

## Community Board 1 Queens Full Board / Public Hearing Meeting

Tuesday November 19, 2024

**Thomas Ryan, Second Vice Chair, Second Vice Chairman - Call to Order.**

**Presentation - Laura Gibson, Director of Workforce Champlain Hudson Power Express.**

### Questions

**Christopher Hanway:** How does it work and in terms of customers receiving the power that you're providing? Does it go through Con Edison and folks are billed by Con Ed? Just not quite sure what that looks like.

**Chuck Fontanel, CHPE Representative:** I gave myself a little protection when I started this right. I said I'm the guy that digs the trenches, but I've been a lineman for about 40 years. So what happens is, this power comes down from Canada. It's DC power - 345,000-volt DC. We're building a big building over there in the Astoria complex - it's a converter station which takes it from DC to AC. So we're taking the AC power and there is a substation that can provide some power but we're bringing in 1250 megawatts - that's a lot of juice. So we have to get a line - that's the line we're putting in that goes from here over to the Rainey sub. That's 345,000 volts AC. AC is what they need in the substation to transform down to a lower voltage that they run out in the street. It's a lower voltage, usually around 27,000 volts or 13,000 volts. It goes to that transformer that's in the ground or transformer that's on a pole then breaks it down to the power that comes to your house. We feed distribution substations that feed your house or your business.

If you look at your electric bills, there is a portion of your bill that says the transmission cost - some people call a wheeling cost. I don't know exactly how it's on Con Ed bill, but it's a transmission cost. That doesn't come to us.

**Jean Marie D'Alleva:** I live at 2602 14th Street. When you finish the Astoria Park area you're going to be coming upon my street. Are you going to be digging up the street and sidewalk?

**Chuck Fontanel, CHPE Representative:** I'd have to look at all the addresses, but there's portions that we are going down one side of the road either side of the yellow line. There's a few sections like across from Industrial Tractor right past the Astoria Boulevard manhole 4 actually goes up into the sidewalk. I can't guarantee we will or we won't. They probably did markings. They might be gone by now.

**Jean Marie D'Alleva:** My whole sidewalk has red markings. They're still doing construction. They're putting new water lines, but they said they didn't do it. I don't understand why my whole sidewalk is painted all red lines.

**Chuck Fontanel, CHPE Representative:** I can't answer that, but I'm more than happy to write your address down and take a look. I'll follow up.

**Amin Mehedi:** It's not clear that the bike lane is going to be active when the construction is going to go on. Are you closing the bike lane?

**Chuck Fontanel, CHPE Representative:** We are working with Parks. That's totally up to Parks and they're going to tell us exactly what they want. But our plan is to have the signage. So if the bike lane is not our emergency lane, it is probably going to be used for bikes. We'll allow bikes on the emergency lane because it's only open for emergency vehicles. If we're detouring them off of the lane, we're going to have tons of signs out there and our flaggers will be out there.

**Richard Khuzami:** On 14th Street, near Astoria Park South, that street has gotten very busy since the bus lane was put on 21st Street. It's a major North-South Lane of traffic, particularly in the mornings during rush hour. What time do you plan on starting to close down these streets? If there's any way that you can hold off until rush hour is over to actually close the streets that would greatly help the traffic situation.

**Chuck Fontanel, CHPE Representative:** I don't have an exact answer for you, but our EJ construction outfit is putting in their street opening permits and they get their stipulations through those permits that give them the times they're allowed to work on those streets. In some areas there are restricted times because of buses and reasons like that. I can't answer your exact question, but I can tell you that's how it works for us. We can look into it further and get back to you.

**Thomas Ryan, Second Vice Chair:** If anybody else has a question either board members or visitors, please email Florence. She'll forward it.

Now we will go into Public Session. Remember, everyone gets two minutes and they mean two minutes. If anyone's here with a group of people, I'm not going to allow the whole group to speak. I'm going to ask two or three of the people who will speak on their behalf, because I think we have a lot of people here tonight. Please sign in and you have two minutes. Step up to the podium.

**Natasha Diaz:** I am the Queen's Outreach Coordinator for the New York City Civilian Complaint Review Board the CCRB. We are a city agency tasked with investigating the NYPD unbiasedly for things like excessive force, abuse of authority, bias releasing and rap profiling. I'm here to share that we have a youth advisory council and we are accepting applications. A youth advisory council is a group of young New Yorkers between the ages of 10 and 18. They are committed to community relations and having conversations about their relationship with the NYPD and how to better that relationship. Their ambassadors for their Community. They advise us on how to better that relationship with youth and NYPD oversight, and we recently had a youth summit in Harlem that was absolutely awesome. We had over 100 young people register and give their input from different backgrounds from different communities, and they had a lot to say.

We're opening our applications, hoping that we get a lot more young people to hear their voices get their input. The deadline is December 31st and you can access the application on our website, which is [www.NYC.GOV/CCRBOUTREACH](http://www.NYC.GOV/CCRBOUTREACH).

**Trasonia Abbott:** Good evening last month, I came to this board and spoke to its members in an effort to have Amy Hau removed from its membership for a keffiyeh ban that she instilled at the Noguchi Museum. As I stand here, the death toll for Israel's genocide has reached over 44,000 Palestinians and over 3,000 Lebanese people. This is a conservative number as it does not include scores of people missing and trapped under the rubble. They attack women, children, non-combatants, healthcare workers, aid workers, journalists and the land with complete impunity, despite having the technology to avoid needless slaughter. The Israeli military chooses bloodshed and brag about it. This is genocide. I worked at the Noguchi Museum for 3 and a half years and I worked on the anti-oppression committee and put together the staff exhibition of 2023. I care deeply about that place, just as I care about my neighborhood and my community. I don't stand up here, hoping for my job back. Those days are gone, but the Noguchi Museum is in Astoria and as a resident of this great and diverse neighborhood, I am not okay, with silently accepting that an institution in this neighborhood is banning a culturally significant garment, especially in a time genocide. People often like to think they'd automatically be on the right side of history. Of course, I wouldn't be okay with Jim Crow and lynchings. Of course, I wouldn't allow my neighbors to be taken into concentration camps. Of course, I'd speak up for a group of people being erased. This past August, Amy Hau gave me the opportunity to prove what side of history I'd be on. She gave me the ultimatum - remove the keffiyeh I'd been wearing peacefully for months or I wouldn't be allowed to work at the museum anymore. I will not help Palestine be erased. I refused to take off the keffiyeh. I made my choice and I lost my job. Amy Hau made a choice as well, and just as I had to face the consequences of my choice, she should have to face the consequences of hers. Remove Amy Hau from this board. Speak up against the ethnic cleansing Israel's committing with our tax money. Free Palestine.

**Connor Kaufman:** I am the director of the Astoria Family Enrichment Center - a community led community center looking to open soon at 3118 31st Street. You may be asking yourself what I mean when I say community led. By this I mean part of the Family Enrichment Center model which is already in place in different neighborhoods across the five boroughs since 2017. This model operates by ensuring that all programming and offerings at the center are decided by the community. The model works by Community, walking in and telling my staff and I what they need, and we do our very best to provide services. These Services can be anything from free clothes to food pantries to housing rights workshops. We are actively looking for the community to be a part of this collaborative process.

If the FEC model is something that interests you please feel free to talk to me after the meeting. I've left flyers at the front. You can also find us on Instagram and Facebook at Astoria FEC.

**Maham Mallick:** I'm an advocate from CUNY graduate school public health. Thank you for giving me the opportunity today to speak about an important issue that's affecting thousands of food delivery workers in New York City. I'm here to advocate and spread awareness for Bill 0859. It's a proposed local law that requires third party food delivery platforms to provide workers with clear and detailed pay calculations. Everyday food delivery workers navigate our streets, ensuring that we receive meals and groceries quickly and effectively. Despite their essential roles, many workers face pain, uncertainty and they're often left wondering what their earnings are, and it overall leads to confusion and financial insecurity. Bill 0859 addresses this by mandating transparency, ensuring workers can see how much they're being paid and it breaks down, tip, base pay and any other fees. Transparency promotes fairness and within the gig economy, accountability and dignity within the workplace. So, overall your support really matters. By endorsing this bill it sends a powerful message to the City Council that we as a community stand by food delivery workers in their fight for fairness and financial clarity. I urge you to discuss this bill with your co-workers, your networks, your elected officials, to look over the bill and advocate first passage. Together we can ensure that New York City continues to be a city that values fairness and equity for all workers.

I handed out a policy brief just to go over and if you're able to spread awareness with your co-workers, with your City Council members, anybody, that would be greatly appreciated to help the bill reach more people overall.

**John Heaney:** I am an Astoria resident of about 10 years. I'm from New York. I have mostly lived my life as a pedestrian and a cyclist, and recently it has been very hard to do so here. I believe it was one day after y'all last met a woman named Amanda was killed in a high-speed collision in our neighborhood on 34th Avenue and 37th Street. It is a tragic, entirely preventable death that happened at the hand of a high-speed vehicle and our police members of our police precinct. I do not know what needs to happen, but I do know that I no longer feel safe here.

I have been riding in this city for over 15 years since before Vision Zero. I remember what it used to be like. I also remember what it was like in 2019 and it wasn't nearly as bad as it is now. I no longer feel comfortable riding around our streets and that's with upgraded infrastructure from the DOT. I don't think the DOT can fix how dangerous people are driving and I'm not sure how you all can help, but I think you all can help us somehow. I will also be at the 114-meeting next week. Also pleading with them to try and make this better. I'm just here as a citizen hoping that you all can help me.

**Howard Odom:** I'm an Astoria resident of 5 years and I know John and I wanted to add on to some of what he said because I do believe this board does have some power. I believe you guys write letters and you could write a letter to the NYPD - to the 114th asking that they, to the best of their ability, not engage in highspeed pursuits in our neighborhood unless it's absolutely necessary. This is an active investigation, and so we don't have all the facts. I don't even think the

criminals have been caught yet. From what we understand so far, this was over a robbery of a construction site. I don't know the value and some cop cars were hit, but I'm not sure if it rose to the level of requiring this high-speed chase through our neighborhood. Hopefully, at higher levels, laws can be changed or provisions made that have stricter guidelines that the NYPD need to follow for these chases. I hope this board considers the things that they can do, such as this letter and other measures. Amanda was known by a lot of people in this community - an important moderator of a community driven neighborhood group online that a lot of us found a lot of happiness in during the pandemic, including myself and some of my friends here tonight. Thank you for your consideration.

**Frank Fredericks:** I'm the vice chair of the Public Safety Committee. I'm just curious - if not everyone gets to speak - who in the room is here to speak about this particular issue? Can you raise your hand? Great. So a few of us from the Public Safety Committee are here and we'd be happy to chat with you about how you might want to approach this next week, because this is a public safety concern and we'd love to make more space that may be made available at this meeting. So thank you for coming out and I hope you find me tonight after the meeting.

**Bobby Feltault:** I'm a resident of Astoria. Related to what we've been talking about tonight, I think it's already clear that I wanted to express my outrage, concern and overall fear, as a person who gets around by bike here, but I won't need to take up any more time on that. We lost Amanda, and that is sad and tragic. Moving on to a smaller thing, but no less important, a temporary crosswalk was spray painted onto the ground in Astoria Park early this year, and it was gone in a matter of a month. Now that the clocks have changed, I am out there almost always at night - that crosswalk crossed the entrance to the parking lot that comes in off of Hoyt - the only entrance into the parking lot within Astoria Park. Drivers often are going very fast right around that corner. There's a lot of blind spots too. I've almost been hit there several times myself. I've also witnessed a lot of close calls. There is nothing telling someone to stop for a pedestrian and it's physically within a park, and it is literally intersecting a road that people are walking on. So I am here to ask and hope that we can get a real crosswalk installed. Something that forces drivers to slow down. Because we are talking about a park here, I feel like that shouldn't be too much to ask.

**Thomas Ryan, Second Vice Chair Second Vice Chair:** If there is anyone else who wants to comment on this matter, please email Florence. Are there any other speakers for a public session on a different topic? Hearing none, we will move on to the business section of the meeting.

#### **Business:**

**Motion to adopt the minutes of last month's meeting - Amin Mehedi Marie Torniali - second. Motion carries.**

**Chairman's Report:** No Report

#### **District Manger's Report**

**Florence Koulouris, District Manager:** Bobby, please call the office. I need more details for the cross walk. Today the District Managers of Queens Community Boards met with the Queens District Attorney and her staff to discuss fraud. Due to the time of year and the holiday season, our office has shared with you a copy of the PowerPoint presentation in your documents for your review. This presentation includes various types of scams - holiday scams, fake charity scams, phone, romance, stolen check, also known as check washing scam, home mortgages scams and identity theft are described. Our office is providing the membership with an ink gel pen to protect you from check washing. Please make an effort to use these and go directly into your local post office if mailing checks during the holiday season. Fishing in mailboxes is still occurring. This brochure will be very informative for you at this time and into the future.

Recent local updates regarding Queens North in partnership with the task force, has been working to rectify conditions. Some recent updates are as follows: 10 summonses of vehicles and four seizure locations; Astoria Boulevard and Steinway Street, two vendors, 12th Street and 40th Avenue, unlicensed food, vendors, 21st Street and 40th Avenue, unlicensed food vendors, BQE Service Road, 61st Street and 34th Avenue, 48th Street, 37th Avenue, Vernon Boulevard and 43rd Road, enforcement has been occurring, 17 vehicles were towed, 28 summonses were written. A happy healthy Thanksgiving to you all.

#### **Committee Reports:**

**Brian Hunt and Brian Martinez, Co-Chairs, Business and Economic Development Committee:** No Report

**Corinne Wood-Haynes, Capital and Expense Budget Committee:** No Report

**Huge Ma, Communications and Public Outreach:** We haven't met since the summer break, but I will work to get a meeting set up before our next general board meeting. If you have any topics, please find me after this meeting.

**Marie Torniali, Community Affairs/Licenses:** In the absence of Kathleen, and she was not at the last committee meeting either, so I'm going to give you a breakdown of the attached list for November 2024 liquor licenses. Only one was called in and that's only because they were brand new. That was Willoughby in New York, who came before us and they are going to be a piano bar, something unusual in this neighborhood. So with all the liquor licenses we had no problem as neither the precinct nor Florence or the office had received any complaints.

Then we went through outdoor dining applications, all well known to us. They were all benign. Avenue Cafe - we did ask that they remove one table and six chairs as we thought it was excessive for that location and they agreed to that. Then we had two cannabis applications: K&T Express - 4501 Northern and High City Cannabis - 2235 31st Street, that location happened to be operating illegally prior, but this new owner was not part of that, so he will be opening in December if he gets approved. So we saw no reason to deny any of the applications.

## **Motion to approve all licenses - Antonella Di Saverio Second - Chris Hanway**

### **Discussion**

**Jean Marie D'Alleva:** How many cannabis stores do we have in the area?

**Marie Torniali:** I think we have two on Steinway, one on Ditmars, maybe one on Broadway.

**Florence Koulouris:** Office of Cannabis Management does not notify the board office when they are legalized, so it's an estimation. As Marie stated, once we're done with it, they don't come back to us, so you think maybe about four or five right now. Everything else is basically unlicensed.

### **Motion carries - Two abstentions**

**Amin Mehedi, Education, Libraries and Youth:** We are preparing our letter. Our next meeting will be in January. Happy Thanksgiving everyone.

**Antonello Di Saverio, Environmental and Sanitation Committee:** We had our committee meeting yesterday with the Champlain Hudson Power Express. Obviously they gave you the presentation pretty quickly, there's no environmental impact in our area as a result of that project, and the other thing that I thought was important to note was that they're funding a green economy program where they have training for apprentices, giving them a line to get into union jobs.

So they were supposed to send us a flyer and once Florence gets that we'll send it to the committee so that you can send it out to your network in hopes of giving job opportunities or union job opportunities in our area. Have a great Thanksgiving everyone.

**Executive Committee:** No Report

**Shahenaz Hamde, Health and Human Services Committee:** We didn't have a meeting this month. We are going to have a meeting in December. If anyone has a new topic or any topic you want us to bring to the meeting, please let us know Happy Thanksgiving and thank you everyone.

**Katie Ellman, Housing Committee:** The Housing Committee met last Tuesday and our guests were from the Department of Homeless Services and Bowery Residence Committee regarding the construction of a Long Island City family shelter next to Queensbridge Houses at 3978 11 Street at 4th Avenue. This is a project that was in the works pre pandemic, and we all know the housing crisis that our city and our communities are in, and we also all know that our neighborhoods and our neighbors in Queensbridge and other public housing campuses are under duly and unfairly burdened with additional homeless shelters and no actual investment and support systems put in place. So as much as we applaud the work of the Bowery Residents Committee and their work in other locations around the city, the committee does not support this project. Something that came up during the conversation was the committee coming to the board to request that we write a letter saying that we do not support it. This project is as of right. They're able to build it based on the current zoning in this area, Corinne was there and I just want to thank the committee members that were able to attend and the board members that were able to attend. Nobody wants anyone to suffer and to be homeless. The issue is equity and other neighborhoods shouldering the responsibility of caring for our homeless and housing and secure neighbors. So we do not support this shelter in this location without sufficient and necessary additional support being there, and since that isn't part of the project, we don't support it. Currently, they have approved plans for the demolition of the structure that's currently on the site. They do not yet have approved plans for the project that they want to build. So with the support of Councilmember Won, who also doesn't support this project - it's a bit of a tricky situation because technically they can build it and they were looking to break ground in January, but we would like to express to the city agencies with the support of the councilmember, that we do not support this use. We propose that they can apply for a zoning variant, and they can come before the board to build Supportive Housing or truly affordable housing, deeply affordable whatever. We want to call it to allow residents that are currently in NYCHA to be able to move and have access to this new potential housing and allow other families to move into NYCHA. I wanted to know if I could just allow any other board members that were at the meeting if they would like to share their perspective or any other thoughts about this since we haven't discussed it as a board and it hasn't come before the board in many years.

**Corinne Wood-Haynes:** Thank you for the opportunity to speak, and you did a wonderful job presenting that meeting which was a little lengthy. It was a lot and you did a wonderful job moderating the meeting as well, because it was a lot of emotions. However, one thing you forgot to mention is that we have 34 shelters within a mile radius from Queensbridge Houses. There are 38 in the combined Community Boards 1 and 2 and 34 in Community Board 1. So it is not equitable. It's not fair - it's just not fair. If we want to build anything, it should be affordable housing at whatever capacity you feel affordable is, but a shelter - no. When they agreed to this, we didn't have one shelter, we now have 34.

**Dean Feratovic:** I just want to echo that exact kind of sentiment. I was recently at a Dutch Kills Civic Association meeting where they mentioned that the Holiday Inn Hotel that's on 39th Avenue and 29th Street could potentially become a shelter. I don't know if that's anything on the radar of the Housing Committee or the Community Board, but that was one of the concerns that was brought up because we have been inundated with many of these shelters. And yes, these individuals need the help, but I do think that Long Island City and Astoria have shouldered their fair share. This needs to be relegated to other neighborhoods as well.

**Katie Ellman: Motion** for Community Board 1 to submit a letter to the Department of Homeless Services rejecting the proposal for the homeless, shelter at 40th Avenue and 11th Street, and that we do not want to see any additional homeless

shelters in the community but would instead like to see permanent supportive housing or transition housing built because we've been burdened with more than our fair share of shelters at this point in the process. **Amin Mehedi - Second.**

#### **Discussion**

**Frank Fredricks:** Point of Process - we need a draft. I'm asking about our process.

**Rod Townsend:** Unless you're asking her to modify something, we can vote on a motion.

#### **Motions Carries - 3 Nays**

**Rod Townsend:** I would like a mechanism in place so that people can see that beforehand and I'm not making it part of the motion. I'm just saying, if you could put some transparency in the process, I think a lot of people on the board would like to weigh in on it.

**Florence Koulouris:** Normally the letter gets drafted. It goes to the Chair and the Chair of the Committee, and they send it out. If it's something that has come to the committee for a general vote that has had a presentation, then there's a draft letter. Every single circumstance does not get a draft letter. It never has.

**Rod Townsend:** I'm asking the Chair to veer from that typical sort of thing so that folks that are interested in this topic can contribute to the letter.

**Katie Ellman:** We will share it with the board office and then Florence and her team will make sure that the full board can see it. If there are any additional questions, I'm on that list, you can email Vanessa and I directly and copy Florence and Evie. Happy Holiday.

**Elizabeth Erion, Land Use and Zoning Committee:** We have no report this month. We just want to wish you a good Thanksgiving. We are having a meeting on December 4th. The agenda is not set as yet, but we will meet at the very least.

**Rod Townsend, Legal, Legislative and Parliamentary:** No Report

**Frank Fredericks** Just another point of process inquiry. I'm curious, is it permissible by our bylaws for a chair to dismiss public speakers by classification like saying people on this topic can no longer present? Because my understanding was despite, yes, it can be a very long night, that we are obligated to take however many speakers line up and not say everyone on this topic is dismissed. I know this is your first time - with all respect - I just want to make sure we're following our bylaws.

**Rod Townsend:** I would need to refer back to the bylaws, but the bylaws say that a meeting should be run by Robert Rules of Order. Robert's Rules of Order does allow a chair to limit discussion on a topic. I can refer back to that and, if I'm wrong I'll make sure that you're made aware.

**Thomas Ryan, Second Vice Chair Second Vice Chair:** We did have three speakers, and we did take a poll of who else was speaking on that behalf. So we did attempt to hear the issue out. I do want to get through this meeting. I did say that everyone could call or send an email so they have an opportunity to present whatever they want to say on the topic.

**Florence Koulouris:** If we go by procedure, it's always been done at this board going back to the first Chairman, Vinny Donato. He would tell people please if you're, all speaking on the same topic, please raise your hand. People would raise their hand and the meeting would move on. So, if you say grandfathered in that terminology, it's been grandfathered in that that's how it's been traditionally done, going back to the very first chair of this board.

**Office Budget and Staff:** No report.

**Richard Khuzami, Parks/Recreation/Cultural Committee:** We did not have a meeting this month, but this morning we went on a walk-through of various parks called by Councilwoman Caban - she and her staff were with us as well as our Commissioner Jackie Lanson, and we also had Antonio Whitaker from the Department of Sanitation. What brought this on was many of our fellow citizens complaining about the situations in the playgrounds - in particular, they feel they're unsafe. They also felt that the rules were not being followed. There were a lot of adult men that were in the playgrounds and they're not allowed to be there without children. There's just been a lot of issues going on and there's a lot of safety issues so because of that, the group walked through. We went to Athens Square Park, Ditmars Park and Hoyt Playground, and we checked out the area we discussed within ourselves. We've asked each group to come up with some ideas and try to get back to Caban's office and see what can be done to try and alleviate this situation. We need to keep our parks safe, but we also need to respect everybody's rights. So it's a fine line to tread, but hopefully we'll come up with something to improve quality of life in all of our parks.

We'll have a meeting again in December. I don't have an agenda yet but you'll be hearing from Florence on that. So that's our report for today and have a wonderful holiday.

**Chris Hanway, Public Safety Committee:** I just wanted to mention a couple of quick things. As most of you know, we met in September for the first time in quite a while. We had a good meeting. We are planning to have another one: I have not reached out to Florence, so I have a feeling December might be filling up, but if not December, certainly January. I do want to really reiterate what Frank said. We are very interested in speaking to the folks who are here regarding the incident with the cyclist who was tragically killed because of a police chase. That is the type of issue that this committee should be looking at. So we'll try to get with some of you right after this meeting quickly and then hopefully set something up in the very near future. I also want to say, Frank's been doing an amazing job of setting up check-in meetings with our electeds. We're working on that. I think we have one with Councilmember Caban's, but we're also working on Senator

Gonzalez and Assemblymember Mamdani. We will keep you posted on our work and hopefully have a date for the next meeting soon. Thanks and have a great Thanksgiving.

**Athanasios Magoutas, Transportation Committee:** Dom was under the weather today, so he didn't show up. So our last committee meeting was on the 13th with Con Edison. They presented regarding the LIC reliability and capacity project. So they're going to be connecting a couple of substations and so there's going to be upgraded capacity and ability to deliver clean energy by their 2040 target. It's starting at the end of 2024 - so very soon. They should complete that by the summer of 26. Also, something we're going to start doing although the reporting is a little tricky, is just like general traffic stats for as complete months as we can find so far. September is pretty complete for CBI. We had zero crashes with fatalities. We had 18 total crashes in the month of September with injuries. Three cyclists, two pedestrians, 21 motorists. Total crashes with no injuries 11. These numbers are with NYC open data. It kind of gets tricky when you compare traffic stats with NYPD because they don't get released with the same groupings, but the rolling 28 day number as of this most recent week for total collisions is 141 and 58 of those had injuries and there was one fatality, but we're still trying to figure out a digestible way to present all that to you guys, just as a matter of context. The last thing - for whoever came out for Amanda from Public Safety, I don't know if Dom reached out to you yet, we're also very concerned about that. Our community board is anomalous in terms of the amount of high speed pursuits that NYPD has been engaging in. So it's totally on our radar. We want to do a joint meeting with Public Safety at some point - hopefully December, but if not maybe January. We want to address a bunch of stuff like the highspeed chases, the covered license plates, the ghost plates, things like that. Usually those chases involve individuals that have those on their vehicles so stay tuned. And if you subscribe to the community board updates you'll see whenever that next committee meeting happens and that's it have a good night - Happy Holiday.

**New Business:** None

**Old Business:** None

**Florence Koulouris:** For all of the people in the audience, we have Constant Contact on our page. So if you sign up, you will get all the agendas for all the committee meetings. So sometimes committee meetings like the joint Committee for Public Safety and Transportation are being worked on - it's not ready yet because we haven't gotten all the players in line for the agenda - but if you sign up you will get emailed every single agenda from every single committee meeting. Please utilize our website. It is incredible. It is full of information for the community and it's there at your fingertips, your cell phone, your personal computer. So there's no reason you wouldn't know what's going on in our community. You could also call the board office by the way if you want to use a phone.

**Thomas Ryan, Second Vice Chair:** As a member I have a question for sanitation. Could you please explain what the new bin law is that we're all required to do?

**Antonella DiSaverio:** We were trying to get someone from DSNY to come to our committee meeting and for some reason, even though they want to talk about this roll out, I guess we're last on their list. So it's for buildings that are under nine units. You have to have containerization. You can buy the trash bins from DSNY. They have it on their website. It's like \$50 but you need it for just regular trash. You don't need it yet for recyclables. It starts next year, because I guess they're going to purchase new trucks. You can either purchase from them or you can purchase on your own. I think there's a trial period and they're going to start issuing warnings until January 2nd. We had other questions so we would like him to come back to a committee meeting.

**Richard Khuzami:** I was told by Antonio Whitaker that as of now, you can also purchase these cans at Home Depot, so they are available through Home Depot. You don't have to go through the website and eventually they will be required. Right now, if you have covered bins, you don't have to use the New York City ones but you will have to down the road.

**Thomas Ryan, Second Vice Chair:** So as a homeowner, I don't have to do anything right now until, till 26.

#### **Elected Officials**

**Claire Collins, BP Donovan's Office:** So in case you don't know, the Borough President's office facilitates the community boards, so I just want to announce that the community board application process is going to open in January and I'm going to have more information about that in the next meeting. I'll quickly go through our event. On November 21st 6 p.m. we're hosting a panel on Mental, Health and self-care during the holiday season. It's going to be at American Legion Post 483 which is at 2408 135th Ave in Rosedale. There's going to be experts from Emblem Health, Sarah's Haven and Life Cam. There's going to be free group therapy sessions, Mental Health Resources, refreshments and then a chance to win a turkey raffle. On December 10th at 6:00 p.m. we're hosting our annual holiday tree lighting and toy giveaway at Borough Hall, which is 12055 Queens Boulevard. If you're interested in donating any toys for this, you can reach out to me and then you can RSVP to any of our events at [QueensBP@NYC.GOV](mailto:QueensBP@NYC.GOV). It used to be [QueensBP.Org](http://QueensBP.Org), but we changed it. I have business cards on the table, so you can reach out to me if you have any questions.

**Brian Straub, Public Advocate Williams Office:** Just a couple of updates. As a reminder, make sure to sign up for our monthly newsletter, The Advocate Bulletin, which can help you stay up to date with our latest information and legislation. New Yorkers can still sign up for an updated COVID19 vaccine as well as flu shot at [vaccinefinder.nyc.gov](http://vaccinefinder.nyc.gov) and get free PCR tests and COVID19, flu, RSV tests as well visit [NYC.gov/express](http://NYC.gov/express). You can find out about our upcoming events by following our Eventbrite page at [NYCPUBLICADVOCATE@EVENTBRITE.COM](mailto:NYCPUBLICADVOCATE@EVENTBRITE.COM) You can stay in touch with our office by reaching out to [GETHELP@ADVOCATE.NYC.GOV](mailto:GETHELP@ADVOCATE.NYC.GOV) or by calling (212) 669-7250 and leaving a message and our office is also receiving constituents by appointment. Thank you so much and have a good Thanksgiving.

**Tessa Blum, Councilmember Caban's Office:** Thanks for the shoutouts from the Public Safety and Parks Committees. It's been really nice to collaborate with you all on a bunch of things lately, so we look forward to continuing that collaboration. I'll start with our legislative updates. The City Council passed the Fair Act, which we co-sponsored, which bans broker fees. We're also putting out this week, I believe our updated report on LGBTQIA rights and protections in New York, and it's called Pride in Policy. So look out for that. So in terms of participatory budgeting, idea collection has finished, but we're looking for people who still want to get involved in the process. So you can reach out to us if you want to join the Civic Assembly and find out more about that and have a say in the projects that will end up going on the ballot. As usual, we're doing our Community Citizenship Now day with an attorney who will do immigration consultations in our office on Monday, December 9th. So that's the next one and then we're doing Astoria House satellite office hours with many of our fellow elected officials on Monday, November 25th from 11:00 a.m. to 2 p.m. Any of the people that spoke at the beginning about some of the issues that have happened in the community recently feel free to talk with me after to hear about what our office is doing.

**Kaylyn Munoz, Senator Kristen Gonzalez Office:** On November 25th our office is holding office hours at the Astoria Houses Community Center from 11:00 a.m. to 2 p.m. with CM Caban AM Mamdani and Rep AOC. On Friday, November 22nd, our office will be participating in the distribution of 250 turkeys to constituents in Queensbridge, Ravenswood and Astoria Housing complexes Please be aware that these distributions are on a first come first serve basis. Queensbridge houses giveaway is at 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. Ravenswood Houses is 10:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Astoria Houses Giveaway is 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 a.m. p.m. The Senator is very excited to see the results of the Fair Act vote and hopes this provides relief to New Yorkers. Constituents are reminded to please continue reaching out and reporting unlicensed cannabis shops at 311. We held a press conference this summer asking for quicker solutions and closures from the NYPD. Winter is slowly but surely approaching a gentle reminder to everyone that your landlord is required to provide heating starting October 1st. If you are experiencing frequent heat gas or hot water outages, please reach out to our office. In preparation for the upcoming legislative session, our office is collecting budget requests for the upcoming fiscal year. Please submit any statewide budget requests for either operational or Capital expense beyond April 2025. If you're interested, I'll be providing information on how to submit the requests online afterwards. Finally, our office is preparing for the upcoming legislative session where we have new bills, addressing AI and sustainability in the pipeline. Lastly, I hope everyone who celebrates has a Happy Thanksgiving.

**Tiffany Echevarria, Congressmember Velazquez Office:** A few updates - in regarding her FinCEN recording over the summer, she did a FinCEN event, which is basically called Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, which basically requires all small businesses to report who is the owner of your small business. This is a new requirement because it is aiming to target fake businesses that are not real. Businesses are trying to target those fake businesses from doing illegal activities such as money laundering, fraud, human trafficking and drug trafficking as well. The deadline is January 1st, but just wanted to remind you guys that there is a recording now online. It is on our Twitter, but I'm also going to send an email out by the end of this week, so be on the lookout for that. But I do have a little flyer at the front. This is what the website looks like, and this is what the Twitter handle is. If you want to do it directly after this meeting or sometime this week, I will give out all the information from the CB2 email this week. So look out for that. Some sponsored legislation HR19. This is basically to implement Information Technology risk management into the SBA and, lastly, HR9988, which ensures fairness in the wake of disaster. Emergency price gouging for disasters. Okay, if you have any questions I'll be over here, I have my card in the front. I'm not shy so please come to me.

**Janggo Mahmud, Assemblymember Jessica Gonzalez Office:** Regarding an issue concerned across the borough last month, the Assemblymember convened a round table on human trafficking, to bring elected colleagues, local organizations and anti-trafficking groups together to come up with effective solutions to address and support survivors of trafficking in and around her district. She's the chair of the human trafficking subcommittee in the Assembly and she'll prioritize her bill, the New York Cares Act that will provide the necessary support to survivors of violence in the next legislative session. That starts, of course, in January 2025. If you'd like to read more about it, there was an article in the Queen's Post about the round table and the next steps that we have imagined. As for events - during this National Child Safety and Protection month, Assemblymember will be joining the Lexington School of the Deaf tomorrow, Wednesday November 20th in the morning to kick off a capital campaign to renovate an indoor swimming pool in the facility. Assemblymember has allocated a million in capital funding towards this renovation and the school will be and the pool will be used for the school and the local community. As always, the number to reach our office is (718) 457 0384. We're located in the Jackson Heights Shopping Center if you'd like to schedule an appointment with us. Happy holidays - have a good one. Thank you all right.

**Kazi Maryam, Assemblymember Steven Raga Office:** We have a number of exciting events coming up on our calendar and I want to take a moment to share with you. First, our Veterans Drive runs from November 12th to November 22nd in partnership with PS 229, we're collecting shampoo, conditioner soap and shower shoes. Items can be dropped at either our district office located at 5519 69th Street in Maspeth or directly at PS 229. On November 21st, we'll be hosting a Cleaning Your Home Safely Workshop in partnership with the Department of Health. This will take place from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. 5142 30th Avenue in Woodside. The session will focus on safely cleaning your home, especially when you use cleaning agents that can pose health risks. Next, on November 23rd, we will be having two important events in the morning from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., we're holding a nonprofit training session at the Elmhurst Hospital Auditorium located at 7901 Broadway in Elmhurst. This session is in partnership with the Astoria Worker Project and QEDC it is designed to help nonprofits in communication strategy and accessing grants and government funds. Whether you're

interested in starting a nonprofit or already managing one, the session is for you. In the afternoon, from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. we'll be hosting a Thanksgiving distribution at our district office. Constituents of Assembly District 30 are eligible to reserve one turkey per household with fresh produce. Please call our office to sign up if needed. Finally, from November 25th to December 16th we're launching a new sock and talk sock drive in partnership with the solution to hunger. Starting next Monday, you can drop it off at our district office to help families in need during the holiday season. Thank you all and have a good night and happy holidays.

**Angela Sherpa, Congressmember Ocasio-Cortez Office:** The Congresswoman is back in DC this week, ahead of a very busy end of the year. The next shutdown deadline is on December 20th, and we encourage you to sign up to our newsletter to stay informed on any legislative issues impacting New York 14. The initial Medicare enrollment period is now open and will close on December 7th. So please be sure to double check your plans. You can join, switch or drop a plan. Your coverage will begin on January 1st. As long as the plan gets your request by December 7th. As a reminder, if you or anyone you know has a pending immigration case, you can check the status of your case online at <https://egov.uscis.gov/> or you can contact our office directly if there are any delays or expedite requests. As a reminder, our office is here to help you with any issue pending before a federal agency. We're available at our Astoria office every Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to 6 p.m. We share an office with Councilmember Caban. Thank you.

**Motion to adjourn - Marie Torniali Second - Jean Marie D'Alleva.**

**Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.**





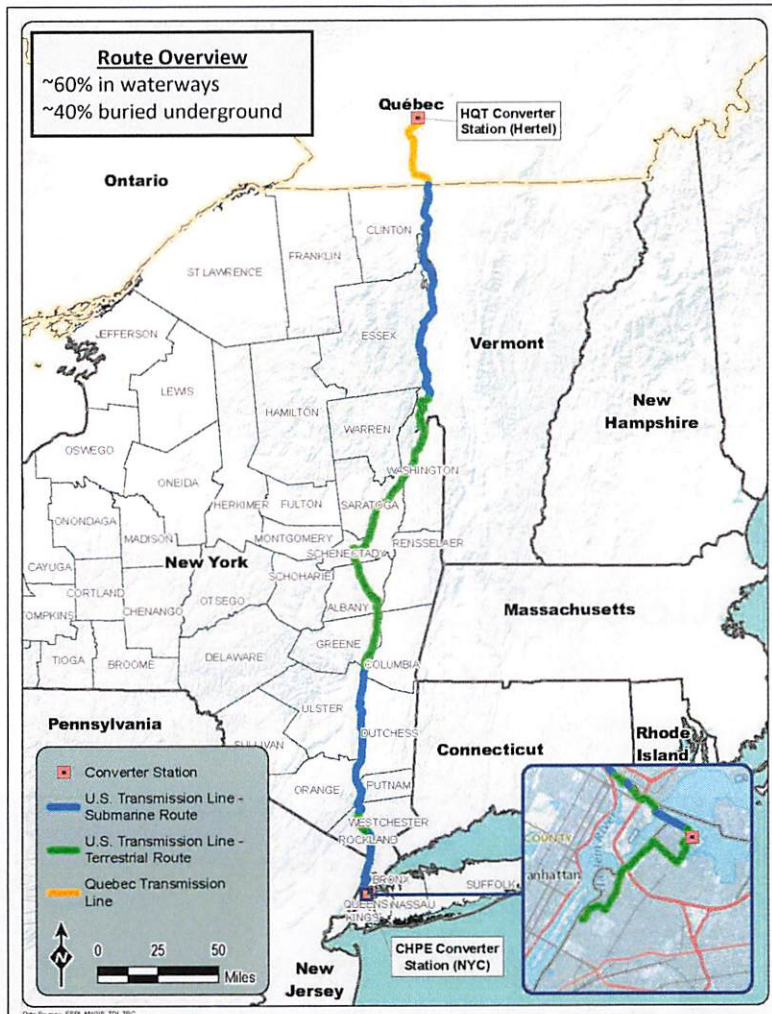
CHAMPLAIN HUDSON POWER EXPRESS

# Queens Community Board 1 Presentation

Nov 19, 2024



# Champlain Hudson Power Express (“CHPE”) Overview



## Project Overview

- 1,250 MW fully buried HVDC transmission project
- Will provide ~20% of NYC’s electricity needs (enough energy to power over one million homes)
- Will satisfy ~16% of the CLCPA’s remaining 70x30 renewable goals<sup>(1)</sup>
- Construction began in Q4 2022; expected in service – May 2026

## Business Model

- Merchant transmission project selected by NYSEERDA through a competitive RFP process to transport Canadian renewable energy directly into NYC
- Host municipalities in NY will receive ~\$1.4 billion in new tax revenue over the first 25 years of the project, benefiting 73 municipalities and 59 school districts

## Regulatory & Community Support

- All major permits received (Article VII, Presidential Permit, Army Corps Permit)
- Widespread support (environmental, union, business, host communities)
- Strong local support as evidenced by 36 municipalities passing resolutions of support for the project

## Environmental & Economic Benefits, Energy Resiliency

- Estimated to decrease carbon emissions by ~37 MM metric tons over the first 15 years and reduce harmful local air pollutants by ~20%<sup>(2)</sup>
- Significant economic benefits in NY – project will utilize organized labor and is estimated to create over 1,400 direct jobs during construction and an additional +3,000 secondary jobs in NY<sup>(3)</sup>
- Buried infrastructure will make New York’s aging energy grid safer, more resilient, and more reliable in climate change related events
- First ever conversion of fossil generating site to clean energy site in Astoria, NY

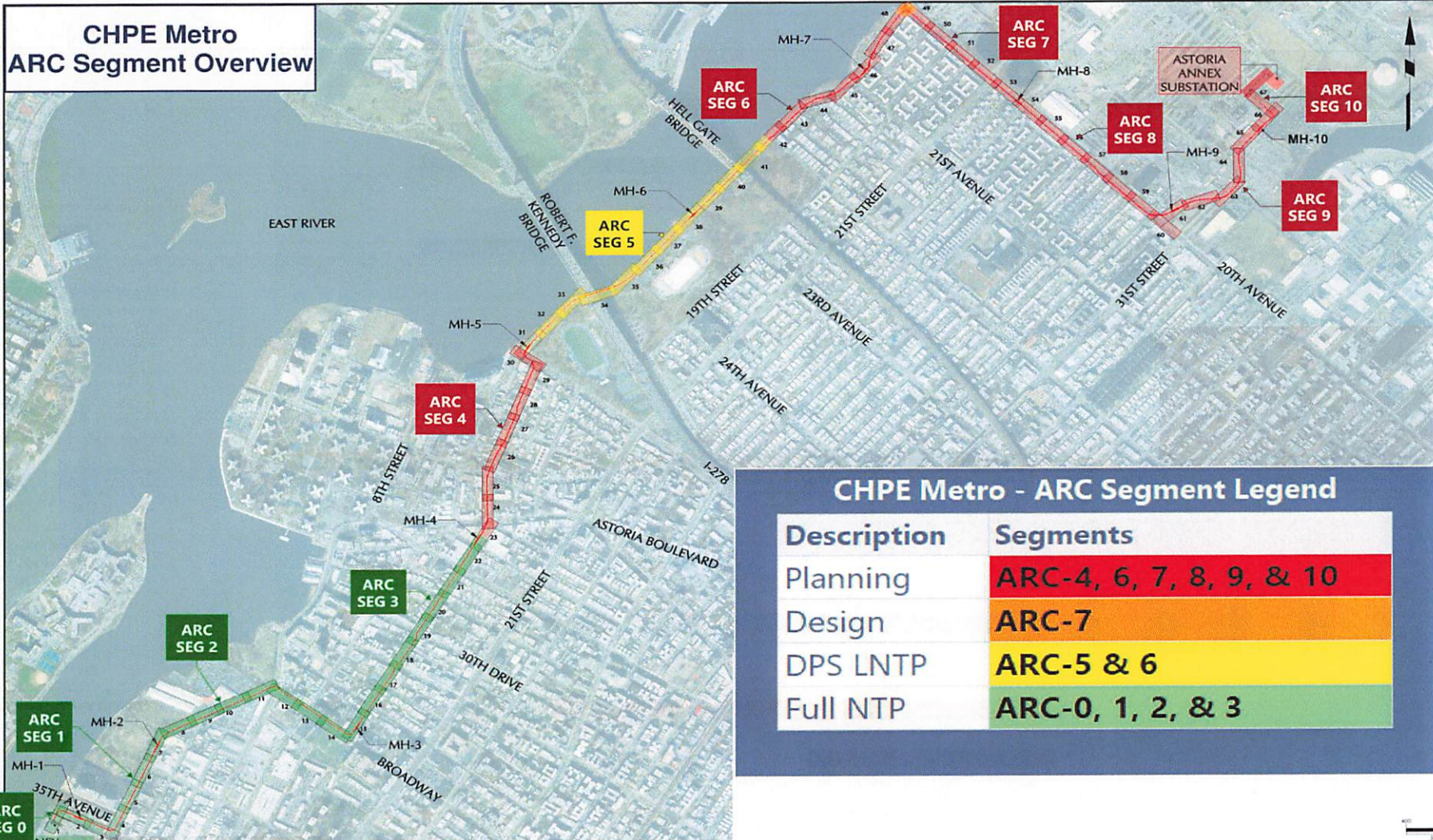
CHPE LLC is supported by world class suppliers, engineers, and energy infrastructure builders, and backed by Blackstone (NYSE: BX), one of the world’s leading alternative asset managers.

(1) Calculation based on the gap between renewable energy needed by 2030 and actual renewable energy generation in 2021 using NYSEERDA’s January 2023 Clean Energy Standard Annual Progress Report for the 2021 Compliance Year.

(2) Equivalent to removing 44% of passenger vehicles from New York City streets

(3) Source: PA Consulting

# ARC Segment Overview



## CHPE Metro - ARC Segment Legend

Description	Segments
Planning	ARC-4, 6, 7, 8, 9, & 10
Design	ARC-7
DPS LNTP	ARC-5 & 6
Full NTP	ARC-0, 1, 2, & 3

Date	Description	No.	Date	Description	No.
02/19/2024	NOI SUBMISSION	4			
11/14/2023	AGENCY COMMENTS	1			
11/09/2023	AGENCY COMMENTS	2			
07/27/2023	AGENCY COMMENTS	3			



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Project: CHPE ARC PROJECT  
3.5 MILE UG TRANSMISSION  
Astoria, New York  
Queens County

Drawing Title: AERIAL KEY MAP

Sheet: 8 of 95  
Drawing No.: 19008801  
Date: 2/14/2023  
Drawn By: LM  
Checked By: CJJ  
Project No.: CS009



# ARC Schedule

Task Name	Jul 24	Aug 24	Sep 24	Oct 24	Nov 24	Dec 24	Jan 25	Feb 25	Mar 25	Apr 25	May 25	Jun 25	Jul 25	Aug 25	Sep 25	Oct 25	Nov 25	Dec 25	Jan 26	Feb 26	Mar 26	
<b>Crew 1 - Trenching and Ductbank</b>																						
Rainey Substation to MH1 (STA 0+00 to 3+44)																						
MH 1 to MH 2 (STA 3+44 to 15+97)																						
MH 2 to MH 3 (STA 15+97 to 37+67)																						
MH 3 to MH 4 (STA 37+67 to 59+62)																						
<b>Crew 2 - Trenching and Ductbank</b>																						
MH 4 to MH 5 (STA 59+62 to 79+92)																						
<b>Crew 3 - Trenching and Ductbank</b>																						
MH 5 to MH 6 (STA 79+92 to 100+26)																						
MH 6 to MH 7 (STA 100+26 to 121+69)																						
MH 7 to MH 8 (STA 121+69 to 142+35)																						
<b>Heavy - EJ Relocates</b>																						
MH 1 to MH 2 (STA 3+44 to 15+97)																						
MH 2 to MH 3 (STA 15+97 to 37+67)																						
MH 3 to MH 4 (STA 37+67 to 59+62)																						
MH 4 to MH 5 (STA 59+62 to 79+92)																						
MH 6 to MH 7 (STA 100+26 to 121+69)																						
MH 7 to MH 8 (STA 121+69 to 142+35)																						
MH 8 to MH 9 (STA 142+35 to 160+81)																						
<b>Manhole</b>																						
Rainey Substation to MH1 (STA 0+00 to 3+44)																						
MH 2 to MH 3 (STA 15+97 to 37+67)																						
MH 3 to MH 4 (STA 37+67 to 59+62)																						
MH 4 to MH 5 (STA 59+62 to 79+92)																						
MH 5 to MH 6 (STA 79+92 to 100+26)																						
MH 6 to MH 7 (STA 100+26 to 121+69)																						
MH 7 to MH 8 (STA 121+69 to 142+35)																						
MH 8 to MH 9 (STA 142+35 to 160+81)																						
MH 9 to Astoria Annex Substation (STA 160+81 to Astoria)																						
<b>Vac</b>																						
Rainey Substation to MH1 (STA 0+00 to 3+44)																						
MH 9 to Astoria Annex Substation (STA 160+81 to Astoria)																						
<b>Gas Mitigation Work</b>																						
Gas Mitigation South																						
Gas Mitigation North																						
<b>Cable Pulling and Splicing</b>																						
<b>Testing &amp; Commissioning</b>																						

# ARC Route through Astoria Park



- Installing Manhole 5 & 6
- MPT Plan for pedestrians with signs for walking and biking.
- Sidewalks on both sides of Shore Blvd will remain open at all times.
- Communication with Bike Clubs have been established with alternate routes.
- Emergency Lane will always remain open at all times.
- Park users will be able to always access any area of the park.
- No trees will be removed, only pruning.
- Entire length of Shore Blvd within the park will be repaved and striped.

# Community Engagement Initiatives

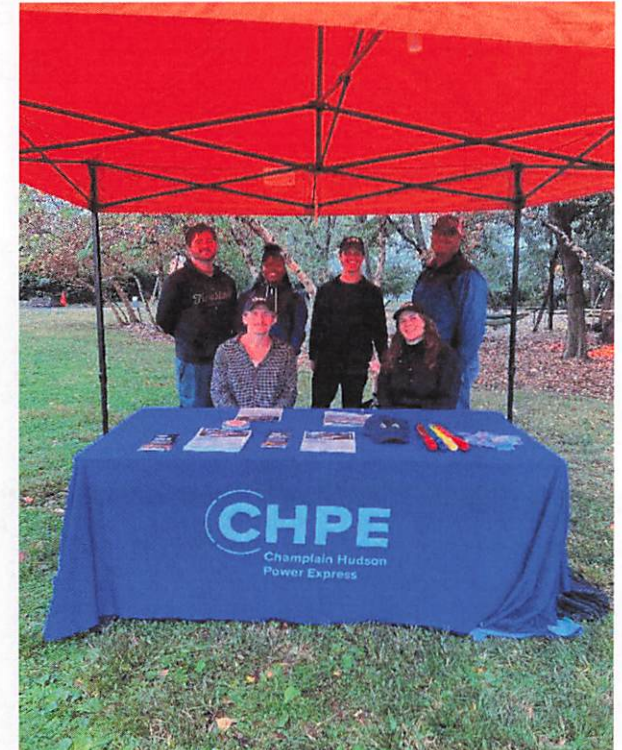
CHPE proudly fosters community engagement initiatives throughout Queens CB1 including the following:



*Astoria Park Outdoor Movie Night*



*Variety Boys and Girls Club STEM Lab*



*Socrates Sculpture Park Spring Fling*



*ARC Worker Appreciation Lunch*



*Astoria Converter Station Local Business Worker Appreciation Lunch*



Champlain Hudson  
Power Express



CHPE LLC  
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Albany, NY 12207

[www.chpexpress.com](http://www.chpexpress.com)

