



General Board Meeting Summary

Thursday, September 21, 2023

Present: Mohammed Mujumder, Miriam Sanchez, Md Alauddin, Ram Halder, Brent Woodie, Mitchell Halpern, Robbin Kelly, Daniel Porro, Chiene Joy Jones, Sadie Davis, Tywana Bush, Shante Chamblee, Lashei Deleo, Lena Johnson, Wajjed Hakim, Alizia McMyers, Tenisha Morrison, Angel Martinez, Anne Johnson, Sinade Wadsworth, Sharyn Brown, Kristine Garcia, Lorenzo Van Ness, Abunoman Rahman, Nellie Santiago-Rivera, Henry Pelayo, Loretta Masterson, Shereese Trumpet, Linda Soto, Janelle Harper, Julio Quinones Jr, Juan Torres, Jennifer Sayers, Derrick Holman, David Marin, Chandra Moore, Badr Alsaïdi, Antionette Vereen,

Meeting Start Time: 6:30pm

Note: DM Rivera introduced the new Chairperson Mohammed Mujumder. Mr. Mujumder stated that he has been a BM since 2010 and shared his gratitude for his new role. The chairman called the meeting to order.

Public Session

1. Mayor's Office of Climate & Environmental Justice - Gave a summary/presentation (PDF was included in the GB Packets). Climate strong communities will launch the next generation of equitable, multi-hazard, resiliency, and sustainability projects through state and federal infrastructure investments. Develop a community centered planning process by proactively engaging with stakeholders. Maximize federal and state funding opportunities. Invest in communities left unaddressed by limited hurricane sandy recovery funding. Leverage existing resiliency and sustainability planning and capital commitments.
2. Rashid Mujumder- Spoke about hosting a 1-mile race in the district and possibly a health festival after. DM Rivera stated Soundview Park would be a good location for this and it would be under the parks committee. Derrick Holman stated that the tour the Bronx bike event is coming up and some sponsors from that event might be interested.

Elected Officials Report

1. CM Amanda Farias- Commenced operations with NYPD and DSNY to tackle abandoned vehicles in the district, removing 60 derelict vehicles and issuing summonses to another CM Faris introduced int 1142-2023, a local law to amend the administrative code of the city of NY, in relation to the police department's tow pound capacity.

Passed bills:

- Int 0893-2023- A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, In relation to expanding eligibility for rental assistance to any applicant at risk of eviction or experiencing homelessness.
- Int 0894-2023- A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to income and work requirements for rental assistance
- Intro 1019- A Local Law requiring maintenance of access to an interactive map of mental health service providers in New York city interactive map of mental health service providers in New York city.
- Int 0229-2022- A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to monthly rental assistance payments for households with rental assistance voucher
- Int 0006-2022- A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to the remediation of lead-based paint in dwelling units in multiple dwellings
- Int 0005-2022- A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to records of lead-based paint investigations
- Int 0756-2022- A Local Law to amend the New York City Charter, in relation to requiring the Office for Neighborhood Safety and the Prevention of Gun Violence to provide training and operational support to not-for-profit service providers participating in the city's crisis management system

Updates from the District Office: July, August, and September

- Hosted the bimonthly Family Law Clinics in our office to help Domestic violence survivors with issues like child support, custody petitions, divorce, etc.
- Hosted the Urban Justice Center to do SNAP and Cash assistance enrollments and other Housing-related Issues at the district office. Hosted a Food and book bag Giveaway at St Helena's Church providing over 250+ families with healthy fresh vegetables, fruits, and canned items, and fully supplied backpacks.
- Hosted the Taxi and Limousine Commission's Van Hallin' Mobile Outreach Unit helping over 250+ drivers with settlement services, removals of suspension, removals of revocation, helping navigate TLC UP, general licensing inquiries, and completing drug testing.
- Hosted several back-to-school giveaways where Council Member Farias has given away 2,000 bookbags throughout the summer.
- Hosted the first Back to school Movies Under the Stars at Tratman Playground in Westchester Square showing Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone.
- Hosted the annual Shredding event with DSNY helping community members shred any sensitive documents they wanted to get rid of.

Upcoming Events

September:

- Friday, September 22: We will be hosting a Health Buck give away at the Parkchester Greenmarket from 9 AM to 11 AM
- Monday September 25th, will be hosting a Book Reading in Collaboration with Wimee TV and the Soundview Public Library from 11 AM - 12PM
- Monday September 25th, will be hosting a Book Reading in Collaboration with Wimee TV and Clason Point Public Library from 3 PM to 4 PM

October:

- More information to come: Tuesday, October 3rd: Parkchester Metro North station and infrastructure workshop at PS 106 from 6pm to 8pm.
- Saturday, October 7th: Skate Party at Watson Gleason Playground from 12 PM to 4 PM
- Thursday October 12th: Health Buck Giveaway and Fresh vibes Produce Truck at 778 Castle Hill Avenue, From 1 AM to-3 PM

- Friday October 13th: will be hosting a Health Buck give away at the Parkchester Greenmarket from 9 AM to 11 AM
- Saturday, October 14th: Movies Under the Stars at P.O Serrano Playground on Lafayette and Olmstead Avenues from 5PM to 8 PM, Movie begins at Dusk screening Hocus-pocus
- Saturday October 21st: 2nd Annual Fall Festival with Parks at Soundview Park (Lafayette and Morrison Avenue entrance) From 12 PM to 4 PM

November:

- Friday November 3rd: will be hosting a Health Buck give away at the Parkchester Greenmarket from 9 AM to 11 AM

To RSVP for the above events, you can go to bit.ly/CD18FALL (link in all caps, case sensitive).

Office Offerings:

- Monday Urban Justice Center Family Law Clinic - Sept 25 - Two more available appointments.
- Tuesday Urban Justice Center Public Assistance - Sept 26 - One more available appointment
- Every Wednesday Immigration Legal Services are offered by CUNY Citizenship Now
- To RSVP for these office appointments, you can call the office at 718-792-1140

Budget Updates

- Council Member Farias brought back a total of \$17.985 million in investment in discretionary and capital dollars to fund necessary infrastructure upgrades and trusted organizations that provide critical services. This number is more than 3 times the amount of what the previous administration brought to this district, and that is all thanks to the Council Member's tireless work, advocacy, and negotiations with the City Council Speaker and the Mayor.
2. Commanding Officer Yerlin Moya- The new CO on the 43rd Yerlin Moya introduced himself to the Board and meeting attendees. CO Moya talked about ongoing crimes in the district. DM Rivera stated that he met with the CO and went over meetings.
 3. Senator Nathalia Fernandez- Will be organizing an EBT skimming event soon with HRA. There will be a Small Business Townhall on October 23rd, confirming the location and flyer will be out soon. Halloween: Safe Streets Safe Treats on Halloween October 31st, 3-5pm, will be outside of big deal Foodtown handing out fruits, and candy treats. In November will be hosting a Food and Health Empowerment Fair, distributing turkeys and produce while also distributing food and health resources from different agencies and departments. The date for this is not confirmed yet but will let everybody know once it is
 4. Senator Jose Serrano- Over the summer, Senator Serrano participated in the following:
 - Marched alongside fellow community members and colleagues in La Parada Dominicana Del Bronx on the Grand Concourse.
 - Joined community members and leaders at the annual National Night Out hosted by the NYPD 44th Precinct.
 - Joined New York State Parks Commissioner Erik Kulleseid at Lake Welch in Harriman State Park to kick off New York State Parks' centennial festivities.
 - Presented Patterson Houses Tenant Association President, Patricia Simpson, with the Woman of Distinction Award for the 29th Senate District during Patterson Houses Family Day.
 - Secured \$150,000 in funding for the three NYPL locations within the 29th Senate District in this year's state budget. This includes Mott Haven and High Bridge Branches in the Bronx, and the Aguilar Branch in East Harlem. Which allows local libraries to grow programming opportunities and be a vital resource available to all New Yorkers.
- Next constituent hours are Wednesday September 27th at Assembly Member Jackson's office from 11am-2pm (780 Concourse Village West), and Wednesday October 11th at the Gaylord White Senior Center 2p-5p (2029 2nd Ave).

5. Congressman AOC- Happy to announce that 2023's Congressional App Challenge is now open officially! Middle and high school students who attend a school within New York's 14th Congressional District are welcome to apply. Students may register as individuals or as teams of up to four. The Congressional App Challenge is scheduled to go until November 1st, 2023. You can register at CongressionalAppChallenge.us, as well as take a look at the rules and regulations. Our office is hosting a Coding 101 event next Saturday, September 23rd at the NY Hall of Science. For registration information please reach out to the office. Congress is back in session. The office is aware of the potential for a government shutdown. Will keep you up to date as the negotiations continue in the House. September is passport awareness month! The DOS recommends that you submit an application for renewal 9 months in advance of planned travel and before booking your flights. Even so, the passport delays that impacted the whole country this summer are unacceptable—passport agencies must always be equipped to meet the need for emergency appointments. This is why a bi-partisan letter was led to Secretary Blinken outlining the NYC delegation's concerns with the New York Passport Agency's capacity last month. Please do contact the office if you need assistance with the Department of State, or any federal agency. Please sign up for the newsletter in order to receive updates from the office and to be notified of upcoming events. Also have a Spanish version. Important Links to Share: To be notified about the next town hall, please sign up for our newsletter to get updates: • English Newsletter: <https://ocasio-cortez.house.gov/contact/newsletter-subscribe> • Spanish Newsletter: <https://ocasio-cortez.house.gov/contact/boletin-espanol> Submit a casework request: <https://ocasio-cortez.house.gov/services/help-federal-agency>

6. NYC Comptroller-

Audit of the Operating Practices of the City University of New York's College Discovery Program

“The audit found that the College Discovery Program was generally effective in meeting the intended outcomes for program participants during the audit's scope period (September 2019 to August 2022). First-year College Discovery Program students in the Fall 2019 cohort were retained (as of the Fall 2020 term) and graduated (by August 2022) at generally higher rates than those in the general student population. Additionally, results of a student-focused survey showed that the majority of respondents had a favorable opinion of the program.

However, the audit also identified areas where improvements could be made to strengthen the program. In particular, CUNY should develop best practices for the program by analyzing the approaches adopted by community colleges which achieved significantly higher retention rates than the general student population.[1] Bronx Community College stood out as a clear outlier in improving graduation rates—by more than 12 percentage points over the general student population.”

Shifting Gears: Steering Federal Infrastructure Funds to Support NYC's Transportation Future

“The 2021 Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) marks one of the largest infusions of federal funding into the nation's infrastructure of the last century. It represents a much-needed infusion of federal funding into modernizing our infrastructure. The projects receiving federal funds, such as the Second Avenue Subway Phase 2 extension, the Hunts Point Terminal Produce Market redevelopment, and the Van Wyck Expressway widening, will have immediate and long-term impacts on City infrastructure that New Yorkers use daily.

Federal funding can be a critical resource to upgrade our roadway and transit systems to prioritize safety, accessibility, sustainability, equity, and quality of life outcomes—but only if the criteria for selecting and prioritizing projects align with those objectives. State-level decision makers can and should develop strong performance-based evaluation criteria to ensure that our

federal dollars fund projects that advance our policy goals, following the lead of other forward-looking state DOTs. A centralized project tracking system should provide transparent and up-to-date information on the status, funding sources, and implementation timeline for all federally funded projects to ensure that our federal spending is timely and equitable. Lastly, the State and City must continue to advance efforts to reform capital project delivery and advance local and targeted hiring so that we can make the most of the federal funds we receive to improve our infrastructure, present and future.”

The State of New York City Jails: One Year of Measuring Jail Operations and Management on the Comptroller’s DOC Dashboard

“Staffing levels, violence, and other operational indicators of problems in jail management saw little improvement over the course of the past year under the Department of Correction’s management. The Comptroller’s Office will continue to publish available monthly metrics on jail conditions and operations to the dashboard and push to obtain additional data to provide greater oversight of city management of the jail system.”

Review of the New York City Department of Homeless Services’ Programs and Services

“[The NYC Comptroller’s office] has conducted a review of the New York City Department of Homeless Services (DHS) to identify and assess key aspects of its homeless programs and services, including the populations served, the programs’ intended outcomes, and the extent to which DHS is achieving those outcomes.

“Some of the review’s findings are [included in the report [It] also makes several suggestions for improvement, including that DHS expand pathways to permanent housing for individuals resistant to and/or lacking capacity to enter and remain in shelter; develop effective strategies to reduce length of stay in shelters; and increase transparency by publicly reporting data for various metrics such as the number of those found ineligible for shelter, average lengths of stay for street homeless individuals, and asylum seeker census.”

Course Correction: Expanding and strengthening special education services improves student outcomes and reduces costly due process claims

“Special education services – including speech and occupational therapy, specialized individual instruction, and a wide array of other tailored services – are critical to ensuring students with disabilities have the supports they need to learn and grow. Under federal and state law, the City of New York is legally mandated to provide special education services to all children with disabilities in the city. Where the City fails to provide these services directly, families can file “due process claims” which can result in a legal judgment or settlement requiring the City to provide services or pay the costs to families to arrange these services. Unfortunately, many of the City’s approximately 283,000 children with disabilities are missing out on the special education services they need to learn and thrive, even as the cost of due process claims has skyrocketed. The Comptroller’s office conducted an assessment of special education services in New York City and the City’s spending on associated due process claims.”

7. Bronx Borough President- BP Gibson’s statement on recent violence in the Bronx, “The recent string of violent incidents we have seen this past week has been heartbreaking and lam devastated by the loss of so many innocent lives. I am asking the public to keep these families in your prayers at this time as we work collectively to fight for the stability of our neighborhoods to ensure our children. mothers. fathers, grandfathers, and grandmothers are safe while traveling to and from their homes. When our older adults are unsafe running errands in the mid-afternoon and an 8-year-old is an innocent victim of a crime exiting a school bus. we have problems that must be addressed. This violence is a call to action and attention. We also must acknowledge the tragic death of a 1-year-old baby while at daycare. As a Borough and City, we cannot accept this

violence as normal. We are better than this and must continue to demand better and invest in our communities. Peace is a lifestyle that we all must work towards achieving. The work continues.”
Upcoming Events:

- African Heritage Festival 9.23.2023
- Tour De Bronx 2023 10.22.23
- 6th Annual 5k Run/Walk/Roll 10.7.23
- Zoom Perinatal classes, September 15, 19, 22, & 29

District Manager’s Report

- There are now 50 Board Members
- CB9 Office is almost completed, needs equipment
- Committee meetings will go back to starting at 7pm and the General Board Meeting will remain 6:30pm
- DM Rivera and CB9 staff had a tour of York studios. There will be a tour with BM’s soon, date TBA
- There will be a nightlife meeting with the CO
- The elevator will be coming to Parkchester station
- Any service requests please email or call the office
- Seniors connected meeting will be held tomorrow
- Committee chairs will be appointed next month
- There will be a new BM orientation the day before the next GB meeting
- There will be a CB9 appreciation dinner this year or beginning of next year

Committee Reports

1. Youth & Education Committee Minutes were submitted as is by Chair Monique Farrington.
2. Land & Zoning minutes were submitted as is.

Vote: BM Mithcell Halpern put a vote into motion regarding the Ponce De Leon Support Letter. The vote was unanimous, and the motion was passed.

3. Parks & Recreation minutes were submitted as is.
4. Public Safety Minutes were submitted as is.
5. Social Services minutes were submitted as is.
6. NYCHA minutes were submitted as is.

Meeting adjourned: 8:40pm

OFFICE INFO

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