



December

COMMUNITY BOARD # 8 NEWSLETTER

DISTRICT OFFICE

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OFFICERS

CHAIRPERSON: Martha Taylor
1st VICE CHAIR: Michael Hannibal
2nd VICE CHAIR: Seymour Schwartz
3rd VICE CHAIR: Dilip Nath
EXEC. SECRETARY: Bhitihara-Martha Fulton
TREASURER & BUDGET DIRECTOR: Hersh Parekh

CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Honorable Sandra Ung - 20th District
Honorable Linda Lee - 23rd District
Honorable James Gennaro - 24th District

BOROUGH PRESIDENT

Honorable Donovan Richards

STAFF

DISTRICT MANAGER: Marie Adam-Ovide
Soleil Griffin, Community Associate
Nettie Norris, Community Associate

BOARD MEMBERS BY AREA

Area 1 – Kew Gardens Hills

Jennifer Martin – CHAIR, Heather Bennett-Idels, D. Lavelda Davis, Marisol Perez, Joshua Glikman, Israel Peskowitz and Jacob Weinberg.

Area 2 – Briarwood

Seymour Schwartz – CHAIR, Shaleeza Deen, Allen Eisenstein, John Gebhard, Elke Maerz, Mohammad Rahman, and Douglas Sherman.

Area 3 – Hillcrest Estates & Jamaica Hill

Wendy Gennaro – CHAIR, Dilafriz Ahmed, Saaif Alam, Bhitihara-Martha Fulton, Ahsan Habib, Mohammed "Delwar" Islam, Hersh Parekh and Frances Peterson.

Area 4 & 5 – Flushing, Flushing Heights, Flushing Suburban, Hillcrest, Electchester, Georgetown Mews, Pomonok

Dr. Penny M. Stern – CHAIR, Kenneth Cohen II, Marva Dudley, Neeta Jain, Dilip Nath and Kelly Sexton

Area 6 – Utopia, Fresh Meadows, West Cunningham Park

Maria DeInnocentiis – CHAIR, Armando Echeverry, James Gallagher, Caitlin Marziliano, Alan Ong, Tamara Osharov, Amy Tse and Steven Villaran.

Area 7 – Jamaica Estates & Holliswood

Howard Fried – CHAIR, Edward Chung, Roger Joyner, Michael Hannibal, Doretha McFadden, Nikolas Michael, David Mordukhaev, Jesse Rosenbaum, Aliyah Salim, Martha Taylor, Mohammed Tohin and Mayer Waxman.

Happy Holidays! Happy Hannukah! Merry Christmas! Happy Kwanzaa!

November's Community Board 8 Public Hearing/Meeting (recap) 183-02 Union Turnpike Fresh Meadows

- **Minutes** - The minutes of the Community Board 8 meeting held on October 22, 2025, were unanimously approved by 37 members.
- **Chairperson's Report:** Thank you, Andrew Karpan, for the nice article you wrote in the Chronicle. Congratulations to Community Board 8 member Seymour Schwartz who was honored at the Veterans Celebration last week by St. John's University. Thank you, Sey, for your service to our country. Thank you to all the veterans as well.

In your packets, we have the tentative dates for our Executive Committee and Monthly CB8 meetings for 2026. These dates were emailed to everyone approximately two weeks ago. No one has reached out to the CB8 Office.

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The next Public Hearing/Meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 10, 2025

Minutes of Board Meetings are available **usually** within two weeks on our website.

www.nyc.gov/queenscb8

A Word from CB8...

Dear Stakeholders:

We recently learned that the representatives for the Fresh Meadows Development is scheduling presentations for the **revised** Fresh Meadows Vision Proposal. This presentation includes the valuable feedback from community stakeholders received over the past several months, as per Ms. Maura Avington of Cozen O'Connor Strategies.

There are two presentations scheduled. One for the residents/tenants of the Fresh Meadows Development and the other for all community members as follows:

December 3rd, 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. at PS 26

In person participation at this meeting is intended for current residents of the Fresh Meadows Garden Apartments only. This meeting is dedicated to addressing their specific needs.

Please click on this QR Code to **RSVP** or go to:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdqSr6akTTg5g-OpCEBA_GR_DUiZwk-DDLu0F-_Bsn_uS4Q/viewform



December 9th, 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. at PS 26

This meeting is open to all community members.

Please click on this QR Code to **RSVP** or go to:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdCHt6tRnJVVF4h3k2sJgDLQuM8yedv2Ej-EdeLy9UhwXx8jA/viewform>



The updated presentation will be available on their website:

<https://www.freshmeadowsvision.com/>

the week of December 1, 2025 in Korean, Spanish, Mandarin, and Bengali.

Please share this information with your friends and neighbors. **It takes more than City Hall to make New York City great, it takes us all!**

We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Marie Adam-Ovide

District Manager

Martha Taylor

Chairperson

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Guest Speaker – Xin-rui Lee, Community Engagement Specialist – Independent Budget Office (IBO)

She presented information on how to use IBO as a resource to answer your budget and policy questions.

- 1) What is IBO? The Independent Budget Office is a nonpartisan City agency that provides data driven fiscal and policy insights into New York City's budget, economy and policy.
- 2) What does IBO do? IBO provides charter mandated reports in alignment with major budget actions and answers questions from Council Members and public.

If you have any questions or presentation requests, please visit us at info@ibo.nyc.gov.

Deputy Inspector Mo Tsang - 107th Precinct

He reminded everyone not to leave things visible in your car. Don't invite burglars in. Also, there is a jewelry scam going on. If you see a man driving a car with a female passenger and they approach you saying they will give you cash for your jewelry, walk away. On Sunday, November 16th from 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. they will host an event in St. John's University parking lot. They will be giving away free Etching Converters.

Shubhra Datta – representing Queens Borough President Donovan Richards

On behalf of Queens Borough President Donovan Richards, we thank everyone who attended the Veterans celebration at Queens Borough Hall on November 6th. Awards were presented to several distinguished military veterans from Queens. They were honored for their sacrifices for serving our nation in uniform.

The Queens Borough President is hosting several events. If anyone has any questions or concerns, members of the community can reach out to their office at 718-286-3000.

Health Minute with Dr. Penny Stern – Health Committee Chair

From November 18th through the 24th is US Antibiotic Awareness Week. Antibiotics are medications that can treat bacterial infections. Antibiotics kill the bacterial organism or disable it so it cannot multiply or grow. Bacteria respond to antibiotics, not viruses or fungal infections. Antibiotics date back to the work of Alexander Fleming, who is credited with discovering penicillin in 1928, an event that has saved countless numbers of lives.

Resistance to the effect of these medications occurs when they are used inappropriately. Example: when a person has an illness and wants an antibiotic, even though what he or she has is not sensitive to it, such as a virus. Eventually, the bacteria will no longer respond to the antibiotic. It becomes difficult and sometimes impossible to find an agent to treat these infections, commonly called "superbugs" for their ability to survive treatment with antibiotics. The result can be catastrophic. It is absolutely essential to use antibiotics only as indicated to prevent resistance developing. Every year organizations gather together in observance of Antibiotic Awareness Week. The CDC represents the US and the World Health Organization's World Health Assembly represent a worldwide awareness campaign.

What can you do to help limit drug resistance?

- 1) If you are prescribed antibiotics, finish the entire course of treatment. Don't stop because you "feel better". This can lead to drug-resistant bacteria taking hold and multiplying.
- 2) Never ask for antibiotics when the problem is viral. Don't borrow medications from other people. and don't share yours, either.
- 3) If you have old prescriptions, dispose of them properly. Don't leave them around to be used "later".

The best thing to do is to avoid getting sick whenever possible. That means frequent handwashing, covering your mouth and nose when coughing and/or sneezing whenever possible, stay home when ill. Don't spread your illness around! Please take care of yourselves.



WEEKDAY SERVICE

**Starting
6 a.m.
Monday,
December 8**



**Learn more:
[mta.info/fmswap](https://www.mta.info/fmswap)**



What we're doing

Starting at **6 a.m. on Monday, December 8**, **F** and **M** trains will permanently swap routes between Manhattan and Queens on **weekdays**, affecting eight stations.

F trains will replace **M** trains at:

- Queens Plaza
- Court Sq-23 St
- Lexington Av/53 St
- 5 Av/53 St















































M trains will replace **F** trains at:

- 21 St-Queensbridge
- Roosevelt Island
- Lexington Av/63 St
- 57 St

Why we're doing it

This permanent service change is intended to reduce congestion and delays on the **E F M R** lines. The goal is to provide faster, more reliable service on all four lines.

Service at affected stations

Station	Weekdays Approx. 6 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.	Weekends 6 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.	 Late Nights 9:30 p.m. to 6 a.m.
Queens Plaza 	   until 10:30 p.m.	  until 10:30 p.m.	
Court Sq-23 St 	   	  	  
Lexington Av/53 St 	  	 	   starting 1:30 a.m.
5 Av/53 St	 		
21 St-Queensbridge 			
Roosevelt Island 			
Lexington Av/63 St 	 	 	 
57 St			

Elevator replacement in progress at Lexington Av/53 St.



Citizenship Now!



NYC Council Members **Shaun Abreu**, **Diana Ayala** and **Carmen De La Rosa** invite you to

Become a Citizen: Opportunities Await

U.S. citizenship offers many benefits, including the ability to vote, travel easily and pursue new job opportunities and other financial advantages.

Saturday, December 6, 2025
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

George Washington Educational Campus, Gym
549 Audubon Avenue
New York, NY 10040
1 train to 191 St.



Call **646-664-9400** or text **929-334-3784**
to make an appointment and find out which documents to bring.

Minimum requirements to apply:

- You are 18 or older
- You have lived in the United States as a green card holder (permanent resident) for five years (or three years if married to, and living with, the same U.S. citizen)

Services include screening for fee waiver eligibility.
To find out which documents to bring to the event,
go to bit.ly/CUNYCNeventdocuments

All services are free

- The Bronx • Queens
- Brooklyn • Manhattan
- Staten Island

Scan to
request a call
from us



This activity is not sponsored or endorsed by the NYC Department of Education or the City of New York.



cuny.edu/citizenshipnow

LIQUOR LICENSE NOTIFICATION (S)

- None received.



*Any complaints about establishments with liquor licenses should be sent to Community Board 8 **in writing**. Unless a signed, written notification is received at our office, we cannot follow up. You must also include your address and telephone number.*

CITY PARKING RULES

The City suspends alternate side parking regulations for both street cleaning purposes and traffic flow, on legal and/or religious holidays.



Immaculate ConceptionTues., Dec. 8th
* Christmas.....Thurs., December 25th

*(Parking meters are still in effect. * **Except during major holidays**)*

DEMOLITION/VACATE NOTICE

- 73-41 188th Street [Excavation & Construction]



The P.O.I.N.T.

Family Enrichment Center

Serving Briarwood, Flushing South and nearby neighborhoods.

Scan the QR code to learn more.

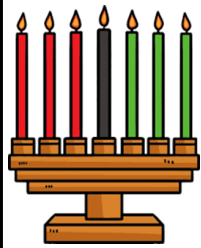


Got Ideas for The P.O.I.N.T. Family Enrichment Center?
Let's build it together!

Contact Us	Brooke Smith, Director	Selma Sihali, Community Liaison	
	(929) 788-0555	(917) 745-2431	
	BSmith@Commonpoint.org	BSelmaSihali@Commonpoint.org	

COMING SOON

The P.O.I.N.T. Family Enrichment Center will be opening its doors the end of 2025.



December 2025

Community Board 8, Queens



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3 Executive Committee 7:30 p.m. CB8 Office	4	5	6
7	8 	9	10 Board Meeting Public Hearing 7:30 p.m. Hillcrest Jewish Center 183-02 Union Turnpike	11	12	13
14 HAPPY HANUKKAH	15	16	17 Zoning Committee St. Francis Prep 6100 Francis Lewis Blvd. 8 p.m.	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	We're closed! 25 	26 	27
28	29	30	31			

"You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream."

— C.S. Lewis.