for the following reasons.

- 1. The new building with store front business will not only create a lot of logistics/traffic problems but also may cause safety/crime problems in densely populated residential areas as well. It will change the distinct landscape of Forest Hills neighborhood entirely.*
- 2. The proposed building without its own indoor parking lot will create more parking and traffic problems.*
- 3. The current school capacity is already stressed out. The existing school resource cannot accommodate the kids of the tenants from the new building if built.*

4. The electric green energy for the proposed building only sounds good but will not work in reality. The electricity cost will make the building not affordable for the average tenants. In the end, it will hurt the middle- and low-income tenants rather than help them.

Based on all above, the proposed building will have terrible negative impact on Forest Hills neighborhood environmentally, economically, educationally and public safety. Therefore, it should not be approved. Thanks.

Maria Kaufer

My name is Maria Kaufer, and I have resided in Forest Hills since 1992. My husband and I moved into the neighborhood as newlyweds and have raised our son here. We are active community members who have served on the PTAs, SLTs, and CEC 28 for our child's local public schools. Among other things, I also serve on the Queens Borough President's Civic Engagement Committee and am a founding member of Central Queens Mutual Aid, Queens Coordination Council, and Neighbors for A Safer Austin Street. My family is committed to continuing to organize with neighbors to create the best, safe, positive, and livable Forest Hills and Rego Park for us all.

I am writing to express my full support for the Austin Street Open Street application from Neighbors for A Safer Austin Street. Austin Street is well known in the neighborhood as being both dangerous and unpleasant. The sidewalks are very narrow, there's a lot of traffic, and, on average, between Yellowstone Boulevard and Ascan Avenue, there has been one injury every month since 2020. An Open Street can help alleviate many of these issues and more, as Austin Day and Trick-or-Streets showed last year. Please support this effort for the good of our Forest Hills and Rego Park communities and vote to approve the Austin Street Open Street application by Neighbors for A Safer Austin Street.

Lea Pisacane

In reference to the rezoning of 69-67 108 Street –

Besides the strain on mass transit, parking, water/sewer, EMS services and emergency rooms, the development would increase traffic and thus traffic accidents and further burden already overcrowded public schools.

The building, if approved, should be NO MORE than 6 stories high – to match the height of the building next to it. It should match the historic red brick that the rest of the apartment buildings on 108 street are built in rather than tan brick. For Queens Blvd to 65th Ave, this is a residential street - it should have NO COMMERCIAL space on the ground floor. Since it will not be 8 stories high, more “affordable” apartments or a senior center can be put on the ground floor. Landscaping should be included – grass, trees, shrubs rather than concrete. All efforts to preserve existing trees should be made. I also ask the board/land-use committee regarding a condition it put on last night's recommendation to approve – just how do you propose to prevent this rezoning/destruction/development from setting a precedent? Forgive me for casting a jaundiced eye but I am skeptical, as each rezoning is considered in its own discrete process. Last, we consider it too trivial to be mentioned, aesthetics ARE important and contribute immeasurably to the quality-of-life people in this neighborhood treasure. We all know, or should, that, of all the boroughs, Queens properties are given short shrift in the granting of Landmark status. The house that would be demolished here, a stately and distinctive mansion built in 1925, is eminently worthy of that designation and probably would have it were it situated in another borough. Which brings us back to the original point – the rezoning should NOT be approved.

Faye Shemper

As a young adult who has grown up, spent a large portion of her school years, and envisioned herself living fairly long-term in the Forest Hills-Kew Gardens area, I have developed a deep appreciation and care for this neighborhood and its character. The family-friendliness, the ethnic diversity, the ease of access via public transportation, the hustle and bustle of Austin Street, the offices and businesses, the libraries and schools and theaters and storefronts and restaurants, a little greenery here and there - things most of us would agree define the neighborhood, and things - I would hope most of us agree - every young person deserves to grow up around and have access to as they begin their adult life. The Proposed Development at 69-67 108th St. is a rare opportunity to recharge and ensure the maintenance of the character of Forest Hills. When we create even a few opportunities for affordable housing in a neighborhood already rich in commerce, healthcare, arts and education, we directly support people who can pour right back into our businesses, clinics, schools, creative spaces etc. The investment bankers and surgeons and corporate employees for whom a Forest Hills home is affordable are taking the train into Midtown Manhattan and the Lower East Side and World Trade Center every morning. But the same home is not, and will never sustainably be, remotely within financial reach of the 25-year-old teacher hoping to teach kids at the local middle school or the recent graduate looking to improve local policy.

Affordable housing is not a threat to neighborhood safety, economy, or character; these myths are most often fueled by misconceptions rather than facts, and - let's face it- unsubstantiated fear. In reality, affordable housing allows people across various backgrounds and (necessary) industries the chance to provide important services to and fulfill critical roles in communities without sacrificing their own or their family's access to education, medical care and other health services, nutritious foods, and other daily essentials. Affordable housing strengthens the neighborhood workforce, the economy of local businesses, long-term residency and connection within the community. The closer we get to 11 stories of the Proposed Development at 108th St, the more affordable housing opportunities we create. It may only be an additional 5 units, but those 5 units can save 5 local businesses, educate hundreds of local families' kids, feed crowds at the next street market, or just allow a young person or two to pursue a career they dreamt of as a child. What major cost to the Forest Hills area could possibly be great enough to counter this potential?

Godfrey Gu

I've been a part of Forest Hills my whole life and I fully support the construction of this new building in the community. We need more affordable living spaces in NYC generally. As a major hub in Queens, Forest Hills should be front and center in all the new building construction. There are already modern buildings approved, like the one across from the library and The Yellowstone right above Trader Joe's. Thank you very much.

Tatyana Artemova

On March 26, 2026, the NYC Office of Administrative Trials and Hearings (OATH) issued a decision upholding DEP violations issued during the Forest Hills Stadium 2024 concert season. The summonses for the 2024–2025 seasons and the OATH decision are publicly available on NYC.gov. The copies were sent to the board.

Noise was one of the issues raised by residents during the February 11, 2026, board meeting regarding the renewal of the stadium's liquor license. The official online complaint form on the SLA website specifically identifies "noise disturbance, for example music, thumping bass, and/or patrons in relation to a premises licensed to traffic alcoholic beverages" as valid grounds for filing a complaint with the SLA. Yet some Board members made a motion to separate the noise issue from the liquor license approval process, effectively moving forward to approve renewal without addressing the underlying violations and community concerns. The noise issue was instead referred to the Environmental Committee. The recent OATH decision was sent to QB6 before the planned April 27 Environmental Committee briefing. That briefing was later cancelled because no committee members attended except the Committee Chair. The reality is that residents' complaints were validated through an official administrative process. Those concerns were not "manufactured" or "baseless", as stated by some Board members during the liquor license renewal process. They were documented, investigated, and upheld by both DEP and OATH. Over two seasons, more than 20 violations were issued, and approximately 85% of inspections resulted in summonses. No improvements were made. This raises a serious question: what is the role of a community board if documented and validated community concerns are dismissed instead of addressed? Are community board members adequately informed and qualified to make decisions with significant impacts on residents' quality of life?

Joanne Burke

I am a member of the Forest Hills community to speak in support of Montoya's. I think it's important when a new business comes into a neighborhood that they show they want to be part of the community and not just operate within it. From what I've seen, Montoya's has already made a real effort to do that. Even early on, they partnered with Aigner Chocolates for a Mother's Day fundraiser raffle, with proceeds benefiting Forestdale Inc. to help support children and families in the foster care system. I think that says a lot about the type of business they're trying to be. They've also shared plans to participate in future community efforts, including supporting fundraising initiatives with Our Lady of Mercy, and they've become official members of Metro Village of Forest Hills to further support our local business infrastructure and neighborhood growth. Forest Hills thrives when local businesses actively contribute to the community around them, and I believe Montoya's is showing a genuine commitment to doing exactly that. I truly feel they will be a positive addition to the neighborhood.

Donald Laghezza

I chose to speak because of my concern and, frankly, dismayed that two re-Zoning actions have been processed by Community Board 6 here in Forest Hills/Rego Park with absolutely no significant alert to the community itself. I refer to: A. ULURP - 69-67 108TH STREET REZONING for 11-story high rise apt building. I am a co-op owner on 67th Road and 108th Street. I am appalled that no one I know up and down 108th St. even knew this process was nearing

completion. I learned, after attending last night's (May 13) meeting, that a few of the private homeowners living eastward on 68th Roads and 69th Roads recently became aware. In my comments to the Community Board, I asked in what possible way, adding an 11 story and 7 story building along the east side of 108th Street would be in the interest and benefit of the existing community. I was told they would reveal the benefits, but I have yet to hear them. 108th Street is not Queens Blvd. It cannot support more traffic, cars competing for non-existent street parking, and -- most importantly -- stress on the constantly failing and under repair infrastructure UNDER the street. I have lived for 28 years on 67th Road and 108th. The street is constantly being dug up for water, sewer, electrical and other repairs. A development company will profit while passing on the future costs of fixing already overburdened infrastructure to me and other taxpayers. The street is a main thoroughfare linking Queens Blvd and the LIE. There are houses of worship that host community day care and schools year-round that serve hundreds of families with small children, coming to and from morning and again in the evening. School buses routinely double park along the street and two different city bus lines run on the street. I am worried that a precedent is being set. I fear developers in search of more profits are going to march right up 108th to line the east side with apartment houses. I cannot speak for the single-family homeowners down the side streets to the east, but I imagine the loss of sunlight, views, need to block off windows and the general chaos of almost a hundred new cars hunting for parking on these quiet, residential, streets morning noon and night will be terrible. The value of their homes -- homes they bought in the confidence that they were moving into a quiet neighborhood of trees, green and sunlight -- are being sacrificed for a developer's profits. And the chimera they dangle of a few "affordable" units that is being tacked onto the 11-story mistake is shameful. I strongly request that you put a stop to this outrage.

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

MINUTES

The Minutes were updated to include on page 9: Nile Johnson presented an informative slideshow of the Budget Priority. A motion to approve the minutes for April 16, 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 encourage everyone to take the 6 Clicks for CB6 survey. This is going to be wrapping up right around May 16th. We may extend it. It is literally a one-minute survey.
- For our Blood Drive competition, I am counting on each of you to win this bloody competition against CB9.
- We want to thank those of you who tabled on May 2nd, 63rd Drive Street Fair, and thank our CB6 staff who gave up their entire Saturday to make sure that we were fully represented. We want you to represent CB6, sometimes it's tabling, sometimes it's marching in a parade and giving your queens wave. One is coming up May 31st, the Austin Street Fair, and the other is our Community Board 6 Resource Fair, headed up by Diana and Garri. It is June 14th, a date awaiting confirmation. But you're obviously going to learn more as we go along, but that's very important. Please volunteer.
- A reminder to board members that our job is fourfold. Prepare, participate, debate, then vote. Participating requires attending committee and general meetings, and if you cannot, attend your committee meeting on time. Please message your committee chair with advance notice so that the meeting time or the meeting date may be changed. Please inform your committee chair, because there may be multiple people in a similar situation and changing the date and time is better, rather than lacking the quorum to proceed, which would disrespect the public's time, as well as the community board members who do attend.
- I reached out to you all when we learned of the terrible showing of anti-Semitic hate recently, and I reiterate tonight that one of our roles here is to stand together against hate, especially the anti-Semitic hate that we've seen surge and how it interweaves with other types of hate. As you learn of healing events and opportunities for bridges, such as those that Mark Laster shares from Central Queens Against Hate or other organizations. Please share them with us so that we can continue to stand together against hate.

DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT

District Manager Christine Nolan announced the following:

- We will be sponsoring a Community Shredding Event in front of our CB6 Office on Saturday, June 27th, 2026, from 10am – 2pm.
- Check the google calendar for upcoming meetings. Next week we will be receiving a presentation from National Grid on a project they will be doing along Metropolitan Avenue.
- 112th Precinct Community Council Meeting will be on Wednesday, May 20th, 2026, at 7:30pm at the Precinct
- We are participating in a Blood Drive along with Community Board 9. It will take place from June 22nd – June 28th. You can go anytime the center is open and just tell them you are representing Community Board 6 as this is a friendly competition with our neighboring Community Board.
- Last, we will be voting on an Open Street Application tonight. We received 8 emails in favor of the open street from January until now.

COMMUNITY HELPERS SPOTLIGHT – LIVEONNY

Hi, my name is Ryder Hossein, and I am the Queens Community and Public Affairs Liaison for Live on New York, which is a nonprofit that handles organ donation in the greater New York City area. Every time someone in the five boroughs, Nassau, Suffolk and the Lower Hudson Valley receive a lifesaving heart, liver, kidney, lung transplant, we are the team that makes it happen. We work with all the hospitals in our designated service area to recover organs and tissue for people who need them for their transplant surgeries.

We also go out into the community to educate others about the power of donation. There are approximately 100,000 people in the United States waiting for an organ, and in New York State approximately 8,000 people. The number one need is for a kidney, and then liver, hearts, lungs. One person can save up to 8 lives through the donation of vital organs. They can also enhance up to 75 lives through the donation of various tissues, like corneas, skin, heart valves, bones, tendons.

There are many misconceptions about organ donation:

- Your quality of medical care is never compromised.
- You have the heart on your license.
- No one's going to let you die.
- Organ donation is compatible with all religions.
- We work with religious leaders across all faiths for support for organ donation.
- No one is ever too sick or too old to donate.
- Testing is always done at time of death to ensure that organs are suitable for recovery. We have been able to recover organs from people in their 90s at time of death. Don't ever discount yourself.
- Organ donation is compatible with different burial practices. You're still able to have an open casket funeral. We work with families' timelines for burials.

I just want to emphasize that this is a very important topic. Even if you have already signed up as an organ donor at the DMV, it's still important to understand and talk with your families about this.

BETTER PUBLIC MEETINGS SCORECARD, NATIONAL CIVIC LEAGUE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE CEC AND CB6

Chair Baida introduced Emma Wisniewski from the National Civic League. As part of the National Civic League, and in partnership with the CEC, Queensborough Hall, and CB6, Emma is joining our meeting to share what they do and how they help public meeting spaces throughout the country. They are going to identify areas of achievement and of improvement. They are going to be partnering with us to help make our public meetings even stronger.

Emma Wisniewski presented:

- I'm here on behalf of the New York City Better Public Meetings Project, which is a collaboration between the city's Civic Engagement Commission, Community Boards, the National Civic League and Perfect City.
- The goal is to make public meetings just like this one more effective based on your feedback, and that includes everyone in the room, not just board members, but every member of the public, because the ultimate goal is to make it easier and even more fun to engage with your government, to engage in the democratic process.
- Part of the research is, we are asking folks to attend public meetings to take our Civic Engagement Scorecard. This is a short survey just to evaluate and provide feedback on the experience that you have had in these meetings, as well as community participation in the city more broadly.
- The QR code is distributed on the tables, including the table by the door. If you scan that with your phone, you will be directed to the survey. It should only take you a few minutes to fill out. This is voluntary, but our ability to make recommendations comes from your input.
- We are going to be collecting this data over the next few months. If you do attend another public meeting, we hope that you will fill out the survey again.
- This survey is powered by ActiVote, which is a nonpartisan voter engagement app. That was one of the most accurate pollsters of the 2024 election. Toward the end of the survey, you will have the option to share your address with ActiVote only if you want to. This is voluntary, but if you do choose to do that, it is going to help us understand community perspectives at the neighborhood level.
- All of the data is anonymized and is private. ActiVote has a very strong privacy policy. Your personal information is never shared with anyone. If you are interested, you can set up an ActiVote account on the app. That gives you personalized election information.
- We will keep you informed on the Better Public Meetings project. Our improvements to public meetings are only as effective as the input we get, we hope that you will fill out the survey in full.

LAND USE, HOUSING, LANDMARK COMMITTEE REPORT

ULURP – 69-67 108TH STREET REZONING

Peter Beadle, Chair of the Land Use, Housing and Landmark committee introduced the Development Team of the 69-67 108th Street Rezoning.

The Development Team gave a presentation of 69-67 108th Street Rezoning:

- Seeking to rezone the site from an existing R1-2A to R7D/C2-4
- Right now, it is zoned for a one to two story building, however, the area of 108th Street, there are taller buildings. From six-story buildings to 14 story buildings within a two-block radius of the site.
- The city requires that 25% to 30% of the units generated by the rezoning are affordable housing. They are permanently affordable at rent levels and incomes that are set by HPD.
- The numbers over the last five years of census data demonstrate that over 48% of Community Board 6 renters are rent burdened. Devoting over 30% of their income to rent, 29% are severely rent burdened, devoting over 50% of their income to rent.
- Of the 59 units proposed at the site, 15 of those would be permanently affordable for the life of the building.
- We are proposing 11 stories at 55,000 square foot building. There would be 3,800 square feet of commercial, or community facility use on the ground floor with proposed 51,000 square feet plus of residential use on floors 2 through 11. A base height of 85 feet and the total height would rise to 115 feet. A setback at 4 and 6 stories, as well as a transitional zone, which reduces the height next to certain districts with no parking.

- 59 units spread between 28, 1-bedrooms and 31, 2-bedroom units. This is considered to be a healthy unit mix. The majority of the units in the building are two-bedroom units. There are no studio apartments in the units.
- If there are 31, two bedrooms and 28, one-bedrooms, it would be 55%, two bedrooms and 45% one-bedrooms. The 15 units of affordable housing would also be 2 bedrooms and 1 bedroom.
- The affordable units would be 15 units in the same proportion as units within the building. The majority of those 15 units would be 2 bedrooms. They will be located within the entirety of the building on floors 2 through 11. This allows for that harmony within the building as set by the zoning resolution and law
- 108th Street is considered a wide street per zoning, because streets that are over 75 feet are considered wide and are considered better able to handle the additional height and density from a taller building.
- When City Planning looks at whether or not it is appropriate to rezone a site, they look at the context of the surrounding buildings, they look at the width of the street, they look at the availability of resources, and commercial use within the area. They look at transportation for subway lines within 3 blocks of the property. The Long Island Railroad is within 3/10 of a mile of the property. These all contribute to why this site would be good.
- Our proposed site is an existing two-story building; it is underbuilt for the site. There is no residential displacement if you took down this building and put up a residential building.
- The main idea of the design was finding a respectful balance between the higher high-rise buildings along Queens Boulevard and 108th Street and then the lower-lying R12 district.
- Instead of building a continuous building, we divided into multiple portions, creating recesses.
- There will be a 5 feet setback at the 4-story and a longer 10-foot setback at the grade level, which will create a buffer zone to the houses.
- Along the ground floor, we will create planting areas to enhance the streetscape and then for pedestrian experience, the building entrance is a bit set back.
- We want to create an environmentally friendly and a nice living environment.
- When you come out of the elevator, there will be always big windows in the corridors, not dark corridors of more typical buildings.
- The building is set back as we go up in floors. The top three floors, the building is completely set back from the low-lying district.
- We are creating a lot of terraces where you can plant.
- There will be plenty of outdoor areas that will further enhance the building's character.
- It will be brick façade with less glazing which was recommended by the Community Board committee.
- In terms of energy, this building is going to be an all-electrified building. There will be no gas in the building, there will be no emissions.
- The building will be ultra-low energy building, which means that it will perform 15% better than what is required by current energy code by utilizing more insulation and better windows.

Question: Is this project financed by HPD or any City entity?

Response: It is not.

Question: You said of the 59 units, 28 will be one bedroom and 31 will be 2 bedrooms, and you called this a healthy mix. Can you tell me how you decided that was a healthy mix? And did you consider demographics like household sizes in the area, household sizes of households that are rent burdened. How did you come to that conclusion? And did you consider having more 2 bedrooms to accommodate more families, maybe even some three bedrooms?

Response: There are no set guidelines within zoning as far as what the bedroom sizes are going to be. You are required to set aside units for affordability. There is nothing in terms of whether or not your units need to be studios, one bedroom or two bedrooms. The reason we said that their healthy unit sizes are because the average bedroom size here is closer to a two-bedroom than a one-bedroom, and in addition to that, the two-bedroom sizes here are roughly between 1,000 to 1,100 square feet. The entire residential square footage of the building, roughly 52,000 square feet, and that's accommodating roughly 59 units. In terms of both the space within the units, as well as common areas.

Question: For the affordable housing units only, has there been any consideration to reserve a percentage of the units for people that already live in the community district?

Response: The Fair Housing Litigation eliminated that. We are going to be working with local agencies to market the units locally. The current reserved percentage is 20% of the units.

Question: The commercial space. Is that one big space? Is that meant to be for one tenant or are you expecting multiple tenants?

Response: It can be subdivided if more than 2 people are interested.

Question: How much of an increase will the tenants have in a one-year or two-year lease? Will it follow rent stabilized guidelines?

Response: These are permanently affordable units. If an apartment goes through Housing Connect or the Lottery, it gets a permanent rent abatement and it would be up to the rental guidelines board. Usually, the first 20 years it doesn't change.

Question: Is there a way to include a minimal amount of parking units in the building, in a basement or a sub-basement that doesn't reduce the number of housing units currently projected?

Response: Yes.

Peter Beadle gave an overview of the committee meeting:

- Listened to testimonies of the residents.
- Discussed the size of the building.
- Discussed the look of the building and they have already started to change the look of the building to make it more contextual with the other buildings around it, as per our recommendation.
- Discussed parking and the difficulty of it. One of the problems we see is that if you build a lot of parking, you are inviting people with cars to come into the community, into that housing. That is why in these transit districts, which this is located in, the zoning laws now waive the parking requirement.
- In response to the comments that were being made by the public, a motion was made by Eugene Shvartsman to add to our list of conditions to lower the height of this building from 11 stories to 8 stories. We debated and voted on it. The motion won: 9 - in favor, 8 - against.
- In the end, the committee voted to recommend approval of this application and arrived at a series of conditions:
 - The building's height be lowered from 11 stories to no more than 8 stories.
 - Include a setback from the Wareham Building immediately to the north, so that their windows would not be blocked off.
 - The facade is made of brick and stone. They have already addressed the facade.
 - The number of affordable units be increased to 30% and keep the intended target average of 60% AMI.
 - Recruit commercial space tenants for uses that really provide direct benefits to the community, such as a grocery store, cafes, medical offices, or even using it as community space.

- DOT install a loading zone in front of the building.
- We do not intend to create a precedent for changes to the zoning of the rest of the R1 district that it sits in. This is also known as the Cord Meyer district. The intent of the committee was to focus on 108th Street.
- The vote was nearly unanimous, with only two of our members voting against.

A discussion began:

Heather Beers-Dimitriadis made an amendment to go from 8 stories back to 11 stories. The motion was seconded by Sabah Munawar.

Discussion on the amendment:

- More local families are being priced out of the neighborhood and where they grew up. We know this increases strain on aging parents and families. We know that home care alone for aging parents in New York costs \$50,000 to \$70,000 a year. And we know that returning this project to 11 stories would secure the public benefit of 18 permanently affordable units as opposed to the reduction.
- I think 8 floors was a reasonable compromise that doesn't lower the number of affordable units dramatically and we should even include a little bit of a parking component underneath the building.
- I live here in Forest Hills and have been in the same apartment building for 23 years. I went to PS196. I went to Halsey. I've been in this area, and I think it is the neighborhood character that I love, and I know that the committee loves. That love for this neighborhood character makes me want to live in Forest Hills forever. With the way that we are thinking about this development, it is the people who grew up here, it is the people who want to raise families here that make Forest Hills a family neighborhood, that give us neighborhood character, if we think of it in that way too. We are going to lose that, and public-school enrollment numbers are going down, and in large part, it's because we don't have affordable family units in the area, and I don't want to lose the Forest Hills where your kids run around that feels like a suburb. And I think this is a unique situation where half the apartments are two-bedroom units and half the affordable units are two-bedroom units, and if we cut 3 floors, that's 22% of the units in the current apartment. That means we are definitely going to lose at least that much in affordable housing units, and there's also a good chance of that if we change the math by that much. We also might not even have affordable housing units or a development. And I think the big thing for me is I don't want to live in New York where affordable housing for families is lost, where Forest Hills isn't a place, you can no longer raise with a family. And I know a lot of the times we talk about height. This is a neighborhood character. This is a building next to a 10-story building. It's on a main street, it's 3 minutes from the 71st Avenue train station, and on our budget priorities, every single year, we've been putting affordable housing. It means you can have a family. It means PS196 is a good school, and I just want to make sure that stays.
- The height concerns coming from the community are about the sunlight. The building plan is set back, and the developers are trying to be responsive to those sunlight concerns by doing this. On the side that is approaching the 2-story residents, I see that as like a good faith in their planning that they're trying to mitigate the sunlight impact on the residential buildings and keep the bulk, the height of the building towards 108th Street, where the taller buildings are there already, and there won't be sunlight being blocked for the people on the two-story residential side. I also appreciate the developers' plans being changed overnight to be responsive to our concerns about the building facade not matching the character of the neighborhood and reducing the glazing. The developer are going to market these unit to local people, I think these are exactly the types of developers that we should be supporting, and we have heard tonight, we have received comments of young people who are interested in living in these types of units, who want to stay in the neighborhood.

- I'm very familiar with MIH and how it works, and I just want to point out the way MIH works. A lot of math goes into this. If you set the requirements too high, nothing gets built. And I think Heather's point was not only, let's not lose an affordable unit, but she also said, let's not lose the entire project. If we are asking for more affordable housing, 30% instead of 25%, and we are also saying cut 3 stories, then the project might not be built. If you look at the map of where all the MIH housing has been built across the city, there is almost none in our district. There is a reason for it, and we have to assume that their plans are taking into account feasibility, and if we massively change the requirements, we might not get any affordable units.
- My dad moved to Forest Hills in 1974. In 1982, he was priced out and he couldn't. He did the math. He figured out that even with a professional degree and my mom working most of the time they would not be able to afford a family here and I was very lucky to be able to move to New York. I live in a rent-stabilized building. My neighbors are elderly and there is a woman who is 76 years old. She uses a walker in my building and lives in a studio. Her daughter drives all the way from Poughkeepsie four times a week to take care of her mom. The daughter cannot find anything that is local to move in, where she can move her mom and her in together. It is important for the people who are barely hanging on fixed incomes, and the people who are taking care of them, their families, their aides. It is hard to even find aides that can come and commute and take care of our elderly. It is important that we get these affordable units through.
- I do support this motion because my sister-in-law sleeps in her living room because my adult niece and nephew have the bedrooms. They have college degrees, master's degrees and even a job with the State. They can't afford to live in this neighborhood without housing like this. Everything that we do to limit the size of this, or even other buildings in a similar neighborhood. We are taking away housing for aesthetics or for a belief that we need more parking when what we are doing is we are limiting people's opportunities to have independent lives as adults and stay in the community where they are going to then need to be around to take care of my sister-in-law, just as I am now taking care of my wife's parents. That is the cycle and if we don't provide housing for the next generation, then all of us one day are going to be on our own with an aide because our kids can't be near us.

A roll call vote was taken to amend the committee's recommendation to restore the height of the building from 8-stories to 11-stories and maintain the gap between it and the Wareham to the north.

The amendment passed: 25 – Yes; 15 – No

A roll call vote was taken to approve the application with conditions. The motion passed: 37 – Yes; 3 – No.

OPEN STREET APPLICATION

Department of Transportation (DOT) asked CB6 to comment on an application that they received at DOT for an Open Street on Austin Street between 71 Avenue to 71 Road and operate on Sundays between August 30 and September 20 from 9am – 6pm.

Michael Niahmehr spoke on behalf of the application:

- The Austin Street Open Street that is being proposed will not change the character of Austin Street in any way.
- It is four Sundays this summer. It is not permanent.
- It will be a productive way to just experiment with what Austin Street could look like and any potential permanent changes to Austin Street will obviously come before the Community Board at any point in the future.
- We are hoping to have everyone there and enjoy their time and shop around and see what Austin Street could look like if it was a little bit quieter and a little bit gentler.
- It is a simple idea to just change up the vibe of Austin Street for a couple of days this summer.

Question: Did the businesses respond or was any feedback provided to DOT that they shared?

Response: DOT has not shared any feedback with us.

Mr. Niahmehr commented: We did speak to the businesses on Austin Street throughout the experiment in September and our Trick or Streets event. The businesses that we spoke to were very much in support of doing something different with Austin Street. It varies. Some businesses were in support specifically of something like an Open Street. They saw more business happening on those days when we tested them out. Some businesses are concerned about parking. We made it clear when we speak to those businesses that if parking is affected, we will have accommodation for deliveries and emergency vehicles.

Comment: I have seen Open Streets throughout the city. I'm a huge supporter of Open Streets. I think it's a great program. I hope that this works out. I hope we can extend it up to 72nd Avenue. What I have seen on Fifth Avenue and in Park Slope, which everyone says is their favorite commercial corridor and their Open Streets are a huge success is outdoor dining. Let's go after our local elected officials to get some grant money for outdoor entertainment for actual activations.

Peter Beadle made a motion to send a positive comment back to DOT with our support for this application. This pilot program would give us an opportunity to see what can work in that space. Mark Laster seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken, and all were in favor.

CONSUMER AFFAIRS, CULTURAL AFFAIRS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

NEW LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATIONS

1. LOWKEY, 70-15B AUSTIN STREET, F.H. *CORPORATE CHANGE*
2. LAGMAN LOUNGE, 101-05 QUEENS BLVD, F.H.
3. MONTOYA'S MEXICAN RESTAURANT & BAR, 102-15 METROPOLITAN AVE, F.H.

RENEWAL LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATIONS

1. AVELLINO RESTAURANT, 97-01, 97-03 64TH AVE, R.P.
2. AMERICAN LEGION POST 1424, 107-15 METROPOLITAN AVE, F.H.
3. BANGKOK CUISINE, 107-18 70TH RD STORE #2, F.H.

Robert Ashe, Co-Chair of the Consumer Affairs, Cultural Affairs, Economic Development committee, reported the following:

All the following 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 and recommended approving the new and renewal liquor license applications.

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.

REPORTS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS' REPRESENTATIVES

STATE SENATOR MICHAEL GIANARIS

Mercedes Jennings reported the following:

- Even though the deadline for the passing of the state budget was on 3/31/2026, the Senator continues to work diligently to ensure the passing of the State budget. Please feel free to contact our office if you need an appointment to speak about budgetary or legislative needs.
- Our office continues to track 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 advocate strongly in preventing the removal of the Q32 stop at 37th Street & Queens Blvd, that specifically services riders to come to Sunnyside Community Services.

- 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. We still have not heard any specifics on when the MTA intends on fully stopping the acceptance of coins on the buses.
- Our office in Queens and Albany have received a large number of calls asking the Senator to prevent the scale back of the CLCPA (NYC Climate Leadership & Climate Protection Act passed in 2025). The Senator continues to stand strong for his constituents to continue to keep the integrity and spirit of this legislation during this year's budget process.
- 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 either jennings@nysenate.gov or gianaris@nysenate.gov.

OFFICE OF BOROUGH PRESIDENT DONOVAN RICHARDS

Amparito Rosero reported the following:

- Saturday, May 16th at 10am to 2pm, we are hosting a Youth Resource & Preparedness Fair at Health, Arts, Robotics and Technology High School, 207-01 116th Ave in Cambria Heights.
- Monday, May 18th, we will be hosting Jewish American Heritage at Queensborough Hall at 12pm.
- Tuesday, May 19th, we will be hosting Haitian Flag Day celebration at Queensborough Hall at 6pm
- Wednesday, May 20th, we will be hosting Memorial Day Observance Ceremony at Queensborough Hall at 12pm.
- Thursday, May 28th, we will be hosting Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage at Queensborough Hall at 6pm.
- Wednesday, June 3rd, we will be hosting our Pride Month flag raising at the Steps of Queensborough Hall at 1pm.
- Wednesday, June 24th, we will be hosting our full Pride Celebration in the Atrium at Queensborough Hall at 6pm.
- You can RSVP at [Queensbp.nyc.gov](https://queensbp.nyc.gov).

OFFICE OF ASSEMBLY MEMBER CATALINA CRUZ

Jessica Cortes reported the following:

- Monday, June 1st, NYLAC mobile clinic will be at the office. Call the office to make an appointment at 718-458-5367.
- Saturday, June 6th, there will be a Job Fair in Rego Park with Assembly Member Steven Raga and Andrew Hevesi from 11am - 1pm.
- Sunday, June 7th, we will be marching at Pride Queens at 12pm in Jackson Heights.
- Friday, June 12th, we will be hosting our annual Pride Prom.

OFFICE OF COUNCILWOMAN LYNN SCHULMAN

Kevin McAleer reported the following:

- I am excited to announce we have the results from Participatory Budgeting. I know last year we were saying that a lot of Richmond Hill projects won. This year we had two schools that won projects, Richmond Hill High School and Queens Metropolitan High School in Forest Hills won. We doubled last year's participation rate in terms of participatory budgeting.

- I wanted to respond to the principal from PS101, our office is planning to fund at least a portion of their tech request. We were able to squeeze it in for this fiscal year.

OFFICE OF QUEENS DISTRICT ATTORNEY MELINDA KATZ

Nerissa Martinez reported the following:

- We had an important case closed recently. The 26-year-old Long Island City man, who shot and killed a police officer. He was found guilty at trial of aggravated manslaughter in the first degree, attempted murder in the first degree, and two counts of criminal possession of a weapon. At the end of April, a judge sentenced the defendant, Guy Rivera to 115 years to life in prison. For causing the death of Officer Jonathan Diller, who was promoted to detective. He was also sent to prison for aiming a gun at Diller's partner and firing. The gun was jammed, and the police sergeant was not injured. DA Katz said in a statement that the defendant ignored repeated lawful commands and used an illegal firearm to kill a dedicated police officer. Detective Diller represented the very best of the law enforcement, courage, commitment, and service to his community.
- The DA's office was able to secure \$2.5 million in restitution for 13 victims of a scam known as Pig Butchering. The victims were duped in an investment scheme after someone named Lily List befriended them online and over time won their trust. The victims were convinced to invest in fraudulent assets through fake websites. After some time had passed, these investors were unable to access their funds because the money had been rerouted to shell companies controlled by the defendant. The defendant was a 37-year-old woman pleaded guilty to grand larceny in the third degree. In addition to paying back the victims most of what they lost, the defendant was sentenced to 120 days in jail and agreed to forfeit luxury items to be auctioned in the future and those proceeds will go back to the victims.
- Thursday, May 21st, we are having our Memorial Day Observance ceremony at Elmhurst Park.
- Saturday, May 16th, we are having a Gun Buyback event at Southern Baptist Church in East Elmhurst from 10am – 4pm.

OFFICE OF COMPTROLLER LEVINE

James Mongeluzo reported the following:

- We did a report on Master Agreements in which billions of dollars are spent when agencies have contracts or Master Agreements with outside companies that are not really subject to controller review.
- We recovered about a million dollars in back wages in the first four months.
- We put comments on the Executive Budget from the Mayor's office.
- We are happy that property taxes are not going up, that the rainy day funds not being rated. We put a report on how to increase the money in the rainy day fund, as well as the Pied-a-Terre tax analysis. We think that not as much money has been reported will actually be collected, because we think there may be some loopholes there. There is a full report explaining that.
- Friday, May 15th, we have our Asian American, Pacific Islander Heritage Month celebration from 6pm to 8pm at Flushing Town Hall.
- Thursday, May 28th, we have our Jewish Heritage Month event in Lower Manhattan.
- You can reach out to me directly at 646-689-6509.

OFFICE OF CONGRESS MEMBER GRACE MENG

Jordan Goldes reported the following:

- The Congresswoman was horrified by the anti-Semitic graffiti found in Forest Hills and Rego Park last week. We swiftly and strongly condemned it, underscored that hate will never be tolerated in our borough, and she went down to the scene right away.
- We have introduced another bill to hold ICE accountable. This legislation would allow immigrants to attend ICE check-ins virtually instead of in person. The measure follows a spike in ICE arrests occurring

during routine check-ins and at immigration offices and court buildings, which we have all seen over the past year.

- We did weekend office hours in Forest Hills last Saturday. We will be doing them again Sunday, May 31st at 10am - 1 pm at our Northeast Queens office.
- Sunday, May 17th, we will be having a Passport event at the Woodside Post Office. Make sure your passports are renewed as summer travel season begins.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00pm.

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 5/13/26	NEW LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATIONS	RENEWAL LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATIONS	OPEN STREET APPLICATION AUSTIN ST. b/t 71 AVE & 71 RD
EDGAR ALFONSECA			
DAVID ARONOV			
ROBERT ASHE			
ANISIA AYON			
SALUA BAIDA			
KAVISH BATRA	A	A	A
PETER BEADLE	L	L	L
HOWARD BIRNBAUM	L	L	L
EDWARD BRENNAN			
HOWARD CHUNG			
L.T. CIACCIO	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT
KANDRA CLARK	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT
VERONICA CRESPO			
LATRICE DAVIS			
JOHN DERESZEWSKI			
HEATHER DIMITRIADIS			
ALEM FERATOVIC			
KARLA FUENTES			
TAMARA GAVRIELOF			
ANDY GUO	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT
KAREN IMAS			
SARINA JAIN	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT
NILE JOHNSON			
MARCELLE LASHLEY-KABORE	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT
MARK LASTER			
PAT MORGAN	I	I	I
SABAH MUNAWAR	N	N	N
NATHALIE NIEVES			
RICHARD PORTILLA	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT
JOI PRATT			
RAJ PUNJABI	NOT PRESENT FOR VOTE	NOT PRESENT FOR VOTE	NOT PRESENT FOR VOTE
DIANA RACHNAEV	F	F	F
GARRI RIVKIN	A	A	A
LIZ ROBINS	V	V	V
PEDRO RODRIGUEZ	O	O	O
SHARI ROLNICK	R	R	R
GLADYS SANDOVAL	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT
DAVID SCHANTZ	NOT PRESENT FOR VOTE	NOT PRESENT FOR VOTE	NOT PRESENT FOR VOTE
HERBERT SCHONHAUT			
AMIT PRATAP SHAH			
EUGENE SHVARTSMAN			
JEAN C. SILVA	ABSENT	ABSENT	ABSENT
LAURA SINGH			
DANIEL SOLOW			
ADITI SOMANI			
LOU TECPANECATL			
MARTHA TUCKER			
DIANA WALCOTT			
EPHRAIM ZAKRY	▼	▼	▼
TOTALS:	ALL IN FAVOR	ALL IN FAVOR	ALL IN FAVOR

CB6 VOTING SHEET 5/13/26	LAND USE ULURP 69- 67 108TH STREET - AMEND FROM 8 STORIES TO 11 STORIES	LAND USE ULURP 69- 67 108TH STREET
EDGAR ALFONSECA	YES	YES
DAVID ARONOV	YES	YES
ROBERT ASHE	NO	YES
ANISIA AYON	YES	YES
SALUA BAIDA	YES	YES
KAVISH BATRA	NO	YES
PETER BEADLE	YES	YES
HOWARD BIRNBAUM	NO	YES
EDWARD BRENNAN	NO	YES
HOWARD CHUNG	YES	YES
L.T. CIACCIO	ABSENT	ABSENT
KANDRA CLARK	ABSENT	ABSENT
VERONICA CRESPO	NO	YES
LATRICE DAVIS	NO	NO
JOHN DERESZEWSKI	YES	YES
HEATHER DIMITRIADIS	YES	YES
ALEM FERATOVIC	NO	YES
KARLA FUENTES	YES	YES
TAMARA GAVRIELOF	YES	YES
ANDY GUO	ABSENT	ABSENT
KAREN IMAS	YES	YES
SARINA JAIN	ABSENT	ABSENT
NILE JOHNSON	YES	YES
MARCELLE LASHLEY-KABORE	ABSENT	ABSENT
MARK LASTER	YES	YES
PAT MORGAN	NO	YES
SABAH MUNAWAR	YES	YES
NATHALIE NIEVES	NO	YES
RICHARD PORTILLA	ABSENT	ABSENT
JOI PRATT	NO	NO
RAJ PUNJABI	NOT PRESENT FOR VOTE	NOT PRESENT FOR VOTE
DIANA RACHNAEV	YES	YES
GARRI RIVKIN	YES	YES
LIZ ROBINS	YES	YES
PEDRO RODRIGUEZ	YES	YES
SHARI ROLNICK	NO	NO
GLADYS SANDOVAL	ABSENT	ABSENT
DAVID SCHANTZ	YES	YES
HERBERT SCHONHAUT	YES	YES
AMIT PRATAP SHAH	YES	YES
EUGENE SHVARTSMAN	NO	NO
JEAN C. SILVA	ABSENT	ABSENT
LAURA SINGH	YES	YES
DANIEL SOLOW	YES	YES
ADITI SOMANI	YES	YES
LOU TECPANECATL	YES	YES
MARTHA TUCKER	NO	YES
DIANA WALCOTT	NO	YES
EPHRAIM ZAKRY	NO	YES
TOTALS:	25 - YES 15 - NO 0 - ABSTAIN	36 - YES 4 - NO 0 - ABSTAIN