

Community Board #4 Regular Monthly Meeting  
Wednesday, June 18, 2014  
Hope Gardens Multi Service Center  
195 Linden Street (corner of Wilson Avenue)  
Brooklyn, New York 11221  
6:00PM

The Chairperson, Ms. Julie Dent, welcome all in attendance to the Community Board #4's Wednesday, June 18, 2014 monthly board meeting at 6:30PM.

-Public Hearing Items-

NYC Department of Transportation – Office of Research, Implementation and Safety – Myrtle Avenue/Wyckoff Avenue/Palmetto Street - High Pedestrian Crash Location

Existing Conditions:

At this intersection there is a transit hub with access to the M and L subway lines, B13, B26, B52, Q55 and Q58 buses routes, local truck route on Myrtle Avenue with large and heavy truck traffic, heavy pedestrian volumes and poor visibility especially at night.

From 2008 – 2012 there have been 29 injuries at this intersection which includes 15 pedestrian, 14 motor vehicle occupant

From 2008 – 2012 there have been 3 severe pedestrian injuries, and 1 motor vehicle occupant severe injury

From 2008 – 2013 there have been 2 pedestrian fatalities at this location 1 in 2009 and 1 in 2013.

Totaling 5 persons killed or severely injured at this location

A typical intersection with a 2 way street will have 12 vehicle movements; Myrtle/Wyckoff because it has a 3 way street intersection at once has 25 different vehicle movements. In minimizing this intersection DOT hopes to eliminate some of the conflicts that exist there.

New York City DOT will make safety improvements at Myrtle Avenue, Wyckoff Avenue and Palmetto Street these improvements will include:

- Installing five painted curb extensions to shorten crossing distances and align skewed streets
- Installing wide, high – visibility crosswalks at all crossings
- Installing a new crosswalk across Myrtle Avenue east of Wyckoff Avenue to complement pedestrian desire line
- Restricting five low-volume turns to reduce pedestrian – vehicle conflicts and improve intersection operations
- Modifying the signal timing to give pedestrians more time to cross the street

Benefits of Proposal:

- Painted curb extensions shorten crossing distances, tighten intersection, align skewed streets and slow vehicle turns
- New crosswalk across Myrtle Avenue accommodates pedestrian desire line and makes pedestrians crossing under the elevated train more visible
- Turn bans reduce conflicts between pedestrians and vehicles and remove dangerous truck turns from high pedestrian intersection
- Modified signal timing gives pedestrians more time to cross the street
- New street lighting and warning lights help improve visibility under the elevated train and around subway support columns

DOT does not perceive any problems occurring with the surrounding streets, however after the changes are made DOT will keep a watch of the project to make sure that no other issues occur after implementation. The project is scheduled to begin in July 2014.

In January 2014 brighter and better lighting was installed under the elevated train. Flashing yellow lights will also be installed to make them more visible at night.

Questions were entertained (these are the answers):

The DOT is looking at other intersections that have the same or similar problems

The intersection will not have a bicycle lane

Turn bans DO NOT affect MTA bus operations

The taxi stand on Palmetto Street off Wyckoff Avenue near KFC/across from the bus stop is not an official taxi stand and they might need to relocate, this will allow more parking to be available. The New York City Department of Transportation will look into it.

The Chairperson concluded the public agenda and thanked the Department of Transportation for giving their presentation to the Community and board.

The Chairperson, Ms. Julie Dent welcomed all to the June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2014 Brooklyn Community Board #4 Meeting. The Board will be off for summer break during the July and August months. Please remember that the board may be compelled to call an emergency meeting if there is a need. Should that be the case a quorum will be required in order to conduct official business also the meeting must be a public one.

**Roll Call: 6:38PM** 34 members present constituting a quorum.

Ms. Dent asked for the acceptance of the agenda with any necessary corrections. Ms. Mary McClellan moved to accept the agenda as written. It was second by Ms. Martha Brown. All board members present were in favor.

**Chairperson's Report, Ms. Julie Dent: 6:42PM**

Ms. Dent asked that the Elected Officials and /or their representatives to introduce themselves and state their respective address and telephone numbers.

1) Kevin Worthington Representing NYC Councilmember Antonio Reynoso, 244 Union Avenue, 718-963-3141

Representative from City, State or Federal Agencies:

- 1) Deputy Inspector Tasso, 83<sup>rd</sup> Pct. Commanding Officer, 480 Knickerbocker Avenue, 718-574-1697
- 2) Maggie Mangual – Wyckoff Heights Medical Center -Positive Health Management Program, 342 Stanhope Street, Prevention Health Manager, 718-508-4669, [mmangual@wyckoffhospital.org](mailto:mmangual@wyckoffhospital.org)
- 3) Boniface WeWe, Brooklyn Public Library, Washington Irving Branch, 360 Irving Avenue, 718-682-7387

Ms. Dent welcomed the newly appointed board members.

Newly Appointed Board Members:

- Ms. Jewells Chambers
- Ms. Hafeeza Anchrum
- Mr. Kenneth Belkin
- Ms. Sheila Jackson
- Mrs. Evadne George
- Mr. Christopher Graham

Each new board member will receive a set of By-Laws and Committee descriptions which will assist them in the selection of joining the committees of their choice. Board members are asked to pick at least two committees to serve on.

On Wednesday June 25, 2014 a Community Board Swearing-In Ceremony and Community Board Orientation Workshop will take place at Brooklyn Borough Hall at 209 Joralemon Street. This session will be open to all board members however attendance is mandatory for all new members.

The Borough President's Office has produced the list of Community Board members with expiring terms for 2015-2016. Currently the board has 46 members with 4 vacancies within the 37<sup>th</sup> Council District. Anyone interested in joining the board should contact the Brooklyn Borough President's Office at 718-802-3800 and request a Community Board Membership Application.

The NYC Council passed a resolution in support of allowing 16 and 17 years olds to serve on their local community boards. This resolution throws city support behind Albany legislation that would amend the City Charter and Public Officers Law to let teens become full voting members of their boards.

US-EPA Wolff – Alport Chemical Company - Update

The EPA is in the process of securing a contractor to perform remedial investigation and a feasibility study. The purpose for the investigation is to determine the nature and extent of contamination at the sites and the potential risks to humans and wildlife from the site contaminants.

The purpose of a feasibility study is to identify and evaluate the cleanup alternatives.

All questions should be directed to Ms. Cecilia Echols – Community Involvement Coordinator at 212-637-3678 or [echols.cecilia@epa.gov](mailto:echols.cecilia@epa.gov)

L.I.F.E. (Labor and Industry for Education) Audrey Johnson Learning Center, 272 Moffat Street (between Knickerbocker and Wilson Avenues) and the John Coker Early Learn Center, 1375 Bushwick Avenue (corner of Decatur Street) are enrolling children 3 to 5 years of age. Free HEADSTART and U.P.K., Creative Curriculum, Nutritious Meals, Family Services and Certified Teachers, etc. Audrey Johnson Learning Center: 718-574-0130; John Coker Early Learn Center: 718-452-1414

**District Manager’s Report, Ms. Nadine Whitted: 7:03PM**

The Community Board has concluded ten months for this session and the year 2014 is at the half-way point. As noted by the Chairperson Ms. Dent the summer recess is upon us, however the Community Board’s Office will remain open.

The Shape-Up Bushwick 2 event was cancelled due to the rain. The Board thanked all of those who attended and help prepare for the festivities. A special thanks is extended to the Bogopá Food Corporation (Food Bazaar), Wyckoff Heights Medical Center, Kraupner’s Pharmacy and to the 1199 HEP.

Wyckoff Heights Hospital, 1199 HEP and Kraupner’s Pharmacy together donated 600 healthy sandwiches for the event. The Bogopá Food Corporation supplied over \$1,200 which was spent at the Food Bazaar store on fresh fruit, water, healthy snacks for over 300 residents.

Ms. Whitted thanked all of the board members as well as the Civic and Religious Committee and the Health, Hospital & Human Services Committee for the time and effort and encouragement that they did to make the day a success.

We wish to thank all of the community partners who were on track to join in on the second Shape-Up Bushwick Event. The health and wellness of the total community is something that the board takes seriously. Our effort to promote good health runs from health nutritious snacks to instruction youngsters how to stay safe should a fire occur in the home. Health and wellness takes on many forms and together with the following community partners we were prepared for an awesome day. Next year’s event will have a rain-day destination.

A special thanks to the Explores and the 83<sup>rd</sup> Precinct because whenever we call them they are there.

Community Partners:

Positive Health Management – Wyckoff Heights Medical Center  
Audrey Johnson Learning Center  
NYC Commission on Human Rights  
Office of Early Childhood  
NY Grenadiers Cadets Corp.  
FDNY  
Educated Little Monsters  
NYC Department of Aging  
Kreative Kare Day Care Center, Inc.  
NYPD  
BMCI/Bushwick Community Partnership  
H.R.A.  
AVON, Inc.  
The Salvation Army  
ITAN (It Takes A Neighborhood)  
Metro Plus  
Wyckoff Heights Hospital

IMPACT@ Grand Street Settlement  
Diana H. Jones Neighborhood Senior Center  
Brooklyn Botanic Gardens  
DA Kenneth P. Thompson  
Ridgewood Bushwick Senior Citizen Council Inc.  
El Puente  
AmeriPlan USA  
Woodhull Medical Center  
Weill Cornell Medical College  
Walgreens  
Brooklyn Public Library  
CERT  
Office of the NYS Comptroller  
Public Health Solutions  
Youth & Young Adult Empowerment  
Health First  
Board of Education

The Public Safety Committee will host a meeting to review NYS Liquor Authority requests that was recently received. Please allow the committee to submit recommendations to the state on behalf of Community Board #4 in this instance; otherwise these recommendations cannot be rendered until after the September 2014 meeting of Community Board #4.

A letter will be sent to the district's elected officials with respects to the moratorium on the expansion of new SLA requests in the district. The letter will request that the Elected Officials work with the Community Board so that a feasible plan can be developed to halt the influx of bars and restaurant with liquor licenses request in the residential districts in the community. Being that most if not all of the commercial/industrial space in the district have been sold up, there have been an increase of applications requesting a restaurant/bar license in the residential district of the community.

The City of New York and the Taxi and Limousine Commission (TLC) is pleased to announce that in August 2014 a second issuance of 6,000 new Street Hail Livery permits will be available for purchase to qualified TLC licensees. The second year of the Street Hail Livery program follows a successful first round in which all 6,000 of the permits authorized were sold and over 5,200 Green Boro-Taxis are now on the road in New York City.

Street Hail Livery Permits allow livery cab drivers and owners to provide street hail service to hailing passengers in Northern Manhattan, Brooklyn, Queens, Staten Island and the Bronx. Street Hail Livery cabs are not permitted to do street hail in Manhattan below East 96<sup>th</sup> Street and West 100<sup>th</sup> Street or at the airports. Boro Taxis can accept passengers that hail from the street and prearranged taxi request from their affiliated base. Furthermore, Boro Taxis have features similar to yellow taxicabs, which include meters, credit card readers, GPS locators and distinguished vehicle markings. Participation from for-hire vehicle operators is completely voluntary. If a car service wishes to continue performing only prearranged service, it can do so. Car services that are interested in affiliated Boro Taxi vehicles need to apply for a separated license. For more information or questions visit the TLC's website at [www.nyc.gov/tlc](http://www.nyc.gov/tlc) Email: [TLCEXTERNALAFFAIRS@TLC.NYC.GOV](mailto:TLCEXTERNALAFFAIRS@TLC.NYC.GOV) or by phone at 212-676-1137

Kings County District Attorney - Kenneth P. Thompson – Immigration Fraud Unit: Created to assist, educate and protect people against fraud as there are individuals and businesses that prey upon immigrants to defraud and exploit. Immigrant Fraud Unit Helpline: 718-250-3333, Email: [IFU@BrooklynDA.org](mailto:IFU@BrooklynDA.org) or visit the DA's office at: 350 Jay Street, 16<sup>th</sup> Floor, Brooklyn, NY 11201. Walk-ins are welcome from 9AM to 4PM, Monday – Friday. To submit an online COMPLAINT FORM and for more information visit [www.BrooklynDA.org](http://www.BrooklynDA.org)

The DA's office will hold a forum so that young people can understand how the system works, either for them or against them. The forum may take place in September 2014.

Ms. Whitted wished all a happy and safe summer vacation and she will see everyone back in September 2014.

**Old Business: 7:20PM**

Mr. V. Villamar: Thanked the 83<sup>rd</sup> Police Dept. for doing such a nice job in noise pollution control in the residential area. He also thanked the 83<sup>rd</sup> Pct. for taking care of the oil that is spilled in the street by people working on cars.

Mr. Robert Camacho thanked the Chairperson of the of the Public Safety Committee, Ms. Barbara Smith for her and the committee's hard work as they work along with the 83<sup>rd</sup> Pct. The 83<sup>rd</sup> Community Council Meeting is held every third Tuesday of the month at the 83<sup>rd</sup> Precinct.

**Announcements: 7:25PM**

Community Board Orientation Workshop: Brooklyn Borough Presidents Eric L. Adams invites you to a Swearing-In Ceremony and Community Board Orientation Workshop for Brooklyn Community Board Members at Brooklyn Borough Hall, 209 Joralemon Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201, Wednesday, June 25, 2014  
Attendance at the workshop is required for new members

New York City Council Member Antonio Reynoso will host a Mobile Office:  
Are you having problems getting through to a city agency? Do you need assistance getting repairs in your apartment or building? Our Constituent Services are here to help at our Mobile Office! At St. Joseph's Church, 1080 Willoughby Avenue, Sunday, June 22, 2014 at 2PM.

Ms. Summer Rayne Oakes: Good Eggs delivers 100% to local groceries. Order online from the best local farmers & food Makers and your groceries will be picked and prepped to order. Your groceries can be delivered to your door or they can be picked up for free at convenient Brooklyn locations. For more information log on to [www.Goodeggs.com](http://www.Goodeggs.com)

Follow the 83<sup>rd</sup> Precinct on Twitter!

To create an account: Go to <http://twitter.com> and find the sign up box or go directly to <https://twitter.com/signup>

Enter your full name, email address and a password

Click Sign up for Twitter

On the next page, you can select a username (usernames

Debra Medina: Fighting for tenants' rights! Running for the 18<sup>th</sup> District Senate

Brandon Zwagerman: Silent Barn & Medium Rare Present Subterraneo 18 a series of alt-Latin music from Brooklyn  
July 10<sup>th</sup> – Guarco, Salt Cathedral

August 14<sup>th</sup> – Bauscabulla, Helado Negro

603 Bushwick Avenue, 8PM, \$8, all ages are welcomed

Andrew McFarland: Make Music New York's Block Party, Saturday, June 21<sup>st</sup> at 11am to 7pm, located at Stanwix Street and Jefferson Street.

There will be two stages of Live Music, family friendly games, activities and arts and crafts.

Ms. Lucia Mattox: Achievement First Charter School: Enroll at AF North Brooklyn Prep Elementary

Now enrolling students for first grade classes for 2014-15

AF Core Values – **R**espect, **E**nthusiasm, **A**chievement, **C**itizenship, and **H**ard Work

Parent Orientation: Tuesday, June 10<sup>th</sup> at 5:45-8pm, 200 Woodbine Street between Central & Wilson Avenues

For more information call 347-471-2690 or email: [NorthBrooklynPrep@achievementfirst.org](mailto:NorthBrooklynPrep@achievementfirst.org) to learn how to enroll

St. Nicks Alliance: Do you want to get a work permit? Do you want to learn English or get your HSE? Register for the upcoming semester ongoing enrollment.

Prepare for the High School Equivalency Diploma

Suitable programs while working or raising a family

Master the English Language

Service available to ALL IMMIGRANTS

16-31 age groups

FREE or Low – cost English or HSE classes

All consultations are confidential! Day or Evening hours to accommodate your schedule! Call to schedule an appointment or for more information: 718-302-2057 ext. 203, 790 Broadway, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Brooklyn, NY 11206,

[www.stnicksalliance.org](http://www.stnicksalliance.org) Fax# 347-381-3208

CAMBA'S Night at the Ballpark

Join CAMBA for a feel-good double play: Helping New Yorkers in need and watching Brooklyn's best baseball.

Thursday, July 24, 2014 at 7PM, MCU Park, 1904 Surf Avenue, Brooklyn

Purchase tickets online at [CAMBA.org/Cyclones](http://CAMBA.org/Cyclones), for more information contact Claudia Dymond: 718-287-2600 ext. 20321 or at [claudiad@camba.org](mailto:claudiad@camba.org)

CAMBA in Community District 4:

1) Broadway House Women's Shelter: Working in partnership with NYC Dept. of Homeless Services, CAMBA provides temporary emergency housing in a safe and supportive environment for over 165 adult single women who experience psychiatric illness, substance abuse and other challenges.

2) 880 Willoughby: CAMBA provides permanent and affordable housing and support services for 99 formerly homeless and low-income working individuals.

For more information contact Caitlyn Brazill at 718-287-2600 x 20305 or email: [caitynb@camba.org](mailto:caitynb@camba.org)

Learn more at [www.CAMBA.org](http://www.CAMBA.org)

CAMBA Provides FREE legal services to low-income and working poor residents of Brooklyn and Staten Island  
Consumer Law, Domestic Violence, Foreclosure Prevention, Housing and Immigration

Learn more at [www.CAMBA.org](http://www.CAMBA.org)

National Night Out Against Crime: Come join the 83<sup>rd</sup> Precinct and your neighbors to help build a stronger and safer community.

When: Tuesday, August 5<sup>th</sup> 2014 at 5:30pm-9:30pm. Location: Maria Hernandez Park (Knickerbocker Ave. and Suydam Street) There will FREE BBQ, Giveaways, Cellphone & Bicycle Registration

For more information contact the 83<sup>rd</sup> Precinct Community Affairs Office at 718-574-1697

Patrol Borough Brooklyn North Harmony Day Picnic: Come join us for good fun and games, Thursday, July 10, 2014 at 11am to 3pm. Location: Herbert Von King Park, 670 Lafayette Avenue, between Tompkins & Marcy (confines of the 79<sup>th</sup> Precinct)

Ridgewood Bushwick Respite Center (RRSCC): The Center is designed to assist families of the elderly in maintaining their loved ones at home by providing Caregivers with temporary relief from their 24 hour responsibilities. Eligible clients must be age 60 and over and under the care of a medical doctor.

The program offers the following services:

Social Adult Day Care – available Monday – Friday from either 9AM to 4PM or 10AM to 5PM.

Overnight Care – is available from one night up to two or three weeks at a time, as scheduling allows.

1175 Gates Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11221 for more information call 718-443-1903, Fax# 718-443-1926

REWARD up to \$1,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of persons possessing or distributing fireworks. Fireworks are illegal: The New York City Police Department urges you to celebrate safely on July 4<sup>th</sup>. If you use fireworks, you or someone else can get seriously hurt. If you have fireworks you can be ARRESTED, your car can be confiscated or your business can be closed.

Concerned citizens can anonymously report the delivery, sale or storage of fireworks. Call 311 to provide information / call 911 for crimes in progress

Keighbay Kotee the founder and director of the Bushwick Film Festival: 7-10 seats are available for High School Students that are interested in the Arts and filmmaking. The summer youth program will start on July 7<sup>th</sup> and end on August 3<sup>rd</sup>. Training is free and the use of the equipment is free.

Evelyn Cruz representing Congresswoman Nydia Velazquez:

Two weeks ago there was a voting on Appropriation Bill: The bill will affect housing/transportation and education.

Because of the Budget Control Act there will be more funding cuts and this will impact Bushwick and other Districts.

\$100 million will be cut from the Housing Capital Funds for public housing

\$40 million will be cut from Led Paint Hazardous Reduction Program

\$27 million will be slashed from a program that helps people living with AIDs

\$300 million will be cut from the Home Investment Partnership Grant

The Republicans are leading Congress in Washington and they are leaning more to the right and less towards urban communities.

Congresswoman Velazquez is looking to see how she can increase funding because as poverty increases, less people will be working, resulting in less jobs which will cause more stress on families and this will impact families and children.

Evelyn Cruz also presented two Congressional Certificates to two board members:

Certificate of Special Recognition for Outstanding and Valuable Service: 1) Ms. Mary McClellan 2) Ms. Elvena Davis.

She thanked them for their hard work on the Shape-Up Bushwick Parade and she thanked them for their public service to the community.

Debra Medina was born and raised on the south side of Williamsburg. Ms. Medina has been an organizer for 28 years, fighting for tenants' rights. She is now running for the 18<sup>th</sup> District Senate.

Kevin Worthington representing Councilman Antonio Reynoso: Rezoning of Bushwick

Workshops are being scheduled; those who are interested in signing up for the workshop were asked to see Mr. Worthington.

Corwin Carroll: Be careful with SCAM mail!!! Make sure that your junk mail does not have your personal information on it when you throw it out. Make sure that your information is shredded or destroyed so that your information does not reach the wrong hands.

Mr. Carroll asked that everyone support weekend and door to door mail delivery.

Ms. Dent thanked the Hope Gardens Multi Service Center for allowing Community Board #4 host their meetings at their facility. Have a safe and happy summer!!!

**2<sup>nd</sup> Roll Call:** Meeting adjourned 8:00PM