



# November

## 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](http://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:** Bhithara-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, Bhithara-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 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.

## October'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 September 10, 2025, were unanimously approved by 36 members.
- **Chairperson's Report:**  
We have a message that our member for many years, Harbachan Singh has passed. He served on our board as our Treasure/Budget Director and Chair of our Government Affairs Committee. He also served on the Queens Civic Congress. Chairperson Taylor wished condolences to his family, friends and all those who are affected by his passing. In his memory, the board offered him a moment of silence.
- **Special Election - Seymour Schwartz, 2nd Vice-Chair & Chair of Nominating Committee**  
With the passing of Harbachan Singh, the Community Board 8's Bylaws dictate that for certain reasons, it is required that we vote for a substitute at the first board meeting. On October 8th, the Executive Board recommended Hersh Parekh, as a substitute to serve the remaining term. When asked, Mr. Parekh accepted the nomination. Since there were no other nomination from the floor and Mr. Parekh ran unopposed, the board's Secretary Bhithara Martha-Fulton was asked to cast one vote. Ms. Fulton casted one vote for the appointment of Mr. Parekh. He was then confirmed.

*Continued on Page 2 ——>*

**The next Public Hearing/Meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 12, 2025**

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

## A Word from CB8...

Dear Stakeholders:

It is Fall and during this season the leaves change into the most beautiful colors. This is followed by most of them falling on the ground. Then the work begins.

At our last Community Board 8 meeting, we distributed hundreds of paper leaf bags to facilitate leaf removal. We thank all our residents who continue to keep their front and backyards clean, most importantly those who clean the area abutting the sidewalks and eighteen inches onto the street. After all, it is the duty of the property owners to do so. How about our catch basins?

The City of New York cleans every catch basins on a three-year cycle, which is certainly not enough in our view. Fortunately, they are also cleaned when residents request it. If there is a foul odor on a catch basin near your home or if it is clogged please call us during business hour to report it or call 311 outside of the regular business hour. When catch basins are dirty or clogged, that will lead to street flooding during or following a rain event. With everyone doing his/her part, we will have a good quality of life in our district.

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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### Public Hearing:

**Michael Hannibal, 1st Vice-Chair - Budget Committee**

**FY '27 District Needs Statement and the Capital & Expense Budget** - There was a budget meeting conducted on Monday, October 20th. We have to vote each year on our needs statement and budget priorities. The Needs Statement was presented. It was unanimously approved. The Capital Budget priorities was presented and was unanimously approved. Lastly, the Expenses Budget was presented and was unanimously approved.

### Guest Speakers:

**Sergeant Oscar Li, 107th Precinct - Quality of Life**

There is a homeless condition on 188th Street by Kohl's that was addressed by the Department of Homeless Services and the Department of Sanitation. Compared to last year, crime has decreased. Their officers have been combating crime regarding grand larceny of autos and grand larceny. Please stay alert. They have received complaints about people speeding and have issued speeding tickets to the violators. They are also working on requesting a speed bump near Cunningham Park.

*Continued on Page 3 —————>*

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### **Guest Speaker**

#### **Henry Yam, Chief of Staff - Council Member James Gennaro - 2025 NYC Ballot Proposals**

On November 4th, there will be five ballot proposals that were put on by the mayor and his administration. Mr. Yam spoke about ballot proposals two to four. Proposals two and three are similar in that they will change the ULURP process so that not every project will have to go through the ULURP process. Certain projects that will be arbitrarily determined by the Commission and will no longer be part of the ULURP process. Instead, it will be decided by the Board of Standards and Appeals (BSA) and the City Planning Commission (CPC). Both of those bodies are not elected but are appointed by the mayor's office.

Ballot proposal four is about the creation of an appeals board that consists of the mayor, speaker of the city council and the local borough president where the project is proposed. They would be able to override the entire NYC Council on whether the project continues or not. The creation of the appeals board would be surrendering power away from local communities and handing them to the speaker who could be from any borough, the mayor who has many different interests across the entire city and the borough president who does represent where the project is proposed but still has the entire borough to consider. It will become a political tool between those three leaders as opposed to the council member who is a representative and member of the community. Mr. Yam also provided the flyer that can be read on Page 4 of this Newsletter.

#### **Shubhra Datta – representing Queens Borough President Donovan Richards**

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.

#### **Executive Committee Resolutions:**

**Howard Fried, Executive Committee Member** - He presented a resolution regarding Recognizing the Phrase “Globalize the Intifada” as Antisemitic Incitement. The resolution is against the use of the phrase “Globalize the Intifada” and what it means to the Jewish Community. This resolution passed with 32 members voting in favor and opposed by one member.

**Michael Hannibal, 1st Vice-Chair** - He presented a resolution regarding Anti-Hate for All. The resolution speaks on how we must all come together and that CB8 must stand up against any type of hate regardless if it is antisemitism, racism, islamophobia, homophobia, etc. In addition, CB8 must recommit to this every two years. The resolution passed with 32 members voting in favor and opposed by one member.

#### **Health Minutes with Dr. Penny Stern**

October 22nd is International Stuttering Awareness Day. Since 1998, this day has been observed to raise awareness of a condition that impacts about 1% of the world’s population or 80 million people. Males are much more likely to stutter than females by a ratio of about 4:1. Stuttering is a disorder of communication. Sometimes the word stammering is used interchangeably with stuttering. It means that the normal flow of speech is interrupted. In some people, the stuttering is also accompanied by movements of the face and body that reflect the difficulty a person is having in getting the words out.

The source of stuttering is genetics as evidenced by the fact that other family members also stutter. It can be a component of other language problems as part of developmental problems of some sort of neurophysiologic problem. Stuttering can be treated, thanks to speech therapy. There is no truth to the idea that stuttering bespeaks low intelligence. Today, research continues to more clearly identify the causes of stuttering. Stuttering is prevalent and help can be made available.

# The New York City Council Response to Ballot Proposals

## YOUR POWER COULD BE TAKEN AWAY BY MAYOR ADAMS' MISLEADING BALLOT PROPOSALS

Giving away your community's power to developers will lead to **housing that is less affordable** for our neighborhoods.

### LESS AFFORDABILITY:

**Mayor Adams' Proposals 2 – 4** eliminate New Yorkers' power to fight for more affordable housing in neighborhood development.

### LESS INVESTMENT:

**Mayor Adams' Proposals 2 – 4** weaken communities' power, giving developers and the City even more power to ignore our neighborhood needs.

### MORE GENTRIFICATION:

**Mayor Adams' Proposals 2 – 4** take away the public's power, leaving our communities weaker to fight irresponsible development and gentrification.

## DON'T BE MISLED BY MAYOR ADAMS' SO-CALLED HOUSING PROPOSALS

Mayor Adams' misleading ballot **PROPOSALS 2, 3 + 4** hide that they *take away your power*.

We need more housing, but giving away our power to developers leads to

## LESS AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND MORE GENTRIFICATION

*Early Voting* *Election Day*  
OCT. 25 – NOV. 2 NOVEMBER 4

LEARN MORE AT:

 [whatsonmyballot.nyc](http://whatsonmyballot.nyc) 



New York City Council  
City Hall, New York, NY 10007  
[council.nyc.gov](http://council.nyc.gov)

YOUR  
NEIGHBORHOOD  
IS ON THE  
BALLOT



Do your homes have old pipes? Are you concerned if they are old lead pipes or if they are contaminating your drinking water?

The NYC Department of Environmental Protection has a good tool online if you want to check if you have a lead service line. Please use this link and scroll down to NYC Department of Environmental Protection to access the map tool:

[LeadFreeNYC <https://www.nyc.gov/content/leadfree/pages/>](https://www.nyc.gov/content/leadfree/pages/)

Also for your peace of mind, you can call 311 to request a lead test kit. It will be mailed to your home. Once received, you can take/send a water sample to get the results.

*Info provided by Queens DEP Commissioner Alfonso Lopez*

## MAKE AN APPOINTMENT

November 6<sup>th</sup>

From 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM

To Schedule an appointment  
please call Tania Montesdeoca  
(718) 457-1017 EXT 11 or  
email to:

[TMontesdeoca@nhsofqueens.org](mailto:TMontesdeoca@nhsofqueens.org)



Our NEW address is: 94-33 Corona Ave., Elmhurst, NY 11373

[www.nhsofqueens.org](http://www.nhsofqueens.org)



[info@nhsofqueens.org](mailto:info@nhsofqueens.org)

(718) 457-1017

@nhsofqueens

94-33 Corona Ave., Elmhurst, NY 11373

## Did you know?

When work is planned for a particular area, utility companies and governmental agencies mark the area with different colors indicating what is located below. Here is the meaning of the different colors of the ground markings:

Red	Electric power lines, cables, conduit and lighting cables
Yellow	Gas, oil, steam, petroleum and gaseous materials
Orange	Communications, alarm, signal lines, cables and conduit
Blue	Potable water
Purple	Reclaimed water, irrigation and slurry lines
Green	Sewers and drain lines
Pink	Temporary survey markings
White	Proposed excavation

If you notice these markings and are curious about what is planned, feel free to contact us, your Community Board, to inquire.

In addition, remember that you must call 811 before you dig.



The Queens Chamber of Commerce and Queens Tech Council are seeking applications from tech companies and entrepreneurs interested in complimentary office space as part of the Queens Tech Incubator program. The office space is available at locations in Jamaica (Greater Nexus), Jackson Heights (Bulova Corp Center), Forest Hills, Long Island City and Far Rockaway.

Companies chosen for the program will receive:

- One year of complimentary office space
- Business coaching and support from the SBRN
- Mentorship w/ Tech Council members
- Incubator programming
- Networking events
- Press/Social Media opportunities

Applications are due **November 12th** and will be reviewed by members of the Queens Tech Council and Queens Chamber staff. Interviews for participation will start mid-November with onboarding in December.

## **CANNABIS LICENSE NOTIFICATION (S)**

Adult-use Retail Dispensary Premise License Application:

**Magic Tree Cannabis Corp.**

**Akram Saeidi - President**

168-06 Union Turnpike

Flushing, NY 11366



## **CITY PARKING RULES**

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

**Election Day ..... Tues., Nov. 4th**

**Veteran's Day ..... Tues., Nov. 11th**

**Thanksgiving Day ..... Thurs., November 27th**

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



## LIQUOR LICENSE NOTIFICATION (S)

- **P.G.S. Pizzeria Corp**  
*d/b/a Gabby's Pizza*  
204-23 Hillside Avenue, Hollis  
Renewal - Beer, Wine & Cider License
- **Tienda Vieja Restaurant Corp**  
65-62/65-64 Fresh Meadows Lane, Fresh Meadows  
Renewal - Beer, Wine & Cider License
- **Morley's Tavern Inc**  
*d/b/a Morley's Pub*  
83-18 Parsons Blvd. in Jamaica  
Renewal - Full Liquor License
- **A & Y Café Inc.**  
*d/b/a Café Muscat*  
178-05/178-07 Union Turnpike, Fresh Meadows  
Renewal - Beer, Wine & Cider License
- **Sebalb Corp**  
*d/b/a Alba Pizza & Restaurant*  
138-65 Queens Blvd., Briarwood  
Renewal - Full Liquor License
- **Pollos Cuzco Inc**  
138-13B Queens Blvd., Briarwood  
Renewal - Full Liquor License
- **Regina & Sons Corp**  
*d/b/a Crystal*  
138-31 Queens Blvd., Briarwood  
Renewal - Full Liquor License
- **Shambhu 7902 Inc**  
79-02 Parsons Blvd., Flushing  
**NEW** – Beer & Cider License



*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.*

## CANNABIS/LIQUOR LICENSE Committee Meeting

**Tuesday, November 18, 2025**

**7:30 p.m.**

Please submit written testimony in support or against any new applications by the end of the day on Friday, November 14, 2025.

If you have complaints about illegal cannabis shops, please contact the Office of Cannabis Management (OCM) at:

<https://cannabis.ny.gov/report-an-incident>  
or call **1-888-OCM-5151** (1-888-626-5151).

## DEMOLITION/VACATE NOTICE

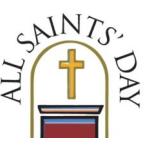
- **78-01 160th Street** [*Full Demolition*]  
Building & Garage
- **69-23 171st Street** [*Construction*]
- **86-87 Palermo Street** [*Excavation & Construction*]





# November 2025

Community Board 8, Queens

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						 1 ALL SAINTS' DAY
 2	3 We're closed! 	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11  We're closed!	12 Board Meeting Public Hearing 7:30 p.m. Hillcrest Jewish Center 183-02 Union Turnpike	13	14	15
16	17 DEP/ Sanitation Cmte. Meeting 7:30 p.m. CB8 Office	18 Cannabis/ Liquor License Cmte. Meeting CB8 Office	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27 	28	29
30 						

*“After a good dinner, one can forgive anybody, even one’s own relations. ”*

- Oscar Wilde