



The City of New York
BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD #1

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Serving and Representing: Port Morris, Mott Haven and Melrose



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DISTRICT MANAGER

Environmental Justice & Sanitation

May 15th, 2024

Cesar Yoc, Committee Chairperson

DRAFT

Waterfront development in the South Bronx.

- Matthew Shore from South Bronx Unite presents on waterfront primary.
- Community organizer focuses on green space equity and land trust in the South Bronx.

Community waterfront plan in the Bronx, NY.

- Matthew Shore advocates for holistic health education and green spaces in a neighborhood.
- Community members advocate for green spaces in the Bronx, citing inequity in access to healthy areas.
- Matthew Shore highlights community waterfront plan prioritized by State DEC in 2014.

Activating waterfront plan in Mott Haven, NYC.

- Advocating for \$20 million grant to fund environmental justice project in NYC waterfront plan.
- Matthew Shore describes the East 132nd Street Pier as a former community gathering spot with a beautiful view that was damaged in an explosion in the 80s.
- The pier is still accessible through holes in the fence, despite being abandoned and in disrepair, with community members continuing to use and enjoy the space.

Community engagement for waterfront revitalization.

- Community members share feedback on accessibility challenges at two potential waterfront sites.
- Community members share ideas for green spaces and transportation at neighborhood meetings.
- Event at waterfront honors community activism for accessible space.

Flood risk management and green infrastructure in the South Bronx.

- Matthew Shore invites listeners to join a local action committee and upcoming event focused on green space equity.
- Member Argelia Ortiz asks about ecological resurfacing in a flood zone.
- Matthew Shore seeks nature-based solutions for flooding, including interconnected green spaces.

Community waterfront plan and engagement with local institutions.

- Committee Chair Cesar Yoc inquires about the experiences and lessons learned from previous projects, particularly the Haven project, which faced issues with funding and community engagement.
- Matthew Shore discusses the evolution of the Haven plan and its potential activation with DLT funding.
- Committee members discuss engaging local institutions for waterfront development project.

Environmental justice issues in the South Bronx, including waterfront access and charter schools.

- District Manager Anthony Jordan highlights environmental injustices in the South Bronx, including pollution and industrial waste.
- District Manager Anthony Jordan and Matthew Shore are willing to partner with each other to host Action Committee meetings at the Community Board Office.

Waterfront revitalization in the Bronx, NYC.

- Member Ngande Ambroise and Speaker 3 discuss the importance of partnerships with elected officials and agencies for their environmental justice work.
- They explore potential partnerships with the EP, EDC, and NYC Mayor's Office of Climate and Environmental Justice.
- Matthew Shore highlights EDC's support for grassroots environmental justice projects.
- Matthew Shore mentions Clason Point and Soundview Park as beautiful waterfront areas in the Bronx.
- Matthew Shore's technical assistance team will outline design possibilities based on community feedback and funding availability.

Using federal funds for NYC waterfront projects, community involvement in planning.

- District Manager Anthony Jordan and Matthew Shore discuss the \$20 million grant for the Bronx River project, with a tight timeline for spending and activation.
- Community groups oppose Army Corps' flooding solutions, advocate for nature-based solutions and equitable access to waterfront.

Activating waterfront areas, including gantries location.

- Tara Deegan from the Department of Environmental Protection mentions starting a new coastal bureau and EP two, hoping it will improve collaboration.
- Committee Chair Cesar Yoc discusses activating the gantries area in the waterfront plan with Serrano's support.

Lead service line replacement program in NYC.

- Tara Deegan discusses NYC's lead service line replacement program, clarifying ownership and maintenance responsibilities.
- Tara Deegan explains lead service lines in homes, encouraging replacement to prevent lead poisoning.
- City offers free lead service line replacement program, with \$24 million in grants and low-interest loans.

Lead service line replacement program in NYC.

- Homeowners in Bronx eligible for lead pipe replacement program.
- Ngande Ambroise explains New York City's lead service line replacement program to homeowners.
- Homeowners will have copper line installed instead of lead service line during replacement process.
- Tara Deegan explains the water main replacement program, encouraging homeowners to have an inspection to avoid disruptive work.
- Contractors will assess basements for obstructions, and homeowners can opt out if they don't want to replace service lines.

Lead service line replacement program for NYC homes.

- Tara Deegan provides information on lead service lines and offers a free test kit for residents.
- Member Argelia Ortiz raises concern about cost of insurance service and lead service line repairs.
- Tara Deegan suggests holding a public meeting to educate the community about the water pipe replacement program.
- Member Ngande Ambroise expresses concern about the legitimacy of letters from DEP regarding the program.

Lead service line replacement in NYC, addressing concerns and updating records.

- The group narrowed down the list of houses to be renovated based on geographic areas, including environmental justice communities and the location of highly concentrated lead service lines.

- The plumbers update the TAP card for each service line they pull permits for, but the database is not yet comprehensive, with some lines still unknown or made of subpar materials.
- Tara Deegan explains how the city is updating its records of unknown materials in construction projects, with the goal of providing accurate information to homeowners.
- DEP hopes to complete the project in June, with media outreach and word of mouth helping to spread the word.

Water line replacement and translation services.

- Tara Deegan discusses the city's efforts to provide translation services for residents, including digitizing letters and providing postcards with QR codes for eligibility information.
- Tara Deegan explains that legally, the property owner must sign off on outreach efforts to renters but encourages renters to advocate for their landlords to participate.
- A member from the audience asked if homeowners are included in the search for property or business owners, and Tara Deegan explains that whoever owns the property will receive the letters and sign off.
- Tara Deegan explains that contractors have legal obligations and DEP will do a final inspection to ensure quality work, and that it's in their best interest to complete the work quickly and efficiently.

Sanitation issues in a NYC neighborhood.

- Herman Francis Jr. discusses issues with the Cross Bronx Expressway and its impact on the community.
- Herman Francis Jr. discusses sanitation issues in the community, including trash and garbage.
- District Manager Anthony Jordan and Committee Chair Cesar Yoc propose holistic approach to addressing sanitation issues, including education and hotspot identification.

Sanitation issues in New York City, including illegal dumping and bottle buyback programs.

- District Manager Anthony Jordan emphasizes the importance of cleanliness and mental health in the community, citing the need for accountability and results from local agencies.
- Member Argelia Ortiz expresses skepticism about the effectiveness of bottle buyback programs in removing waste from the environment.
- Observers note people prioritizing redeemable bottles over proper trash disposal, causing environmental issues.

Addressing needle dumping in parks and HIV cases in the community.

- Member Dalourny Nemorin discusses needle exchange program in St. Mary's Park, citing controversy and HIV cases.
- District Manager Anthony Jordan mentions 1800 needles picked up in St. Mary's Park, highlighting issue of open drug use and hazardous conditions.
- Discussion on systemic issues in society and their impact on individuals.

Personal responsibility and community involvement in cleaning up neighborhoods.

- Member Ngande Ambroise emphasizes the importance of taking action to address systemic issues, rather than just pointing fingers.
- Member Ngande Ambroise and Herman Francis Jr. discuss the importance of education in personal growth and societal change.

Cleanliness and responsibility in different neighborhoods.

- Member Dalourny Nemorin and Elijah describe the downtown area as having more private cleaning services than public housing and shelters.
- They argue that the comparison between downtown and other neighborhoods is unfair due to systemic issues and underserved communities.
- Member Ngande Ambroise explains that people not picking up after their dogs is a systemic problem in the area, not just an individual issue.
- Committee Vice Chair Elijah Rodriguez notes that there are few garbage cans in his neighborhood, leading to litter and dog waste on the streets.

Action Items

- South Bronx Unite to launch an online survey to gain further community feedback on waterfront activation plans
- Community Board 1 to host meetings of South Bronx Unite's local action committee and help spread information about the lead service line replacement program
- DEP to provide the community board with a list of addresses eligible for the lead service line replacement program
- Community members encouraged to contact DEP or attend a public meeting if they have any questions about the lead service line replacement program