



January

COMMUNITY BOARD # 8 NEWSLETTER

DISTRICT OFFICE

197-15 Hillside Avenue
Hollis, NY 11423-2126
Tel # (718) 264-7895
Fax # (718) 264-7910
E-Mail: qn08@cb.nyc.gov
Website: www.nyc.gov/queenscb8

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, Dilafroz 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, Elmhurst, 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 Osherov, 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 New Year! Happy New Year! Happy New Year!

December'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 Wednesday, November 22, 2025, were unanimously approved by 27 members.

Chairperson's Report:

We've reviewed the meeting dates for 2026. They are approved with no objections. If you need an excused absence, please call the Community Board office. I attended the Fresh Meadows Development's meeting last month. I listened to the revised proposal and to the residents. It came to my attention that they are not properly maintaining the apartments. That is concerning. This must be addressed before they proceed with any plans for the future.

Happy 100th Birthday to Sey Schwartz!

Happy Holidays!

Continued on Page 2 ——>

The next Public Hearing/Meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 7, 2026

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

Lieutenant Jaspreet Gill, Special Operations Officer - 107th Precinct

He announced that we have a new commanding officer, Captain Michael Blacklarkin. During the holiday season there tends to be a lot of home invasions. Lock your doors. If you have packages delivered to your home, retrieve them or have someone get them for you.

Shubhra Datta representing Queens Borough President Donovan Richards

The office is having a toy giveaway and tree lighting on December 15th at 6:00 p.m. and on December 17th, a Menorah lighting at 4:30 p.m. The events will be held outside the Borough Hall. Please see flyers for more information. Happy Holidays and Happy New Year.

Health Minute with Dr. Penny Stern – Health Committee Chair

December is Safe Toys and Gifts Month as per the American Public Health Association and Prevent Blindness America. The purpose of this campaign is to make people aware of whether particular toys are appropriate for the children receiving them – with special consideration for children under the age of three. Below is a number of guidelines.

- Look carefully at toys with sharp edges, small parts, that shoot, that have batteries and buttons.
- Look at interactive toys that can be played with other children and consider the size of the toy for the age group.
- Read labels and make sure the toy has passed a safety inspection and meets the standards established by the American Society for Testing and Materials.
- If you are giving sports-related gifts, make sure that protective equipment is included – like giving a helmet with a scooter.
- Avoid toys with cords or heating elements.
- Check if there is a possibility of lead exposure. Most older toys that may have been passed down to you often have lead paint on them.
- Avoid giving crayons or markers unless you make sure the ink and dyes are non-toxic.

###



Community Board 8Q celebrated CB8 Member & Second Vice-Chair **Seymour “Sey” Schwartz** as he reaches his milestone birthday of **100 years old** at our last general meeting this past December.

What a wonderful way to end the year!

Pictured from left to right: Chair Martha Taylor, 2nd Vice-Chair Seymour Schwartz, Board Member Amy Tse and back row District Manager Marie Adam-Ovide.

A Word from CB8...

Dear Stakeholders:

Happy New Year! Are you free most evenings and considering donating your time? Would you like to use that valuable time to give back by advocating for your community? How about becoming a Community Board 8 Member?

Please note, in addition to attending the full Board's monthly meetings you will be required to attend trainings sponsored by the Queens Borough President's Office; participate fully in at least two committees. There is a lot of reading of documents prior to deliberating and voting on zoning matters and other community issues.

For all those interested in joining the community board, the application will be open on the Queens Borough President's website on **Monday, January 5, 2026**. It closes at the end of business day on **Friday, February 13, 2026**. The website address is www.queensbp.org.

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

IT'S TIME TO SAY FIR-WELL

December 26, 2025—January, 11, 2026

Wrap up your holiday season and say goodbye to your tree at Mulchfest. Join NYC Parks in the NYC holiday tradition of recycling your Christmas tree!

Cunningham Park (Union Turnpike and 196th Place)

#Mulchfest

Share your fir-well! Use #Mulchfest to share your memories with friends and family.



Mulchfest

#Mulchfest



NYC **Citi**®



In need of a refresher Reading and Writing course before applying to College?

Want to improve your English skills?

We can help!

Free Online College Prep and ESOL courses available!

Enhance your skills for FREE!

Improve your skills with our free Online College Preparation and Academic ESOL Bridge to College courses! Receive support to boost your English proficiency and refine your reading and writing abilities for college success. Both programs offer free tutoring, career guidance, and expert assistance with CUNY admissions.

About us

This is a joint program of the CUNY School of Labor and Urban Studies and the Consortium for Worker Education. Our skills courses meet the CUNY proficiency requirements for reading and writing at Queens College.

Requirements

- Adults 21 and over who live or work in New York City
- Have a High school diploma or GED/TASC.
- Take an assessment test during info session.



Contact Us

646-313-8536

WorkerEd@slu.cuny.edu

Spring 2026 Online Courses

College Preparation: English Reading and Writing Course

- 2/9-5/18: Mon/Wed, 5:30pm-8:00pm
- Tutoring services
- Career exploration
- CUNY pre-admission advisement

Academic ESOL Bridge to College (Intermediate Level English Class)

- 2/17-5/14: Tue/Thu, 6:00pm-8:00pm
- Daytime class TBD
- Intermediate to advance level
- Tutoring services
- CUNY pre-admission advisement

Join an Info Session!



<https://forms.office.com/r/iW5q9cDkpq>



Community Board 8Q

Meeting Schedule

The Community Board 8's monthly meetings are usually held on the **2nd Wednesdays** of the month at 7:30 p.m. sharp, unless there is an unusual circumstance or the date falls on a religious or on a major holiday. The meetings are usually held in the auditorium of the Hillcrest Jewish Center located at 183-02 Union Turnpike in Fresh Meadows. Our meetings are in-person and open to the public. Anyone who wishes to speak may do so during the Public Hearing and/or Public Participation part of the meeting, provided that he/she signed up for speaking time (preferably by calling the Community Board at 718-264- 7895 no later than 4:00 p.m. the day of the meeting). The speaker may be granted up to **two (2) minutes** of speaking time (*at the discretion of the CB8 Chair*). If you are not present when your name is called, you will not be allowed to speak.

Jan. 7th	February 11th	March 11th
April 15th	May 13th	June 10th
<i>No meeting in July</i>	<i>No meeting in August</i>	September 9th
October 14th	November 18th	December 9th

Community Board 8Q - Committee Meeting Schedule

Most of our committees meet as the need arises. Please check our website for committee meeting notices and posted minutes:

<https://www.nyc.gov/site/queenscb8/meetings/meeting-notices.page>

The Cannabis/Liquor License Committee meets on the third Tuesday of the month to review new cannabis or liquor licenses. The committee also meets to address written complaint (s) about eating/drinking establishments that are up for renewal. The Transportation Committee meets usually on a quarterly basis after gathering requests from the community for traffic changes, etc.

If you have any issues that you would like our committees to address, please submit a written request.



Alternate Side Parking Rules

2026 Suspension Calendar

New Year's Day*	Jan 1, Thurs
Three Kings' Day	Jan 6, Tue
Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday	Jan 19, Mon
Lincoln's Birthday	Feb 12, Thurs
Washington's Birthday (Pres. Day)	Feb 16, Mon
Lunar New Year's Eve	Feb 16, Mon
Lunar New Year	Feb 17, Tue
Ash Wednesday	Feb 18, Wed
Losar (Tibetan New Year)	Feb 18, Wed
Purim	Mar 3, Tue
Idul-Fitr (Eid Al-Fitr)	Mar 20-21, Fri-Sat
Holy Thursday	Apr 2, Thurs
Good Friday	Apr 3, Fri
Passover	Apr 2-3, Thurs-Fri
Passover (7th/8th Days)	Apr 8-9, Wed-Thurs
Holy Thursday (Orthodox)	Apr 9, Thurs
Good Friday (Orthodox)	Apr 10, Fri
Solemnity of the Ascension	May 14, Thurs
Shavuoth (2 Days)	May 22-23, Fri-Sat
Memorial Day*	May 25, Mon
Idul-Adha (Eid Al-Adha)	May 27-28, Wed-Thurs
Juneteenth	June 19, Fri
Independence Day*	July 3-4, Fri-Sat
Tisha B'Av	July 23, Thurs
Feast of the Assumption	Aug 15, Sat
Labor Day*	Sept 7, Mon
Rosh Hashanah	Sept 12-13, Sat-Sun
Yom Kippur	Sept 21, Mon
Succoth (2 Days)	Sept 26-27, Sat-Sun
Shemini Atzereth	Oct 3, Sat
Simchas Torah	Oct 4, Sun
Columbus Day	Oct 12, Mon
All Saints' Day	Nov 1, Sun
Election Day	Nov 3, Tue
Diwali	Nov 8, Sun
Veterans Day	Nov 11, Wed
Thanksgiving Day*	Nov 26, Thurs
Immaculate Conception	Dec 8, Tue
Christmas Day*	Dec 25, Fri

Information

Alternate Side Parking Regulations may be suspended from time to time because of snow, inclement weather or other emergencies. Please visit our website at nyc.gov/dot or dial 311 for further information.

TTY Deaf or Hearing-Impaired, dial (212) 504-4115.

Did You Know?

What's in a name? Do you know the difference in the meaning of these parking signs?

	NO STOPPING	NO STANDING	NO PARKING
Can I stop to drop off or pick up passengers?	No	Yes	Yes
Can I stop to load or unload a package, or merchandise at curbside?	No	No	Yes
Is waiting allowed?	No	No	No

All of NYC was designated a Tow Away Zone under the State's Vehicle & Traffic law in 1959. This means that any vehicle parked or operated illegally, or with missing or expired registration or inspection stickers may be towed.

On **MAJOR LEGAL HOLIDAYS**, stopping, standing and parking are permitted **except** in areas where stopping, standing and parking rules are in effect seven days a week (for example, "No Standing Anytime"). Accordingly, parking meters will not be in effect on major legal holidays.

Double-parking of passenger vehicles is illegal at all times, including street cleaning days, regardless of location, purpose or duration.

It is illegal to park within 15 feet of either side of a fire hydrant. Painted curbs at hydrant locations **DO NOT** indicate where you can park.

An occupied, illegally parked vehicle causes the same safety hazard and congestion as an unoccupied vehicle. Be responsible and park legally.

*MAJOR LEGAL HOLIDAY



Translated versions of this document are available by contacting 311 or by going to nyc.gov/dot or nyc.gov/dot/asprules





DSNY Special Waste Drop-Off Sites

Open every Thursday, Friday, and Saturday!

Hours: 9:00am-5:00pm

Locations:

- **Bronx:** Hunts Point at Farragut Street and the East River, next to the Fulton Fish Market. Enter on Farragut Street, off Food Center Drive.
- **Brooklyn:** 459 North Henry Street in Greenpoint.
- **Manhattan:** 74 Pike Slip, between Cherry Street & South Street under the Manhattan Bridge.
- **Queens:** College Point at 30th Avenue, between 120th and 122nd Streets, at the northwest corner of the DSNY Queens District 7 garage.
- **Staten Island:** Located off the Muldoon Avenue exit of the southbound West Shore Expressway (440), past the DSNY security booth.

Accepted Items: Turn over for details!

Questions? Visit nyc.gov/safedisposal for more information.



Where can I dispose of harmful products?

DSNY Special Waste Drop-Off Sites (SW Site) and DSNY SAFE Disposal Events (SAFE) accept different items. See below to find out how to dispose of your harmful products.

	SW Site	SAFE	Other Disposal Options
Aerosol	✓	✓	Not Applicable
Appliances	✗	✗	Remove batteries and recycle curbside.
Microwaves, fans, irons			
Appliances with CFCs	✗	✗	Contact 311 to make an appointment to remove CFCs, then recycle curbside.
A/Cs, refrigerators			
Antifreeze	✗	✓	Bring to a professional who changes antifreeze.
Asbestos	✗	✗	Contact a private hazardous waste company.
Automotive Batteries	✓	✓	Return to any service station or auto supply store.
Batteries	✓	✓	Rechargeable: Bring back to any store that sells them. Alkaline: Discard as garbage.
Cleaning Products	✗	✓	Dry out and discard as garbage. Empty containers should be recycled unless labeled "DANGER-CORROSIVE."
Electronics	✓	✓	Drop off at Best Buy, Staples, Goodwill, Salvation Army, or the Gowanus E-Waste Warehouse. Restrictions and fees may apply.
Fluorescent Tubes & CFLs	✓	✓	CFLs: Drop off at Home Depot, Lowe's, or Ikea.
Gas Cylinders	✗	✓	Fire ext., helium tanks: Remove head, relieve pressure, and recycle. Other: Exchange for full tanks when buying new gas cylinders.
Gasoline	✗	✓	Contact a private hazardous waste company.
Lawn & Garden Care Products	✗	✓	Dry out and discard as garbage. Empty containers should be recycled unless labeled "DANGER-CORROSIVE."
Medical Waste	✗	✓	Medication: Mail back or visit dontflushyourdrugs.net . Sharps: Bring to hospitals in a sealed, puncture-resistant container.
Motor Oil & Transmission Fluid	✓	✓	Bring to a service station that changes oil.
Paint We now accept all paints	✓	✓	Dry out and discard as garbage and recycle empty container or visit paintcare.org
Pest Control	✗	✓	Dry out and discard as garbage. Empty containers should be recycled unless labeled "DANGER-CORROSIVE."
Thermostats & Thermometers	✓	✓	Visit thermostat-recycle.org for drop-off locations.
Tires	✓	✗	Bring to any business that sells them or to any DSNY garage.



Snow and Ice Removal from Sidewalks

Snow and ice on sidewalks can severely injure pedestrians. You must clear a path in the sidewalk in front of your building that is at least four feet wide to allow pedestrians to pass. Snow and ice must be removed from around fire hydrants and sidewalk curb-cuts and ramps.

If the snow or ice has become so frozen it cannot be removed, sidewalks should be strewn with granular material like salt or sand to improve traction and prevent slipping.

Snow and ice must be cleared from sidewalks within specific timeframes:

- Snowfall ends between 7:00 AM and 4:59 PM - **Clear within 4 hours**
- Snowfall ends between 5:00 PM and 8:59 PM - **Clear within 14 hours**
- Snowfall ends between 9:00 PM and 6:59 AM - **Clear sidewalks by 11:00 AM**

(If the snow stops falling at 7:00 PM, building owners/occupants must clear a path in the snow that is at least four feet wide, or salt or sand the sidewalk by 9:00 AM the following morning.)

- If you do not clear snow or ice from the sidewalk within the given timeframe, **you may be fined up to \$250.**

The sidewalk must be thoroughly cleaned as soon as the weather permits.

NOTE: DO NOT shovel, blow, or push snow into the street.

NYC Department of Finance

SENIOR CITIZEN HOMEOWNERS' EXEMPTION (SCHE)

You may qualify for **SCHE** if the total combined annual income of the property's owners and their spouses is **\$58,399** or less and every owner is 65 years-old or older (*If the owners are spouses or siblings, only one must be 65 years old or older.*). With some exceptions, the property must be the primary residence of all owners.

Deadline: Monday, March 16, 2026

How to get help: Visit www.nyc.gov/contactpropertyexemptions or call 311.

Please note - If your 65th birthday will be December 31, 2026, you do not have to wait for your actual birth date to send in the application

SCHE Applications are also available at the Community Board 8 office.

ONE QUEENS

Fellowship Against Hate

January - May 2026

Are you a Queens resident, local professional, or leader in a Queens-based organization who wants to help strengthen our community?

Apply to the **One Queens Fellowship Against Hate**, a collaborative leadership program that brings together Queens-based professionals to confront hate, build relationships, create positive change, and support a safer, more united Queens for everyone.

Applications due on January 5th.

commonpoint.org/OneQueens



Questions? Contact
Sivan Ben-Aderet
sbenaderet@commonpoint.org
718-423-6111 ext. 266

Fellowship Sponsors:

JCRC of New York

Office for the Prevention of Hate Crimes

UJA Federation of New York

Korean Community Services



COMMONPOINT
Community happens here

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.

New Year's DayThurs., Jan. 1st
Three Kings Day.....Tues., Jan. 6th
Martin Luther King's Day.....Mon., Jan. 19th



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

DEMOLITION/VACATE NOTICE

- 164-33 76th Road [Full Demolition]

AMPLIFY HER® INCUBATOR

Closest to the Problem. Closest to the Solution.

Have you ever thought: "Something needs to change, and I know there's a better way"? The Amplify Her® Incubator is a six-month program that helps women in NYC transform bold ideas into action. We are looking for women committed to advancing the lives of women and girls in New York City through advocacy, leadership, or systems-level change.

Participants will receive mentorship, skill-building, community, visibility, and funding (up to \$10,000 seed grant, plus a completion stipend).



**APPLICATIONS OPEN:
NOVEMBER 17TH**

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE:
JANUARY 30TH**



CANNABIS LICENSE UPDATE

Boom Factory LLC Application Update

Desann Carty is no longer affiliated with this application. The current owners of the business are:

- Latrisha Wilkins
- Zaniyah Kornegay
- Tyler Stalworth



January 2026

Community Board 8, Queens

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 We're closed! 	2	3
4	5	6	7 Board Meeting Public Hearing 7:30 p.m. Hillcrest Jewish Center 183-02 Union Turnpike	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19 We're closed! 	20	21 Transportation Committee Meeting 7:30 p.m. CB8 Office 197-15 Hillside Ave	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

“Tomorrow is the first blank page of a 365-page book. Write a good one.”
— Brad Paisley