



COMMUNITY BOARD 2 NEWSLETTER

March 2021



DISTRICT OFFICE:

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OFFICERS:

Chairperson:	Lisa Deller
First Vice Chair:	Sheila Lewandowski
Second Vice Chair:	Dr. Rosamond Gianutsos
Treasurer:	Frank Wu
Secretary:	Nicholas Berkowitz

Website Address: www.nyc.gov/queenscb2

“Like” us on Facebook at Queens Community Board 2

CB2 OFFICE

Debra Markell Kleinert, District Manager
MaryAnn Gurrado
Joan Bergman
Kim Waber

COMMITTEE STRUCTURE & CHAIRPERSON

Arts & Cultural Affairs – Kenny Greenberg, Karesia Batan
City Services/Public Safety – Patrick O’Brien
Environment – Dorothy Morehead
Health & Human Servs. & Education – Taina McShane
Land Use – Lisa Deller, Christine Hunter
Transportation – Sheila Lewandowski, Tom Mituzas

STREET CLEANING RULES WILL BE SUSPENDED ON:

The City suspends alternate side parking (ASP) regulations, for both street cleaning purposes and traffic flow, on these legal and/or religious holidays in **March 2021**. **Non-metered residential side streets that have multiple ASP days will be cleaned – with vehicles required to be moved- only on the latest day in the week on each side, until further notice.** Accordingly, parking meters will not be in effect on major legal holidays*.

Passover (1st/2nd Days) – Sun-Mon March 28-29

NEXT BOARD MEETING

Thursday, March 4th, 2021

PLEASE NOTE MEETING INFORMATION

This meeting will be taking place via zoom teleconference. Please check the website for details.

Time: 6:30 pm

***BOARD MEMBERS WHO ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND THIS MEETING, PLEASE NOTIFY THE COMMUNITY BOARD 2 OFFICE.**

“Serving the Communities of Long Island City, Sunnyside, Woodside and Maspeth”

CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS BY AREA

Long Island City – Diane Ballek, Warren Davis, Sally Frank, William Garrett, Kenneth Greenberg, Benjamin Guttmann, Sheila Lewandowski, Jordan Levine, Thomas Mituzas, Patrick O'Brien, Elliot Park, Mary Torres, Rebecca Trent, Adrienne Verrilli, Julie Jaehee Won, Frank Wu

Sunnyside – Amparo Abel-Bey, Anatole Ashraf, Diane Ballek, Thalia Batan, Nicholas Berkowitz, Sandra Bigitschke, Tannia Chavez, Osman Chowdhury, Stephen Cooper, Jake DeGroot, Lisa Deller, Christine Hunter, Badrun N. Khan, Dominick Lippolis, Kristen McGowan, Taina McShane, Dorothy Morehead, Patrick Murray, Clara Oza, Bianca Ozeri, Regina Shanley, Lauren Springer

Woodside - Czarinna Andres, Bessie Cassaro, Morry Galonoy, Dr. Rosamond Gianutsos, Mohammed Z. Choudhury Jewel, Steven Raga, Norberto Saldana, Anthony Tudela

Maspeth – John Vaichunas

NYC Test & Trace Corps

Don't Wait. Separate.

COVID-19 CAN SPREAD QUICKLY AMONG PEOPLE WHO LIVE TOGETHER.

If you feel sick or think you've been exposed, the best way to protect your family or roommates is to immediately separate.

The NYC Test & Trace Corps Take Care Program can connect you to:

A free & safe hotel room for just you or your entire family with free meals, free round-trip transportation to and from the hotel, on-site clinical monitoring and more.

If you can't get to a hotel? The Take Care Program can connect you to resources to safely quarantine at home like food and paid sick leave.

For Free Help: Call the Test and Trace Corps hotline at 212-COVID19 or visit www.nyc.gov/takecare

All New Yorkers are eligible regardless of Immigration Status.

Get Tested: Find a testing site at www.nyc.gov/covidtest

We're all in this together !



A Word from the District Manager ...

Navigating all the vaccine phone numbers and website is confusing with the City, State, and Federal governments all operating with different tools. Below is some helpful information:

Vaccine Finder: www.vaccinefinder.nyc.gov

For New Yorkers to find their nearest vaccination location

City Sites

Phone Number: 877-VAX-4NYC (877-829-4692)

Website: www.vax4nyc.nyc.gov

State Sites

Phone Number: 1-833-697-4829

Website: <https://am-i-eligible.covid19vaccine.health.ny.gov/>

York College Site (FEMA & State)

Eligible residents in these ZIP codes can book today: 11436, 11434, 11433, 11419, 11413, 11412, 11422, 11429, 11420, 11411, 11418, 11435, 11428, 11423, 11432, 11427, 11439, 11691, 11692, 11693

Phone Number: 1-833-967-4829

Website: <https://am-i-eligible/.covid19vaccine.health.ny.gov/>

Please continue to submit flyers and notices via E-mail to the Community Board 2 office at qn02@cb.nyc.gov or call (718) 533-8773.

Look for our future Newsletters on-line at www.nyc.gov/queenscb2

As we move forward through this COVID-19 pandemic, everyone stay safe and healthy. Visit www.nyc.gov/health/coronavirus for more information. **We have added a COVID-19 (Coronavirus) section on the current projects tab.**

*Sincerely,
Debra Markell Kleinert
District Manager*

Con Edison

Report leaks anonymously. www.coned.com/gassafety

NYC Emergency Management

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)

New York City's Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) are groups of community based volunteers who undergo an intensive basic training program that provides basic response skills. You must be 18 years or older and live or work in NYC. For more information and to contact CERT visit www.nyc.gov/CERT

Queens Public Library

Queens Public Library currently offers the service of Remote Printing. Files can be uploaded and the printouts can be picked up at any QPL branch that offers to-go service. You can print up to 20 black and white pages per day. Allow two days for your printing to be available. Files can be uploaded using Word, PDF or other commonly used file types. Visit <http://queenslibrary.org> for more information

NYC Department of Sanitation

Electronic Recycling Events are Back !!

Tossing out electronics is bad for the environment and illegal. To increase options for residents looking to dispose of their e-waste, the NYC Department of Sanitation is offering special collections in partnership with the company ERI. If you are able to provide indoor storage space for recycle NYC bins, the NYC Department of Sanitation can help coordinate a pre-scheduled drop off event for residents to safely recycle electronics. Certain requirements apply - complete the form at www.on.nyc.gov/eventrequest

NYC Parks

Shape Up NYC is launching new outdoor walking groups in Queens. The walks are limited to 10 participants at a time, and face coverings and social distancing are required. Please visit their website for all the information. <https://www.nycgovparks.org/reg/shape-up-nyc>

NYS Homes and Community Renewal

Applications for COVID Rent Relief Program are available online at <https://hcr.ny.gov/RRP>

Previous applications do not have to reapply to receive consideration. NYS Homes and Community Renewal (HCR) announced the COVID Rent Relief Program will be reopened for application with expanded eligibility criteria in an effort to serve New Yorkers who may have not had the opportunity to initially apply and those who may have been previously ineligible. Applications will be accepted through Monday, February 1, 2021. Residents who need help or have questions about their application can contact HCR's COVID Rent Relief Program Call center for assistance at 1-833-499-0318 or email covidrentrelief@hcr.ny.gov

EMPLOYMENT

Home Depot – A new Home Depot located at 59-15 Maurice Avenue is currently hiring. www.QNS.com says they intend to employ 245 associates, positions that can be applied for at www.careers.homedepot.com
<https://qns.com/2021/01/home-depot-open-new-store-in-maspeth/>

Health and Hospitals hiring 500 non-clerical staff to help with patient transport, clerical work and cleaning. No medical background is required and hiring will be expanded to thousands soon. Please visit www.nyc.gov/getwork for more information and to apply.

SERVICES

SUNNYSIDE COMMUNITY SERVICES - Find out more about all our programs at <http://www.scsny.org> or call 718-784-6173.

HANAC – Western Queens Caregivers Network – Are you caring for a parent, spouse, or friend with Alzheimer's, dementia or another chronic illness? Weekly caregivers support group, counseling sessions, information and referrals. For further information call (718) 728-3586 Exts. 5048 / 5031

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Sunnyside Community Services - They may need volunteers for food distribution and packaging of Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) for their home care workers. If interested an inquiry can be sent to : volunteering@scsny.org and /or call 718-784-6173

Department of Consumer Affairs

As you are aware, the City is currently responding to COVID-19; we want to make sure that you are provided with the most up-to-date information.

All the latest guidance from face masks to how to properly document your eligibility for NYS Emergency Paid Sick Leave can be found here: <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/covid/covid-19-main.page>

COVID-19 Vaccine, Testing and Health Insurance Information:

The COVID-19 vaccine is now available to certain groups in NYC. To find out more information, please visit: <https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/doh/downloads/pdf/covid/covid-19-vaccines-faq.pdf>

The City is continuing to expand capacity for COVID-19 testing. For more information, please visit <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/coronavirus/get-tested/covid-19-testing.page>

NYC Care: NYC Care is a health care access program for people who are not eligible for or cannot afford health insurance. It is now available in every borough. To learn more, visit nyccare.nyc

NYC Department of Consumer and Worker Protection:

Get DCWP Alerts and Information During COVID-19 Crisis: For the latest information to all of our COVID-19 resources listed below and in additional languages, please visit: nyc.gov/DCWPAAlerts

Workplace Laws: NYC workplace laws are still in effect. There have been new amendments to the NYC Paid Safe and Sick Leave Law that will take effect in 2 Phases. Learn more about employee rights and employer responsibilities here: <https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/dca/downloads/pdf/workers/Complying-with-NYC-Workplace-Laws-During-COVID-19.pdf>

Returning to Work During COVID-19: Important Information for Domestic Workers and Their Employers: <https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/dca/downloads/pdf/workers/ReturntoWork-Information-for-Domestic-Workers-and-Employers.pdf>

Learn more about important guidelines and resources available to workers under Phase 1, 2, 3 and 4 of the reopening: www.nyc.gov/workers

NYC Financial Empowerment Centers: Our professional financial counselors can help New Yorkers manage their bills and credit amidst the coronavirus crisis, understand student loan repayment options, and more in a confidential setting. For the health and safety of our providers and clients, most Financial Counseling sessions will be conducted over the phone. Book an appointment at www.nyc.gov/talkmoney

NYC Free Tax Prep: The tax filing season will begin on February 12. The deadline to file a 2020 tax return is April 15, 2021. If you are required to file a return, NYC Free Tax Prep can assist you, if you meet income requirements.

We urge eligible New Yorkers to use NYC Free Tax Prep services including, In-person Tax Prep, Drop-off Service, Virtual Tax Prep, and Assisted Self-Prep to file taxes for FREE.

Filers will need access to a computer, tablet, or smartphone and a stable internet connection for virtual free tax prep services. Learn more: www.nyc.gov/taxprep

Have a Student Loan? Has your income or family size changed?: Important information about payments and resources can be found at www.nyc.gov/studentloans where you can learn about Income-Driven Repayment (IDR) plans that can lower your monthly payments. Book an appointment for free financial counseling to www.nyc.gov/talkmoney

Debt Collection: DCWP has created a letter template that you can fill out and mail (required by federal law) so debt collectors can't contact you until the State of Emergency in New York City has ended. More information found at <https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/dca/downloads/pdf/consumers/DCA-Template-Cease-Debt-Collection-Communication-Letter-for-Consumers.pdf>

Price Gouging: Please be advised that effective June 26, 2020, DCWP has issued a permanent rule that makes price gouging illegal for any products or services essential to health, safety, and welfare during a declared state of emergency. Learn more: <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/dca/media/Face-Masks-in-Short-Supply-Due-to-COVID-19.page>

COVID-19 Scams and Safety Tips: Important Information that describes common COVID-19-related scams and tips to stay safe. <https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/dca/downloads/pdf/consumers/COVID-19-Scams-and-Safety-Tips-English.pdf>

Questions about Funeral Planning During COVID-19?: Important Information for New Yorkers who have lost loved ones can be found here: <https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/dca/downloads/pdf/consumers/Funeral-Planning-During-COVID-19-English.pdf>

NYC Human Resources Administration:

Cash Assistance: You may be eligible for an emergency cash grant if it will meet certain special needs. For more information call HRA's Infoline at 718-557-1399 or please visit: <https://a069-access.nyc.gov/accesshra/>

Funeral and Burial Guidance and Assistance: HRA will provide financial assistance to individuals who need assistance to meet qualifying funeral expenses. For more information, visit: <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/hra/help/burial-assistance.page>

Food Resources:

The City has created the GetFoodNYC Emergency Home Food delivery program to provide food for coronavirus (COVID-19)-vulnerable and food-insecure New Yorkers not currently served through existing food delivery programs. Find out more information [here](#).

Taxi and Limousine Commission:

TLC licensees can take advantage of the Driver Resource Center, which provides financial counseling and legal services and other useful free City resources such as health care insurance, mental health resources and more. <https://portal.driverresourcecenter.tlc.nyc.gov/>

Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs:

Public Charge: In New York City, healthcare is a human right. Use of health services related to COVID-19 will not be considered under the public charge rule and will not impact your ability to apply for a green card or citizenship. For more information visit: nyc.gov/publiccharge

Resources for Immigrant Communities During COVID-19:

Many city services are available to all New Yorkers no matter what your immigration status is and regardless of your ability to pay. View the Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs' (MOIA) resource guide for immigrant communities at nyc.gov/immigrants/coronavirus. Downloadable PDF translations of this resource guide are available online in multiple languages.

If you have questions about immigration or how to access City services during the #COVID19 crisis, call our hotline at 212-788-7654 from 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday or email to AskMOIA@cityhall.nyc.gov

NYC Commission on Human Rights:

NYC Human Rights Law: Harassment and discrimination based on race, national origin, age, and disability (including having COVID-19 or another serious illness) is illegal. If you have faced harassment or discrimination in housing, at work, or in any public place, contact the Commission by filling out our online form or by calling 311 and asking for "human rights." Please visit: www.nyc.gov/cchr

NYC Department of Education:

The NYC DOE will be offering childcare to eligible families through their Learning Bridges program—learn more here: <https://www.schools.nyc.gov/enrollment/enrollment-help/learning-bridges>

Mayor's Office to Protect Tenants:

Tenant Resource Portal: New York City's first-ever online Tenant Resource Portal created to help residential renter's access free public and private resources to help prevent evictions and keep tenants stably housed. Visit our portal: <https://www1.nyc.gov/content/tenantresourceportal/pages/>

Tenant Helpline: New York residential renters can receive legal advice, counseling, and access to other relevant resources based on their specific needs. Tenants can reach the Helpline by calling 311 and asking for the "Tenant Helpline". Tenants can also reach out by filling out our Contact Us form on our website to be connected with a specialist. <https://www1.nyc.gov/content/tenantprotection/pages/contact-us>

NYC Campaign Finance Board:

Information on the new Ranked-choice voting is coming to NYC on February 2, 2021. For more information, please visit <http://www.nyccfb.info/nyc-votes/ranked-choice-voting/>