

*The City of New York*  
**Bronx Community Board Four**  
**General Board Meeting**  
**Tuesday, February 22, 2022 | 6 pm**  
**Online Via Zoon Platform/ [Bronx Community Board 4 \(nyc.gov\)](https://www.nyc.gov/bronx-community-board-4)**  
**MR. ROBERT GARMENDIZ, BOARD CHAIR, PRESIDING**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Ms. Rasheida Alston, Ms. Jacqueline Altamirano Marin, Ms. Beverly Bond, Mr. Kweku Brew Mr. Jason Caraballo, Mrs. Rossmery Dais, Mr. Michael Durant, Mr. Spencer Edwards, Ms. Ishaira Garcia, Mr. Robert Garmendiz, Ms. Veronique Green, Ms. Frances Hudson-Marow, Ms. Robin Jackson, Ms. Mildred James, Ms. Towona Joye, Ms. Nurys Laureano, Ms. Anita Long, Mr. Paul Onyx Lozito, Mr. Mohammed Mardah, Ms. Marie McCullough, Ms. Michelle Mootreddy, Mr. Ebrahim Dawda Ndure, Mrs. Zonia Ortiz, Ms. Arelis Pineda, Ms. Martha Reyes, Ms. Yohanny Rincon, Mr. Jimmy Rivera, Ms. Elba Rodriguez, Ms. Lilliam Rosa, Mr. Avery Smith, Mr. Elliot Viera, Ms. Kinanda Williams-Murray, Dr. Grace Zarate.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Mr. Anthony Nacerino.

**MEMBERS EXCUSED:**

Mr. Isidro Bernabe Arguello, Mr. John Fielder, Mr. Leandro Monzon, Mr. Jonah Nigh, Mr. Jackson Strong.

**STAFF:**

Mr. Paul Philps, District Manager  
Ms. Lynne Thompson, Administrative Assistant  
Ms. Elizabeth Gonzalez-Rodriguez, Senior Secretary

**ELECTED OFFICIALS:**

Alexis Ruiz, representing Bronx Borough President Vanessa L. Gibson  
Hon. Luis Sepulveda, NYS Senate Member  
Hon. Pierina Sanchez, NYC Council Member  
Tiara Davis, representing NYS Senate Gustavo Rivera  
June Soto, representing NYS Senate Jose M. Serrano  
Ritchard Ewings, representing Senate Luis Sepulveda  
Sharon Quituisaca, representing Councilwoman Pierina Sanchez  
Jose Rodriguez, representing COS Deputy Speaker Diana Ayala

**GUEST PRESENT:**

David Hamey-FDNY, Fabricio Caro-FDNY/CAU, Jason Cohen-Bronx Times, Trey Jenkins-161<sup>st</sup> Street BID, Miriam Rodriguez-Circle of Dreams, Joyce Hogi-Harlem River Working Group, Esther Polanco-Volunteer of America Greater NY, Terry Fontanillas-Resident, Usuario de Zoom-La Sabrosura 1 Restaurante, Felipe Garcia-Mount Sinai, Detective Roberto Oviedo-NYPD 44<sup>th</sup> Precinct CAU, Police Officer Shala-NYPD 44<sup>th</sup> Precinct CAU, Luis Nunez-El Patron Night Club Cabaret Restaurant, Kimberly Jefferson-NY Kimberly Jefferson-NY Public Library Melrose Branch, Shy Cior Hung Fong-Restaurant Services Total, Hordaliza-Tu Delicia Restaurant and Seafood Corp., Dalia Bresnick-Bronx Community Solutions, Esmeralda Perez-El Patron Night Club Cabaret Restaurant, Nyasia Manning-my.BronxImpact.org, Shekera Algarin-Resident, Irvin Parra, Alvaro Munoz Hansen-Bronx Office of City Planning, Carol Robinson, Monique McCahon-Stancil, Skima, 917-\*\*\*-0547, 347-\*\*\*-5890.

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**Agenda Items:**

*The public hearing commenced at 6:09 p.m.*

**1. Public Session:**

- a. No public session.

**2. Welcoming remarks and announcements by Robert Garmendiz, Board Chair:**

- a. Detective Oviedo retiring from the 44<sup>th</sup> precinct
  - i. Thank you for your support and dedication to our community. The board members can identify and make reliable decisions due to Detective Oviedo's guidance. Congratulations to you and your family on your new journey.

**3. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance by Martha Reyes:**

- a. Remembrance for Bishop McKay.
- b. Requested a moment of silence for all the lives lost.

**4. Report by CB4 District Manager Paul A. Philips:**

- a. Meeting Guidelines:
  - i. Reviewed protocols for virtual and Zoom meetings.
    1. Have a question raise your hand and/or write your question in the chat function. The chat function is for additional information.
    2. Speaking out of turn is not acceptable.
    3. We are representing the community and have a responsibility to be professional and respectful to all attendees and guests regardless of whether they agreed or disagreed with others' opinions or beliefs.
    4. Any person who goes against the protocols will be removed from the meeting and will not be permitted to participate in any future board meetings moving forward unless schedule a meeting to discuss further options with the District Manager and the chair of the Community Board Four.
- b. Good Luck Detective Oviedo
  - i. Detective Oviedo accepted a new position with the Department of Veterans Affairs Police Department. Served in the United States Marine Corps and NYPD with the 44<sup>th</sup> precinct for 22 years he has been an asset to the community.
- c. Deputy Inspector Grand Larceny 16 incidents reported
  - i. Don't leave your car running
  - ii. Don't double park
- d. Street Homeless: See something say something call 311. Someone will come to offer services to individuals who may need additional support. Email CB4 your complaints number for additional support
- e. Illegal dumping, have an issue call 311. Also, email the board your complaints with 311 complaints #.
- f. District needs and budget properties from the previous submissions as of last year, are being reviewed during committee meetings over the coming months.
- g. CB4 office, 1250 Selwyn Avenue, Suite 11A Bronx NY 10457 tel: 718.299.0800 fax: 718.294.7870 email: [bx04@cb.nyc.gov](mailto:bx04@cb.nyc.gov), slowly transitioning full operational, no walk-ins or in-person meetings.

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- h. RESTRICTIONS ARE LIFTING, continue to follow the CDC protocols and take the proper precautions to keeping yourself safe.
- i. Ground Breaking for the New School

**5. Report by NYPD 44th Precinct:**

- a. Dt. Roberto Oviedo retiring March 11, 2022
  - i. Taking over Community Affairs is Officer Shala 17 years with NYPD officer in crime prevention will be taking over as a representative for the 44<sup>th</sup> precinct.
- b. Mayor Eric Adams has a new implementation for NYPD officers
  - i. Repositioning officers to better serve the city of New York from housing to the subway system.
- c. Upcoming Events:
  - i. Community Council monthly meeting Wednesday, March 9, 2022, at 6:30 pm, location: Latino Pastoral Action Center 14 West 170<sup>th</sup> Street Bronx NY 10452.
    - 1. 44<sup>th</sup> Precinct Community Affairs Office tel: 78.590.5524, Twitter: @NYPD44PCT Facebook: NYPD 44<sup>th</sup> Precinct.
  - ii. Sean A. McDonald's 28<sup>th</sup> annual memorial mass at Christ the King Roman Catholic Church, located 141 Marcy Place, Bronx NY 10452 tel: 718.538.5546, on 3/15/2022 9:30 am. After the mass, all are welcomed to the 44th precinct for refreshments and discussion about officers' risks while on duty. We will never forget our fallen officers.
    - 1. Police Officer Sean McDonald was shot and killed while attempting to arrest two suspects for the robbery of a clothing store.

**6. Roll Call (Reserved for Board Members):**

- a. Board Member 32; 30 Present; 6 Excused; 1 absent

**7. Discussion/Vote on ULURP Applications For EMS Station 17 New Facility Appl. #C 210293 PSX & CEQR Number 20FDO001X & Appl. #C 210294 ZSX:**

- a. David Harney, Chief of Staff and Deputy Fire Commissioner for Support Services Moderator - EMS Station 17
  - i. ULURP applications for EMS STATION 17 new facility Application # C 210293 PSX & CEQR Number 20FDO001X: In the matter of an application submitted by the NYC Fire Department and the Department of Citywide Administrative Services, under Section 197-c of the New York City Charter, for the site selection of property located at 1257 Morris Avenue (Block 2450, Lot 42) for use as an ambulance station, Borough of Bronx, Community District 4. [NYC Planning - Zoning Application Search](#)
    - 1. The goal is to increase the EMS support facilities citywide. By increasing the number of EMS stations to be able to reduce angels out of service college and keep those units available in response areas.
  - ii. Application # C 210294 ZSX in the matter of an application submitted by the NYC Fire Department (FDNY) and the Department of Citywide Administrative Services (DCAS) under Sections 197-c and 201 of the New York City Charter for the grant of a special permit under Section 74-67 of the Zoning Resolution to allow an FDNY Emergency Medical Service (EMS) Station use to be located in a residence district, in connection with a proposed 2-story EMS station building, on property located at 1257 Morris Avenue (Block 2450, Lot 42) (15,000 s.f.), in an R7-1 District, Borough of the Bronx, Community District 4.

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1. For additional information regarding the Department of City Planning Zoning application portal: <https://zap.planning.nyc.gov/projects/P2018X0310>
  - b. Jose Rodriguez, COS Deputy Speaker Diana Ayala 917.841.0439 email: [jrodriguez@council.nyc.gov](mailto:jrodriguez@council.nyc.gov)
    - i. Council Member Ayala pitched for the Highbridge community a community center coupled with affordable housing for the site of the ULURP- EMS station location originally.
      1. According to HPV the financial viability of building out a full services community center with housing is not financially viable as per HPD. Council Member Ayala request for a revisiting the discussion to utilize the space by provided stipulations or recommendations for negotiations.
    - ii. Ms. Zonia Ortiz motion and second by Rossmary Dais, 32 members are in favors, for the CB4 provide a letter of support with construction of EMS station 17 contingent on the following conditions:
      1. Current locations 1080 Ogden Avenue
        - a. CB4 understands the facility adjacent lot, block 2514 lot 8.9 are city owned, and applied for FDNY will relinquish those sites to the department of the city-wide administrative services upon completion of the new facility at 1257 Morris Ave.
          - i. CB4 requesting the city issue an RFP for those sites to development for housing, multicultural, multi-disciplinary community center to serve the diverse population in the average neighborhood, including not limited to job training. Mentoring programs, web certification services, ESL courses to language integration, youth enrichment programs, afterschool programs, SYEP/summer camps programs, sports training programs workforce developments, GED courses, Business development, business incubator space, Senior services and Recreation Centers where there are pools, in addition the community and CB4 plays an integral role in the development of the RFP as well as the selection of the team. Senior Services Councilmember Ayala supports the initiatives.
      2. Encourage the city to utilize local based business for construction materials, contractors and subcontractors and provide a report regarding the update.
      3. Request for FDNY to follow-up with the Municipal Services committee as it relates to the items. And use Bronx based talent workers on the construction site and the EMS station, there are several nonprofit organizations engaged in Workforce Trainings and Development for the area residents on construction sites, including but not limited to the Jerome Avenue revitalization collaborative. The contact work with community board's local organization to promote jobs, job fairs related to this project. Also requesting the contractors and subcontractors issues a report on local hiring including head count and percentages based on the geographic location.
- 8. Review/Correction/Adoption of General Board Meeting minutes:**
  - a. Martha Reyes motioned to approve January 25, 2022. Mildred James seconded the motion. 31 in favor, 3 abstained, 0 opposed, motions carried to approve January 25, 2022.
- 9. Presentation:**
  - a. Nyasia Manning, Program Manager for [My Bronx Impact](https://www.mybronximpact.org) -
    - i. [my.BronxImpact.org](https://www.mybronximpact.org) is a free online resource tool to help Bronx residents find the local service and support, with ease and dignity. There are over 4,000 resources listed ranging from food, housing, financial aid, early childhood services, healthcare, etc. Support community-based organizations and

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connect more residents to services that fit their needs. The platform also allows groups like the Community Board, by tracking data on the back end, to better understand in real-time what their community needs.

1. The Impact this far:
  - a. 102 complete referrals
  - b. 825 Claimed programs
  - c. 20.2K user searches
  - d. 1.3 k Residents served
  - e. 115 trained community leaders
  - f. 2502 k user interactions.

**10. Committee Reports (called by the Board Chair):**

- a. HOUSING & LAND USE
  - i. No meeting for January 2022.
- b. HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICE
  - i. Presentation and gathering Community Health Need survey data with Montefiore, <https://forms.office.com/r/jrvaYT28kH>.
  - ii. Jason Caraballo Chair of the Health & Human Services committee shared COVID update statics from the DOH website: [COVID-19 Tracker | Department of Health website \(doh.gov.ph\)](https://www.doh.gov/ph) from January 16<sup>th</sup> to February 22<sup>th</sup>, 2022 district 10451, 10452, and 10456 with the positivity rate and new cases have increased with the new variant of Omicron BA2 since last General Meeting. Vaccination with one dose within the areas has been increasing to 85.5% at least 1 vaccine and 75.3% fully vaccinated since the last meeting.
    1. Please consider following the CDC guidelines for taking precautions with wearing a mask, getting vaccinated, getting tested, etc.
    2. Next meeting March 2022.
- c. PARKS
  - i. Paul Lozito Chair of the Parks Department informed of updates:
    1. Presentations:
      - a. Farrell Coates, Bronx Chief of Recreation, DPR presented on potential programming in Community Board 4 Parks in both Spring and Summer 2022.
      - b. Mr. Coates provided an update of upcoming projects and programming both at West Bronx Park and at Reverend T. Wendell Foster Park (Formerly known as Mullaly Park).
- d. YOUTH & EDUCATION
  - i. Zonia Ortiz Chair of the Youth & Education informed updates:
    1. Welcomed a new community board member to the committee and reviewed the committee protocols and procedures.
    2. 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the Month.
- e. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
  - i. Beverly Bond Chair of the Economic Development informed of the updates:
    1. Voted items:

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- a. New Application for Liquor/Wine/Beer&Cider
  - i. Tu Delicia Restaurant and Seafood Corp. (1439 Edward L. Grant Highway)
    - 1. In good standing with 44<sup>th</sup> precinct
    - 2. Motion Avery Smith and Second Rasheida Alston for a letter of support. Motion carried with 2 abstain.
  - b. Renewal Application for Liquor/Wine/Beer&Cider:
    - 1. Stan's Sports Bar, INC (836 River Avenue)
      - a. Motion Leandro Monzon and Rasheida Alston's second letter of support.
    - 2. El Patron Night Club Cabaret Restaurant Inc (1465 Jerome Avenue)
      - a. Motion Rasheida Alston and Avery Smith's second letter of support.
    - 3. Glackens Bar & Grill (135 East 149<sup>th</sup> Street)
      - a. All companies are in good standing with the 44<sup>th</sup> precinct.
      - b. Motion Leandro Monzon and Rasheida Alston's second letter of support. For all Renewals application motion carried to grant letter of support with 2 abstaining.
- f. MUNICIPAL SERVICES
  - i. Rossmory Dais Chair of the Municipal informed of the updates:
    - 1. NYC Police Department 44<sup>th</sup> Precinct monthly activity report.
    - 2. Fire Safety Campaign Presentation: Mr. Fabricio Caro, FDNY Director of Community Affairs provided a digital package for CB4.
    - 3. Identified future Municipal Services topics and presentations.

**11. Report by the Office of the Bronx Borough President, Ruben Diaz, Jr., and Local Elected Officials or their representatives:**

- a. Bronx Borough President Office:
  - i. Alexis Ruiz, Community Board Liaison, tel: 718-590-3913 email: aruiz@bronxbp.nyc.gov
    - 1. Board Members need to complete EEO Policy and submit it to the Bronx Borough office via email or fax call for further details.
    - 2. Black History Month event
    - 3. Reappointment Application New boards due March 4<sup>th</sup>
    - 4. Extending remote meeting March 16, 2022, for the Major
- b. NYS Senator, Luis Sepulveda office: 718.991.3161
  - i. Ritchard Ewing, Community Liaison NYS Senator for the CB4 district.
  - ii. Goals during legislative session:
    - 1. Obtain more funding for public schools, mental health programs/treatment, affordable housing, public safety, and that will improve the economic development of the Bronx community. Seeking funding from local businesses.
      - a. Highest unemployment rate.
      - b. Highest dropout rate.
        - i. Needs:
          - 1. Economic development needs a lot of support in terms of grants and tax breaks.

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2. Real affordable housing with an area median income that is rational to the area where people live. We don't need a federal government standard.
2. Create a plan to decrease gun violence in the Bronx community.
3. Creating a program to educate landlords and their tenants on the importance of fire safety and having an evacuation plan.
- iii. FREE taxes with the IRS if you earn less than \$72,000 a year.
- iv. Encouraging all to continue to necessary precautions to mitigate the spread of COVID. For testing locations for COVID-19, you can send a text COVID-19 or COVID test to 855-48 or call the office to receive assistance for PPE supplies.
  1. Free COVID testing kits:
    - a. On March 1, 2022, from 1 pm to 4 pm the Bronx Museum at 1040 Grand Concourse Bronx NY.
    - b. The team has been handing out COVID home test kits, <https://www.nyhomeownerfund.org/>, four test kits per household free, with no charge on the manufacturer or USPS.
  - v. Applying for the Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP), <https://otda.ny.gov/programs/emergency-rental-assistance/> will provide some level of protection to delay the eviction process.
  - vi. Constitutes who are homeowners who need assistance with arrears apply for NYS Homeowner Assistance Fund, <https://www.nyhomeownerfund.org/>. Homeowners/ Co-Op owners will be able to use the funds on mortgage, property taxes, property insurance, maintenance, and/or fees.
- c. NYC Council Member District 14 Pierina Ana Sanchez: 250 Broadway, Suite 1725, New York, NY 10007 phone:212.788.7074 fax: 212.778.8849.
  - i. Updates:
    1. Week 6-7 office under revocation- Monday, February 28, at 4 pm Grand opening for the community space.
    2. Participatory Budgeting:
      - a. NYC Started budget report focusing on cost-saving reducing headcounts between last fiscal and current fiscal years throughout the city of New York by 10,000 attrition, no one is getting lead off.
      - b. City Council starts preliminary budget hearing in March 2022.
      - c. 2/22/2022 Discretionary funding due at 11:59 pm
      - d. \$1 million dedicated to community needs parks, schools, improvements, all needs for district 14.
        - i. Mount Eden Park one project submitted thus far as a viable need to being the improvements.
    3. Council Member Sanchez was appointed Chair for the Housing and Land use
      - a. Community members are partners with all needs of the community.
- d. Tiara Davis- Senator Rivera's Office number 718-933-2034:
  - i. Condolences to the families who lost loved ones assisted with clothing and food needs.
  - ii. Applying for the Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP), <https://otda.ny.gov/programs/emergency-rental-assistance/>.

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iii. Constitutes are encouraged to call the office for additional resources or assistance dealing with COVID-related issues, or personal needs- appointments only. The office has been handing out COVID home test kits, <https://www.nyhomeownerfund.org/>, four test kits per household free, with no charge on the manufacturer or USPS.

e. June Soto: Senator Serrano

- i. PPE's/ COVID home testing handed out to constitutes
- ii. 2022-2023 Participatory Budgeting started to work with other elected officials with identifying needs within the community.

12. No Old/New Business

a. New Business:

i. 161 Street BID welcomed a new Director replacing Dr. Carry Goodman:

1. Trey Jenkins-161 ST. BID Executive Director [161streetbidinfo@gmail.com](mailto:161streetbidinfo@gmail.com) tel: 718.590.5433.

a. Over 3-years' experience with the Jamaica Center BID as the Director of Marketing Business Services. Some experience with the City as a Sports Marketing Manager, Digital Communications Specialist, sometime in the private sector with NBC basic trade Entertainment Group and Disney sports.

b. David Harney, Chief of Staff and Deputy Fire Commissioner for Support Services Moderator - EMS Station 17 – In 19 days change the batteries of fire/CO2 detectors when moving the clocks one hour ahead.

*The meeting adjourned at 8:44 p.m.*

Submitted by Veronique Olivette Green, BBM, MSW