



Mid-Summer

COMMUNITY BOARD # 8 NEWSLETTER

DISTRICT OFFICE

197-15 Hillside Avenue
Hollis, NY 11423-2126
Tel # (718) 264-7895
Fax # (718) 264-7910
E-Mail: qn08@cb.nyc.gov
Website: www.nyc.gov/queenscb8

OFFICERS

CHAIRPERSON: Martha Taylor
1st VICE CHAIR: Michael Hannibal
2nd VICE CHAIR: Seymour Schwartz
3rd VICE CHAIR: (vacant)
EXEC. SECRETARY: Carolyn Brown
TREASURER: Harbachan Singh
BUDGET DIRECTOR: Marc A. Haken

CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Honorable Barry Grodenchik - 23rd District
Honorable Rory Lancman - 24th District

BOROUGH PRESIDENT

Honorable Sharon Lee

STAFF

DISTRICT MANAGER: Marie Adam-Ovide
Jatna Reyes, Community Associate
Izabela Szczepanska, Community Assistant

BOARD MEMBERS BY AREA

Area 1 – Kew Gardens Hills

Mitch Lisker – (interim) **CHAIR**, Heather Bennett-Idels, Susan D. Cleary, Florence Fisher, Joshua Glikman, Mitch Lisker, Jennifer Martin, Rabbi Shlomo Nisanov, Simon Pelman and Jacob Weinberg

Area 2 – Briarwood

Seymour Schwartz - **CHAIR**, Carolyn Brown, Solomon Davydov, Allen Eisenstein, John Gebhard, Elke Maerz, Wendy Phaff, Mohammad Rahman, Charlton Rhee, Douglas Sherman and Albert Willingham

Area 3 - Hillcrest Estates & Jamaica Hills

Kevin Forrestal - **CHAIR**, Dilafroz Ahmed, Bhithara-Martha Fulton, Paul Lazauskas, Hersh Parekh and Frances Peterson

Area 4 – Flushing Heights, Flushing Suburban, Hillcrest

Jagir Singh Bains—**CHAIR**, Kenneth Cohen II, Steven Konigsberg, Dilip Nath and Dr. Penny M. Stern

Area 5 – Georgetown Mews, Pomonok, Electchester, Flushing

Mary Maggio – **CHAIR**, Carolann Foley and Frank Magri

Area 6 – Utopia, Fresh Meadows, West Cunningham Park

Maria DeInnocentiis – **CHAIR**, James Gallagher, Jr., Robert Harris, Tami Hirsch, Alan Ong and Tamara Osherov

Area 7 – Jamaica Estates & Holliswood

Howard Fried – **CHAIR**, Dr. Robert Block, Edward Chung, Howard A. Fried, Marc A. Haken, Michael Hannibal, David Mordukaev, Jesse Rosenbaum, Harbachan Singh, Martha Taylor and Mohammed Tohin

Be Safe! Wear a Mask! Stay Six Feet Apart!

Meeting by Zoom Webinar

Held on June 10, 2020

- The Minutes of the May 13, 2020 Board Meeting were unanimously approved by 31 members.
- **Chairperson’s Report – Martha Taylor:**
Chairperson Martha Taylor welcomed aboard our new Board Members: Heather Bennett-Idels, Solomon Davydov, David Mordukhaev, Alan Ong and Hersh Parekh.
The Community Board office will be open tomorrow for cleaning in advance of our re-opening. Next week some of the staff will start going back.

• **Elected Officials’ Announcements:**

Honorable Councilman Rory Lancman – CM Lancman welcomed aboard all new Board Members. He informed us that they are still working on their budget. Within the next couple of weeks, the City will have its new budget which will involve a lot of fiscal painful choices due to the current circumstances. He is working along with Council Member Barry Grodenchik to make sure our Borough gets everything it needs. They are trying on reforming the criminal justice system in New York City. If anyone has any issues that relate to the budget and any other important issues, he asked that they reach out to him.

(Continued on Page 2)

Next Community Board 8 Meeting will be on **Wednesday, September 9, 2020** at 7:30 p.m.
Minutes of Board Meetings are available on our website: www.nyc.gov/queenscb8 within two weeks.

A Word from the District Manager...

Dear Resident,

During the Covid Pandemic the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) was tasked to look for space to house the homeless, elderly and formerly incarcerated individuals to stop the spread of the Corona virus. OEM contracted with the Wyndham Hotel to use their hotel rooms. The Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice also contracted with Exodus Transitional Community, Inc. to provide services to formerly incarcerated individuals at the Wyndham who have served their sentences. These services include: job training, job placement, health services etc.

*This was not communicated to the Community Board by the administration prior to making this decision; therefore, Community Board 8 had no input. We learned this information **after the fact** and met with the representatives of the Mayor's office and Exodus two months after they moved in to Wyndham. A Community Advisory Board (CAB) has been set-up that will meet to discuss issues with Exodus and the Mayor's office. The CAB includes elected representatives, Community Board 8 representatives, civic leaders, tenant association leaders, religious institutions, etc.*

Following the meeting we will share more information with the community. If you would like to receive more information, please email us with your information so we can add you to our group email on this matter.

Sincerely,

Marie Adam-Ovide

P.S. If you would like an email version or to receive the [Newsletter earlier](#), please contact us at 718-264-7895 and provide your email address. This information is also available on our website: www.nyc.gov/queenscb8.

Continued (from Page 1)

- **Honorable Councilman Barry Grodenchik** – CM Grodenchik informed us that the City Council will be passing a criminal justice reform legislation including a choke hold bill which is sponsored by Council Member Rory Lancman. There will be other legislations on how to discipline police officers in the City of New York. They expect for them to get passed next week. They don't expect to have a budget until the end of the month. He explained that he understands that the main concern is the budget for the youth. They are working hard on getting into a consensus to restore the funds. This remains his top priority. It has been a long time since they had a serious budget issue in the City. During the Mayor's mayoralty, they had increased the budget by \$20B. They will hold the line on property tax increase as well. There are a lot of people that cannot afford to pay their property taxes as is.
- **Queens Complete Count Committee (QCCC) – Michael Hannibal/Kevin Forrestal, Co-Chairs**
At their last Census meeting via Zoom they had a few people in attendance. Census Bureau New York Regional Director Jeff Behler was in attendance. He informed everyone that Queens's self-response rate was approximately 45.4% which is a little lower than what it was in 2010. This is believed to be caused to the COVID-19 pandemic. The self-response has been extended until October 31, 2020. There will be a non-response follow-up which will allow enumerators [census workers] to go out and knock on doors. This will take place on August 11, 2020. They are encouraging everyone to do the self-response as quickly as possible to avoid having census workers knock on people's doors.
- **Health Minute with Dr. Penny M. Stern, Health Committee Chair**
Dr. Stern spoke about Telehealth. Telehealth is the distribution of health-related services and information electronically. It is long distance patient and provider contact to carry out various services

Continued (from Page 2)

including examination, diagnosis and more. With the use of mobile devices, tablets and/or camera devices, doctors can see their patients and gather information. It is not for emergency related health concerns like strokes or heart attacks. **In case of an emergency, one should call 911 immediately.**

Although telehealth has been around for a long time, it has become especially preeminent and prominent in the age of COVID-19 where people fear going to health care facilities in person because of the risk of infections. At her institution, more than 50,000 visits were carried out in one month. Telehealth visits continue to go on and grow. Just like face-to-face appointments, it is important to prepare for a telehealth appointment. Appointments should be conducted in a space with as much privacy as possible to avoid interruptions. If you want to have a family member with you that is fine. Make sure you have a list of questions to go over with the practitioner (*i.e. what the diagnosis is, are any test needed/prescriptions, etc.*). It is important to have a list of current medications being taken so that your medical records can be updated. Be sure to take notes on important information or ask for a summary of the visit which can be sent to you electronically.

• **Parks Committee - Bhitihara Martha Fulton, Chair**

The Parks Committee met on May 27th via Zoom webinar to discuss a proposal from the NYC Parks Department regarding the 210th Street Playground Reconstruction. The playground is located at the corner of 210th Street and 73rd Avenue at Cunningham Park. There are \$3.8M in funding which came from: the Borough President (\$3M) and from Honorable Councilman Barry Grodenchik (\$800K) for FY 2020. The main goal is to re-construct play equipment, install spray showers, seating areas, drainage, water supply systems, install security lighting and make comfort station entrances more accessible. A letter of support was sent to NYC Parks Commissioner Michael Dockett. At the meeting, there were 6 Board Members present and all voted in favor. One Board Member had technical difficulties joining and her vote was not recorded. Honorable Council Member Barry Grodenchik fully supports this project along with the Community Board.

• **Executive Committee - Resolution on Police Brutality and Peaceful Protest**

Marc A. Haken, Executive Committee Member - At Community Board 8, we are part of New York City, part of New York State, part of the United States. What goes on anywhere within this country, goes on within CB8. We are a mosaic of religion, races, creeds, ethnics. As a result of this, we cannot just sit idling by with what is going on around the country without being involved in it. I found it necessary and reasonable to draft a resolution supporting the right of all citizens for peaceful protest and to condemn those who use those protests to loot, injure and harm others. Also, to reject institutional racism which has existed in many places within our country. He asked the entire Board to approve his resolution that way it can be distributed throughout the area to say to those who chose to be racist, hate others because of their color or their religion or where they came from that we do not tolerate them and that they don't belong here. Those who belong here are those who live here side by side with everyone else. He asked for a motion to approve this resolution.

The resolution was approved with changes satisfying all Board Members suggestions unanimously (see Page 12)

Count in favor: 34 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0



The Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP) is designed to provide low-income seniors with access to locally grown fruits, vegetables, and herbs. Those who are eligible are provided coupons to redeem fresh fruits and vegetables at participating farmers' markets and farm stands. The program's purpose is to promote improved nutrition through increased consumption of locally grown fresh fruits and vegetables and expand sales at farmers' markets and farm stands.

To participate, got to: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/dfta-farmers-market-2020>

- Seniors who meet the following eligibility requirements can apply for coupon booklets online:
- Are 60 years of age or older; and earning either
- \$1,968/month (for a one-person household); or
- \$2,658/month (for a two-person household); or
- \$3,349/month (for a three-person household).

If an older adult does not have access to the internet, they can contact **Agging Connect** at 212-244-6469 to request a mail-in application form.



Department of
Transportation

CONSTRUCTION NOTICE

The New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) is advising motorists of long-term lane width reductions and lower speed limits from 50 miles per hour to 40 miles per hour between Francis Lewis Boulevard and 188th Street in both directions on the Grand Central Parkway in Queens. The lane width reductions and lower speed limits will go into effect this week and will last approximately one year from the start of construction. During this time, the entrance and exit ramps in the area will be narrowed to allow space for construction of the improvements.

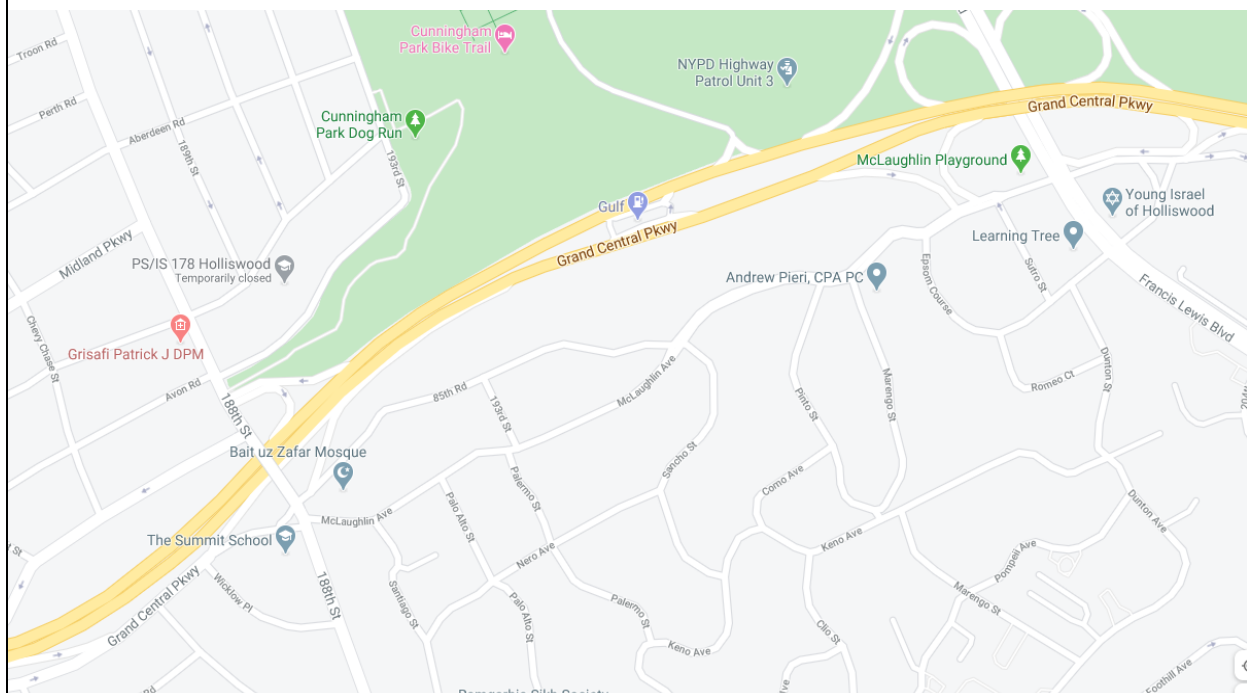
This work is part of an \$8 million safety improvement project that will connect entrance and exit ramps within the project limits to create safer merging for motorists entering the westbound and eastbound Grand Central Parkway and improve overall traffic conditions.

Inclement weather could cause the change in traffic pattern to be rescheduled.

Thank you for your patience and cooperation as NYSDOT continues to improve our transportation infrastructure in New York City.

Sincerely,

Thomas G Bayer, P.E.
Assistant to the Regional Director



From Stacy Gardner, Senior Director of External Affairs
NYC Department of Information Technology and Telecommunications (DoITT)

The New York City Department of Information Technology and Telecommunications (DoITT) is soliciting the public’s feedback regarding the attached design proposal of mobile telecommunications equipment proposed to be placed on street poles across the City. This equipment will facilitate the citywide deployment of 5G.

What is 5G technology?

The widespread use of mobile devices for phone calls, texting, mobile web browsing, and applications requires a dense network of physical infrastructure to support these uses for millions of New Yorkers.

The main cellular technology of today is 4G LTE, but 5G – fifth generation mobile technology – is the future of wireless. 5G is advertised as delivering enhanced mobile broadband capabilities that are up to 10 times faster than speeds currently widely available, with immediate responsiveness.

Design Input

The ability of wireless carriers to provide faster service to New Yorkers requires the deployment of new telecommunications infrastructure on street poles across all five boroughs. DoITT has directed the wireless industry to collaborate and design a uniform and minimally obtrusive small cell "concealment" solution to be mounted on street poles. This solution is capable of accommodating the major carriers’ 4G and 5G deployment needs. In the coming months, DoITT will be seeking Public Design Commission approval of the proposed design which is attached to this message [\[see Page 7\]](#). The package includes drawings and photo renderings of the proposed design.

We are seeking the public’s comments on this design proposal. Such comments may include: neighborhood aesthetic, size, placement on the pole, and other feedback on visual impact.

Mobile Telecommunications Franchises

DoITT’s Mobile Telecommunications franchise allows wireless companies to install and maintain mobile telecommunications equipment (“small cells”) on certain street poles. Since 2004, Mobile Telecommunications franchisees have installed small cells on over 6,000 city-owned and privately-owned poles, improving wireless services throughout the City. Previous deployments have focused primarily on 4G densification.

DoITT’s Commitment to Equity and Transparency

The benefits of 5G will not be limited by zip code. The proposed equipment may be installed on street poles in every neighborhood of the City. Franchisees identify poles that meet their individual wireless coverage and capacity needs and select them during periodic pole reservation periods initiated by DoITT.

Continued from Page 3

DoITT is committed to ensuring that 5G will be equitably deployed throughout the City by allocating a set number of poles to be reserved in each of three geographic zones, which cover the entire City. This method of pole allocation is designed to ensure that more poles are made available in areas of the city outside of the Manhattan core.

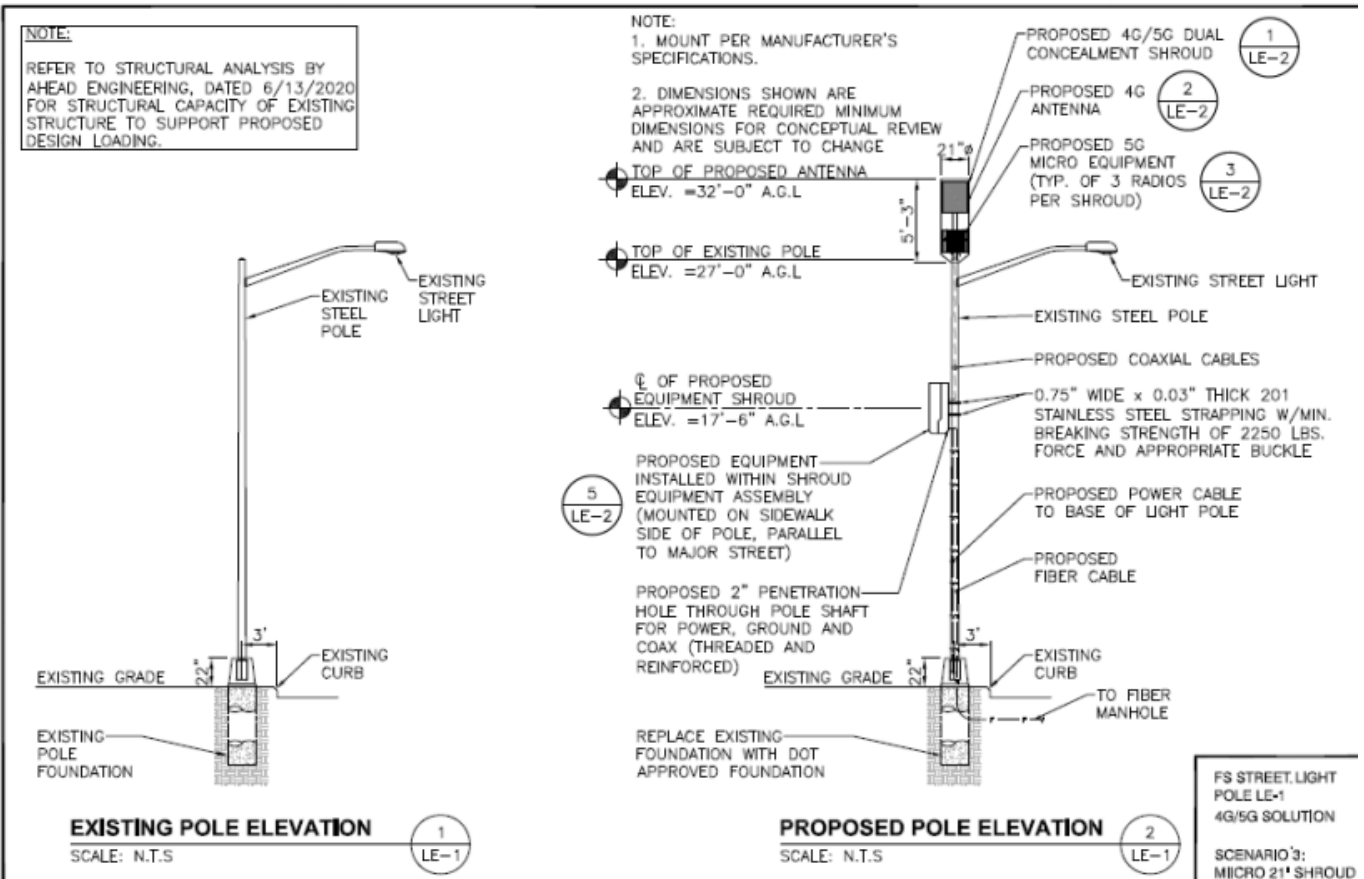
We will continue to periodically update a dataset of poles approved for the potential installation of small cells on the City's Open Data portal, available here: <https://data.cityofnewyork.us/City-Government/Mobile-Telecommunication-Franchise-Poletop-Install/tbgj-tdd6>. You can search by borough, street name and intersection.

Federal Regulation of Safety

The FCC preempts cities from denying small cell permits to franchisee applicants based on health concerns or the environmental effects of radio frequencies (RF) under Section 332(c)(7) of the Communications Act. For further information from the FCC on wireless devices and health concerns, please go to: <https://www.fcc.gov/consumers/guides/wireless-devices-and-health-concerns>.

Pursuant to their franchise agreements, Mobile Telecommunications franchisees are required to comply with all FCC guidelines related to RF emissions, and DoITT is committed to holding each franchisee to this standard.

We welcome public feedback regarding the proposed design. Please send all comments via email to 5GDesignFeedback@doitt.nyc.gov by **August 8, 2020**.





NYC DoITT 4G vs 5G
Flatbush



NYC DoITT 4G vs 5G
Type M



NYC DoITT 4G vs 5G
30' Davitt



NYC DoITT 4G vs 5G
City Light

How 5G looks in other cities...



Minneapolis



Chicago



Philadelphia



NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL MEMBER

BARRY S. GRODENCHIK


23RD COUNCIL DISTRICT, QUEENS

CUNY NY Citizenship Now!

Our attorneys and paralegals funded by the New York City Council are ready to help you over the phone or via videoconference, Monday to Friday, 9 to 5 pm.

 **Call: 646-664-9400**

 **Text us: 929-334-3784**

 **citizenshipnowinfo@cuny.edu**

 **cuny.edu/citizenshipnow**



CUNY Citizenship Now! attorneys are available for consultations on all immigration matters and completing immigration applications.

With all of the issues that the immigrant community has to deal with during this pandemic, CUNY Citizenship Now! attorneys want to make sure that immigration issues are not on the list of things they have to deal with on their own--attorneys are only a phone call or a text or an email away.

Queens Public Library

by Luisa Benedetto

On July 13, 2020 Queens Public Library (QPL) welcomed back customers at our seven reopened branches for “to-go” services, allowing individuals to pick up and return materials.

An additional nine locations will only accept returns at exterior return machines or book drops. While they slowly reopen, their safety of their customers and staff are the highest priority. With that in mind, **it is required for all individuals to wear a mask and stay a minimum of six feet apart from others.**

Below, please find the locations for to-go service and returns:

- **To-Go Service & Returns:**

Bayside, Bellerose, East Elmhurst, Kew Gardens Hills, Laurelton, Long Island City and Peninsula Library.

- **Returns Only:**

Astoria, Cambria Heights, Central Library, Flushing, Jackson Heights, Queensboro Hill, Rego Park, Ridgewood and South Ozone Park Library.

For more information on the Library’s first phase of reopening, please go to: <http://connect.queenslibrary.org/6608>



CENSUS 2020 Update

On August 11th, Census enumerators will begin knocking on doors.

- As we know, self-response (when people respond to the Census themselves) yields better data.
- We have five (5) weeks left to “drill down” and boost Census self-response rates, especially in areas at-risk of being seriously undercounted.
- This also will reduce the burden on Census enumerators, who have tens of thousands of people to reach.

Citywide, there are 28 high-risk areas where self-response rates are very low in specific Census tract clusters. Ten (10) of the lowest clusters are in Queens:

- Corona-Roosevelt Avenue Cluster
- College Point Avenue-Main Street Corridor
- East Flushing Cluster
- Richmond Hill-South Ozone Park Agglomeration
- South Jamaica-Baisley Park Agglomeration
- Rockaway Peninsula Corridor
- Hollis-Jamaica Avenue Agglomeration
- Southeast Queens – Belt Parkway Cluster
- Briarwood-Parsons Blvd. Cluster
- Woodhaven-Rockaway Blvd. Cluster

Did you know?

Lifeline Program

“During the COVID-19 pandemic it is critical that New Yorkers have the connectivity they need to stay in touch with loved ones, telework, search for jobs, participate in remote learning and telehealth, and maintain the social distancing necessary to slow the spread of the coronavirus.

Lifeline is an assistance program offered by many telephone providers, including some wireless and cable companies, to help low income eligible consumers save money on their bills. Due to circumstances related to the pandemic, many New Yorkers may be eligible for Lifeline for the first time, but may not be aware of the program or how to apply,” *John B. Auricchio, Director of the Office of Consumer Affairs at the NYS Department of Public Service.*

For more information or to apply, please contact your telephone company or visit the Universal Service Administrative Company website at www.usac.org

HCP -15991-2 / PIN X228.72

QL-B Subsurface Utility Evaluation - Single lane, right lane closures of Long Island Expressway between the exits as described below:

MPT provided by Campbell Engineering Support Services / Sub to Subsurface Utility Imaging (PM is Keith Cardinali)

Subsurface Utility Imaging is subcontracted to KC Engineering & Land Surveying (PM is Davis S. Baker, L.S.)

Date	Location #	Direction	Between Exits	Time on	Time off	Borough
7/20	7 (A6)	WB	29 (Springfield Blvd) and 27N-5(I-295 Clearview Expressway)	10am	3pm	Queens
7/21	4	WB	25 (164th St./Utopia Pkwy.) and 24 (Kissena Blvd.)	10am	3pm	
7/22	1	WB	25 (164th St./Utopia Pkwy.) and 23 (Main St.)	10am	3pm	
7/23	11	WB	24 (Kissena Blvd.) and 23 (Main St.)	10am	3pm	
7/24	10	WB	23 (Main St.) and 22B (College Point Blvd., I-678 Van Wyck)	10am	3pm	

HCP -15991-2 / PIN X228.72

QL-B Subsurface Utility Evaluation - Single lane, right lane closures of Long Island Expressway between the exits as described below:

MPT provided by TBD / Sub to Subsurface Utility Imaging (PM is Keith Cardinali)

Subsurface Utility Imaging is subcontracted to KC Engineering & Land Surveying (PM is Davis S. Baker, L.S.)

Date	Location #	Direction	Between Exits	Time on	Time off	Borough
7/27	12	EB	22B (College Point Blvd., I-678 Van Wyck) and 25 (Utopia Pkwy./188th St.)	10am	2pm	Queens
7/28	2 & 3	EB	24 (Kissena Blvd.) and 26 (Francis Lewis Blvd.)	10am	2pm	
7/29	5	EB	25 (Utopia Pkwy./188th St.) and 26 (Francis Lewis Blvd.)	10am	2pm	

LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATION (S)



- ◆ **Meo Japanese Grill and Sushi, Inc.**
185-01 Union Turnpike, Fresh Meadows - *Renewal of Full Liquor License*
- ◆ **FKNG, Corp d/b/a Mela's Café**
71-02 Kissena Blvd., Flushing - *Full Liquor License*
- ◆ **Tierras Centroamericanas Rest. Corp**
87-52 168th Street, Jamaica - *Renewal of Beer, and Cider License*

Any complaints about establishments with liquor licenses should be sent to Community Board 8 in writing. Unless a signed, written notification is received at our office, we cannot follow up. You must also include your address and telephone number.

Block Party Permit Requests



The Mayor signed an Executive Order limiting Street Activity Permits through September 30, 2020:

First, to prioritize public spaces for socially distant public use (New York for New Yorkers).

Secondly, to support residents, businesses and community organizations in utilizing low-scale, socially distant events for socializing, recreation, and services.

DEMOLITION/EXCAVATION NOTICE



- 73-09 178th Street — Garage
- 80-33 169th Street — House
- 80-86 Dumfries Place — Garage
- 159-03 84th Drive — Garage
- 159-03 84th Drive — House

NEW YORK CITY



The following locations are scheduled for resurfacing during FY 2020.
[July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021]

STREET	FROM	TO
61st Road	Reeves Ave	146 Street
168th Street	Horace Harding S/R	73 Avenue
170th Street	Jewel Avenue	Horace Harding South S/R
67th Avenue	Utopia Parkway	185 Street
193rd Street	Union Turnpike	73 Avenue
Chevy Chase Street	Henley Road	87 Road
Radnor Road	Dalny Road	GCP South S/R
87th Avenue	138 Street	144 Street
Pershing Crescent	Manton Street	84 Drive
86th Avenue	143 Street	Queens Boulevard
85th Drive	144 Street	Manton Street
86th Road	Queens Boulevard	143 Street
143rd Street	Hillside Avenue	84 Drive





Mid-Summer 2020

Community Board 8, Queens

Resolution

Whereas the residents of Community Board # 8, Queens are a mosaic of different races, religions, ethnicity and creeds, and

Whereas the members of Community Board #8, Queens reflect the very same mosaic, and

Whereas many of the residents of Community Board #8, Queens have participated in peaceful protests and demonstrations against the actions of rogue police persons around our country, and

Whereas the members of Community Board # 8, Queens support our local police and the right of our residents to peacefully protest the actions of rogue police persons

Be it resolved that as a Community Board we condemn and will NOT tolerate any forms of racism as well as unchallenged brutality/aggression by law enforcement and/or institutions, especially against the Black and Brown Community.

Be it further resolved that we support legislation that would fulfill our goal for racial equity.

Be it further resolved that we support peaceful protests and demonstrations and condemn the actions of those who seek to use this as an opportunity to conceal their illegal activities.

“It’s all right to tell a man to lift himself by his own bootstraps, but it is cruel jest to say to a bootless man that he ought to lift himself by his own bootstraps.”

— Martin Luther King Jr.