



COMMUNITY BOARD # 4Q

Serving: Corona, Corona Heights, Elmhurst and Newtown

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Donovan Richards
Borough President

Marielena Giampino
Chairperson

Rhonda Binda
Deputy Borough President

Christian Cassagnol
District Manager

MEETING NOTICE

DATE: Tuesday, June 8, 2021

TIME: 7:00 pm

PLACE: Online via Zoom

To enter the meeting via computer or the app on a smartphone/tablet, click here:

<https://zoom.us/j/98726896665?pwd=MTVkcGNnazhzRVZ4ZWIRZDFRTTU5OT09>

*If entering via telephone only, call 1-646-558-8656
then enter the meeting ID 987 2689 6665 and access code 665177*

1. Call to Order

2. Vote on minutes from the May 11th meeting

3. Chairperson's Report

At this time, any statements or testimony submitted by members of the public or city agencies will be read by the Chairperson

4. District Manager's Report

5. Open Session #1/ Board Member Attendance (*Statements will be limited to two (2) minutes*)

6. Report from Elected Officials

(Statements will be limited to two (2) minutes for representatives, and three (3) minutes for elected officials)

- Federal
- State
- City

7. Presentation & Vote: Parks Committee

- *Meira Berkower, Senior Project Manager, NYC Parks Department*
Plan for Select NYC Parks Playground Animals

The purpose of this project is to: create a new public space that showcases beloved playground features in a new and unexpected way; demonstrate NYC Parks' enthusiasm for repurposing rather than disposing of park assets when sites are reconstructed; allow room for quiet contemplation and reflection and to evoke feelings of nostalgia and kinship.

8. Presentations & Votes: ULURP/ Zoning Committee

Kathi Ko, City Planner, Queens Office - Department of City Planning

- **FRESH II – Grocery Store Expansion**

The COVID-19 pandemic dramatically highlighted the vital need for local access to fresh food for New Yorkers, especially in underserved communities. In partnership with the City Council, DCP will seek to expand the existing Food Retail Expansion to Support Health (FRESH)

<https://www1.nyc.gov/site/planning/plans/fresh2/fresh2-overview.page> program, which offers zoning incentives and financial benefits to encourage the creation of convenient, accessible stores that provide fresh fruit, meats, vegetables, and other perishable goods, in addition to a full range of grocery products. The new FRESH proposal will seek to bring the program to 11 more community districts, on top of the 19 where FRESH already applies.

Health and Fitness Text Amendment

Based on outmoded zoning regulation that dates to the 1970s, exercise gyms, licensed massage therapy, martial arts studios, and spas, among other health-related businesses, are not allowed as of right in New York City and instead, these businesses are required to obtain special permission from the City's Board of Standards and Appeals (BSA) to open. The process creates a high barrier for small and independent businesses and is likely to slow the economic recovery of a sector that has been significantly impacted by the pandemic.

In the wake of the COVID pandemic, we share a heightened appreciation for physical and mental health. This text amendment acknowledges the need for health and fitness facilities and seeks to facilitate the City's economic recovery by removing unnecessary barriers for these small businesses.

For more information visit: <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/planning/plans/health-and-fitness/health-and-fitness-overview.page>

- **Citywide Hotels Text Amendment**

This is a Mayoral initiative aiming to create a more consistent approach to hotel development across communities and require new hotels to undertake a Special Permit review process. The proposed zoning change would require City Planning Commission approval for any new proposed hotel development and would be subject to full ULURP. This review process would ensure that new hotels do not create significant conflicts with surrounding development.

For more information, visit: <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/planning/plans/citywide-hotel/citywide-hotel-overview.page>

9. Vote: Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee

- State Liquor Authority Applications

10. Committee Reports

- Consumer Affairs
- Environmental
- Health and Human Services
- Transportation
- Youth Services

11. Open Session #2

Members of the board please raise your hand on Zoom to speak. Please limit all statements to two (2) minutes

12. Adjournment

*Please note: Members of the public will not be allowed to speak during this meeting. However, they may submit statements to be read during the meeting by emailing the Community Board office (qn04@cb.nyc.gov) with their statement no later than **Tuesday June 8th at 12pm**. All statements are limited to **TWO minutes** and will be read by the **Chairperson during the Public Forum**.