





# **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: Mary Maggio EXEC. SECRETARY: Bhitihara–Martha Fulton TREASURER & BUDGET DIRECTOR: Harbachan Singh

#### CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Honorable Sandra Ung - 20th District Honorable Linda Lee - 23rd District Honorable James Gennaro - 24th District

#### **BOROUGH PRESIDENT**

Honorable Donovan Richards

STAFF

**DISTRICT MANAGER**: Marie Adam-Ovide Soleil Griffin, Community Assistant Nettie Norris, Community Service Aide

#### **BOARD MEMBERS BY AREA**

#### <u> Area 1 – Kew Gardens Hills</u>

Mitch Lisker – CHAIR, Heather Bennett-Idels, Susan D. Cleary, Jennifer Martin, Rabbi Yaniv Meirov, Rabbi Shlomo Nisanov, Tobias Paris, Simon Pelman and Jacob Weinberg.

#### <u>Area 2 – Briarwood</u>

**Seymour Schwartz – CHAIR**, Solomon Davydov, Allen Eisenstein, John Gebhard, Elke Maerz, Mohammad Rahman, Charlton Rhee and Douglas Sherman.

#### <u> Area 3 – Hillcrest Estates & Jamaica Hill</u>

Kevin Forrestal – CHAIR, Dilafroz Ahmed, Bhitihara-Martha Fulton, Wendy Gennaro, Ahsan Habib, Mohammed "Delwar" Islam, Hersh Parekh and Frances Peterson.

Area 4 – Flushing Heights, Flushing Suburban, Hillcrest Dr. Penny M. Stern – CHAIR, Kenneth Cohen II, Steven Konigsberg, and Dilip Nath.

<u>Area 5 – Georgetown Mews, Pomonok, Electchester, Flushing</u> Mary Maggio – CHAIR, Neeta Jain, Jenna Citron Schwab and Deepti Sharma.

<u>Area 6 – Utopia, Fresh Meadows, West Cunningham Park</u> Maria DeInnocentiis – CHAIR, James Gallagher, Alan Ong, Tamara Osherov and Amy Tse.

<u> Area 7 – Jamaica Estates & Holliswood</u>

**Howard Fried – CHAIR**, Dr. Robert Block, Edward Chung, Michael Hannibal, David Mordukhaev, Jesse Rosenbaum, Harbachan Singh, Martha Taylor, Mohammed Tohin and Mayer Waxman.

# March 15, 2024 - DOB in Your Community District - Save the Date!

#### January's Community Board 8 Public Hearing/Meeting (recap) 183-02 Union Turnpike Fresh Meadows

The minutes of Wednesday, December 13, 2023, were unanimously approved by 36 members.

#### Chairperson's Report:

Announced her condolences to Elke Maerz who lost her son-in-law. The Community Board 8 is unable to meet at the Hillcrest Jewish Center on October 23, 2024. She requested the board members to email the CB8 office with suggestions of locations or to change the date.

#### Guest Speakers:

Council Member James Gennaro - He met with the City Land Use staff about the City of Yes. He is working closely with his colleagues and the speaker to adjust the proposal. The Council Member passed a bill regarding making New York City Coastal waters no discharge zones. The proposals for the street co-naming, Michael Simanowitz, Nettie Mayerson, and Natalie Rogers passed the City Council.

The Council Member is working with the Office of Cannabis Management to address illegal cannabis shops. If anyone has any questions, they could reach out to their office and schedule a meeting with Henry or the Council Member directly.

Next Public Hearing/Meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 21, 2024 Minutes of Board Meetings are available *usually* within two weeks on our website. https://www.nyc.gov/queenscb8

# A Word from CB8...

Dear Resident,



We understand that our residents may have difficulty going to Manhattan to receive certain city services. At Community Board 8, we believe in bringing government to the people whenever possible. To this end, we are pleased to announce **DOB** in your Community District! .

Last year, the Department of Buildings sent out thousands of postcards to property owners of one-family to four-family dwellings informing them of outstanding violations. While the property owners may have already paid the fines, they have not cured these violations. In addition to paying the fine, property owners must fix the problem, submit a Certification of Correction that must be approved by the Department of Buildings.

In our attempt to assist our residents in remedying this situation, we learned that these residents must first register online through DOB NOW. In addition, all their documents must be submitted electronically. This created an obstacle to some of our senior citizens and other residents who are not tech-savvy or do not have access to a computer. Our office brought this issue to the attention of the Department of Buildings and the Mayor's Community Affairs Unit.

We are pleased to announced that as a result, the agency will be coming to our Community Board 8 office on Friday, March 15, 2024 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. This is to assist our residents with this process. Please contact us to register as soon as possible, as space is limited.

Please share this information with your friends and neighbors. It takes more than City Hall to make New York City great, it takes us all!

Sincerely,

Marie Adam-Oside

District Manager

Martha Taylor Chairperson

January's Community Board 8 Public Hearing/Meeting (recap) (Continued from Page 1)

#### Commanding Officer Mo Tsang, 107th Precinct

Wished everyone a Happy New Year and looks forward to working alongside the community.

#### Anthony Iuliano, Deputy Commissioner of Operations – Mayor's Community Affairs Unit

The City Council passed law 586, which would require the NYPD to provide quarterly reports detailing information on level one, two, and three investigative encounters between the police and civilians. The mayor is looking to either veto the bill or have the city council consider making changes.

#### (Continued from Page 2)

#### Kahleel Bragg - representing Borough President Donovan Richards

Announced that the Community Board application launched. The deadline is February 16<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m.. Members who are even year applicants will receive communication by Tuesday, January 16<sup>th</sup> regarding their renewal.

The Borough President is hosting a Haiti 220 Independence Anniversary at Queens Borough Hall on January 24<sup>th</sup>. On January 27<sup>th</sup>, there will be a Queens Tech Job Fair at the Jamaica Performing Arts Center. There will also be a Queens Mental Wellness Basketball Classic to commemorate Mental Health Awareness Month at St. Francis Prep on January 27<sup>th</sup>.

#### Executive Committee - Kevin Forrestal

City Planning announced a zoning amendment that, if approved, will affect casino and ancillary project development in New York City. The proposed amendment would eliminate the ULURP and Special Permit requirements, which would eliminate community board and Borough President involvement in decision making. Community Board 8 requested a presentation; however, due to limited staffing, they are unable to present to the board.

Community Board 8 members voted to write a letter urging the City Planning Commission to withdraw their Casino Zoning Revision Plan and refrain from proposing any further actions until they present to the community boards.

#### <u>26</u> Yes <u>9</u> No <u>0</u> Abstention

There is another City Planning zoning proposal change that would remove the requirements, with exception, for housing projects where there are less than 175 units in low-density areas and less than 250 units in medium and high-density areas.

Community Board 8 voted to send a letter opposing the Green Fast Track for Housing. This letter urges the City Planning Commission (CPC) to deny the administrative action, and to refrain from future actions until enough time has elapsed to evaluate the effects of the changes already approved or under review.

 $\underline{34} \text{ Yes} \qquad \underline{0} \text{ No} \qquad \underline{0} \text{ Abstention}$ 

#### Parks Committee – Bhitihara-Martha Fulton

The CB8 Parks Committee met with the New Yorkers for Parks Director of Public Advocacy and Programs, Ms. Sherrise Palomino, concerning New York City budget cuts and a resolution to support the funding of NYC Department of Parks. New Yorkers for Parks conducts research and develop policy recommendations related to the quality of open space related to development, management and sustainability, by using research as a foundation for their advocacy of policies to protect open space for all neighborhoods throughout NYC.

The Parks Committee has voted to support a resolution that requires the Mayor to keep his promise of funding the Parks Department at 1% of the city budget. NYC spends less that other major cities and has three (3) to eight (8) times the amount of park space as other cities. Forty-four (44) members of the City Council are in support of this 1% budget, and none are opposed. *The CB8 Letter of Support was unanimously approved.* 

#### <u>33</u> Yes <u>0</u> No <u>0</u> Abstention

#### Health Minutes with Dr. Stern

January is cervical cancer awareness month. This month gives us an opportunity to raise awareness about cervical cancer and the effectiveness of the HPV vaccine.

When diagnosed promptly, cervical cancer can be treated successfully, since it's one of the most treatable cancers. Black women have a low incidence of cervical adenocarcinoma *[one subtype of cervical cancer]*; however, they have the highest mortality rate of this subtype due to untimely access to healthcare/diagnosis. Black, Hispanic and Latina women are more likely than White women to get diagnosed with cervical cancer and die from it. Vaccination is recommended for everyone from age 11 to age 26 *(who was not previously vaccinated)*. She urged everyone to spread the word about cervical cancer prevention, diagnosis, and treatment.

# SAVE THE DATE!

# **Community Board 8Q's Public Hearing On**

The MTA's Queens Bus Redesign.



#### Wednesday, February 21, 2024 7:30 p.m.

### Hillcrest Jewish Center 183-02 Union Turnpike *(Auditorium) Fresh Meadows*

We will review MTA proposals for the Queens Bus Redesign specifically affecting CB8. You will have the opportunity to speak on the proposed changes. Please call us to sign up for speaking time at (718) 264-7895.



# Alley Pond Environmental Center

22910 Northern Boulevard, Douglaston, NY 11362

# **Press Release**

Please Release Immediately For More Information Contact: Front Desk of APEC (718) 229-4000

# **BIRTHDAY PARTIES FOR CHILDREN & TWEENS**

Looking for a truly unique place to hold your child's birthday party – Alley Pond Environmental Center is just the place. APEC provides a two hour educational party complete with live animals, trail walks and a nature themed activity/game in our new state of the art building. APEC birthday parties allow your child and guests to appreciate nature firsthand and close up. Call for a free birthday party brochure 718-229-4000 or visit www.alleypond.org/birthdays.

# NY Connects is OPEN and operating remotely!



CIDNY's NY Connects program is a free, trusted place to go for information about benefits, resources, and services that support people with disabilities and older adults. We work with New Yorkers of all ages and with any type of disability.



# NY Connects:

- Is a free service
- Is available remotely
- Is available throughout all five boroughs
- Is accessible for any language



# NY Connects can help people with disabilities:

- Remain independent
- Understand paths to care
- Discover transportation options
- Get answers about Medicaid, Medicare, and health insurance
- Apply for benefits including SNAP, SSI, SSDI, and Unemployment
- Learn housing options
- Get help with food resources



Get in touch today to see how we can help. 1-844-862-7930

Find NY Connects online at www.cidny.org/nyconnects CIDNY carries out this important service in partnership with NYC's DFTA.



				mental and Climate			
Justice Commun							
GRANT	Environmental and Climate Justice Community Change Grants Program						
FUNDING AGENCY	Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)						
	Rolling application, final applications due by November 21, 2024						
DEADLINES	Initial selections expected March 2024; initial awards by May/June 2024						
	Rejected applications can be re-submitted after debriefing with EPA						
GRANT CAPS	Track I: \$10 – 20 million (~150 awards) Track II: \$1 – 3 million (~20 awards)						
GRANT CAPS							
LOCAL MATCH	No match required						
PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE	3 years						
BRIEF DESCRIPTION		CATEG	ORY	ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS			
This one-time program, f	unded through the	Climate Change		Partnership between			
Inflation Reduction Act pr		& Resilience		I two community-based nonprofit			
fund environmental and o				organizations (CBOs)			
activities to benefit disad				/			
communities through pro				Partnership between CBO and:			
pollution, increase comm				I Local Government			
resilience, and build com				Tribal Government			
address environmental a	nd climate justice						
challenges. These place-				Institution of Higher Education			
will be focused on comm				Lond Ann Roomton and a sharehouse			
initiatives to be responsiv				Lead Applicants can submit a max			
and stakeholder input. Th				of two applications and may			
deliver on the transforma				receive up to two awards			
IRA for communities mos				Legal aquerements are aligible to			
disproportionately impacted by climate				Local governments are eligible to enter a Statutory Partnership with			
change, legacy pollution, and historical disinvestments. Funding will be distributed				a CBO and may serve as the Lead			
through cooperative agre				Applicant or Statutory Partner.			
PRIORITY AREAS	ements.	PROCRAM		I FEATURES			
Track I:			PROGRAM	I FEATORES			
	u reciliones through a	limate					
<ul> <li>Increase communit action activities</li> </ul>	y resilience through o	amate		m is broken out into two tracks:			
	ion to improve public	health	Track I – Community-Driven Investments for				
	ion to improve public community engagem		enange (priority recue) in recue of main				
		ent					
<ul> <li>Build community st</li> </ul>			Pollution Reduction Strategies to meaningfully				
<ul> <li>Reach priority population</li> </ul>			improve the environmental, climate, and				
<ul> <li>Maximize integration</li> </ul>	on across projects		resilience conditions affecting disadvantaged				
Track II:			communities	5.			
<ul> <li>Break down system</li> </ul>	natic barriers preventi	na	Track II – M	leaningful Engagement for			
			Track II – Meaningful Engagement for Equitable Governance will facilitate the				
communities from participating in government processes			engagement of disadvantaged communities in				
<ul> <li>Create engagement and feedback mechanisms</li> </ul>			governmental decision-making processes to				
<ul> <li>Provide disadvantaged communities with</li> </ul>			advance environmental and climate justice				
information about issues impacting them			through the creation of engagement and				
<ul> <li>Develop partnershi</li> </ul>			feedback mechanisms. Effective projects should				
	nthropic orgs., private		involve the use of cross-sector partnerships to				
sector, and/or third		-	facilitate such engagement.				
			I				



#### TRACK I APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Track I applications must address the following six requirements:

- 1. Climate Action Strategy: Include at least one project aligned with at least one of the following strategies:
  - Green Infrastructure and Nature-Based Solutions:
  - Mobility and Transportation Options for 0 Preventing Air Pollution:
  - Energy-Efficient, Healthy, and Resilient 0 Housing and Buildings:
  - Microgrid Installation for Community 0 Energy Resilience:
  - Community Resilience Hubs; 0
  - Brownfield Redevelopment; 0
  - Waste Reduction and Management; 0
  - Workforce Development Programs. 0
- Pollution Reduction Strategy: Include at least one project aligned with at least one of the following strategies:
  - Outdoor Air Quality and Community 0 Health Improvements
  - Clean Water Infrastructure 0
  - Safe Management and Disposal of 0 Waste
- 3. Community Engagement and Collaborative Governance Plan demonstrating how the applicant will inform. respond to, and engage community members.
- Community Strength Plan describing how the proposed projects will enhance the overall strength and economic prosperity of the community.
- 5. Readiness Approach describing how the applicant will fulfill the period of performance requirement.
- Compliance Plan describing compliance with the grant's terms and conditions.

#### TRACK II APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Track II activities may include but are not limited to:

- 1. Educational and Training Programs that prepare, train, and educate members of DACs on how to engage in government processes.
- 2. Environmental Advisory Boards (EABs), councils, taskforces, or similar bodies that facilitate the engagement of DACs with government in environmental decision-making.
- 3. Collaborative Governance Activities that facilitate the process of providing recommendations and implementing decisions that will benefit DACs by creating collaborative bodies with members from DACs, government entities, and other stakeholders to work on environmental and climate justice issues.
- Projects that enable Participation in Governmental Funding and Budgeting Processes to inform public spending on environmental priorities

EVALUATION CRITERIA TRACK I	EVALUATION CRITERIA TRACK II			
Applications will be evaluated on a 200 point scale with written applications evaluated based	Applications will be evaluated on a 100 point scale based on:			
on:	<ul> <li>Program Objectives, 35</li> </ul>			
<ul> <li>Community Driven Investments for Change (80 total)</li> <li>Program Management, Capability, and Capacity (35 total)</li> <li>Readiness to Proceed, Feasibility, and Sustainability (40 total)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Project Collaboration and Participation, 20</li> <li>Project Linkages, 4</li> <li>Budget, 8</li> <li>Environmental Results, 6</li> <li>CBO Experience &amp; Commitment, 5</li> </ul>			
Applications that receive at least 110 points from the	<ul> <li>Programmatic and Managerial Capability and Resources, 16</li> </ul>			

Past Performance, 6

## CUNY UPSKILLING INITIATIVE

POWERED BY CUNY'S ADULT AND CONTINUING EDUCATION(ACE) DEPARTMENTS



#### LEARN NEW SKILLS.

IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19, CUNY IS FOCUSING ON THE UPSKILLING INITIATIVE THAT IS BASED ON OFFERING LOW-COST TO FREE SKILL BASED TRAININGS AND COURSES. CUNY AIMS TO TRAIN 50K+ PARTICIPANTS THROUGH THIS INITIATIVE

#### WHY UPSKILLING?

- STUDENTS HAVE THE OPPRTUNITY TO OBTAIN
- INDUSTRY RECOGIZED CERITIFICATIONS. STUDENTS CAN EARN CREDITS THAT CAN COUNT

ACE UPSKILLING SUCESS

**11 CUNY CAMPUSES** PROVIDE OVER 200 COURSES YOU CAN CHOOSE FROM! **OVER 3K STUDENTS SERVED!** 

**TRAINING STARTING SPRING 2024** 

THIS ROUND WE PLAN TO SERVE APPROXIMATELY OVER 2000 INDIVIDUALS!!

- TOWARDS A DEGREE PROGRAM
- HANDS ON TRAINING AND MUCH MORE!



#### STUDENT TESTIMONIAL

"I enrolled in the SQL Relational Database course. It served as a great introductory experience to SQL. I look forward to taking more courses!"

-NICOLE BARUCH



PLEASE VISIT COLLEGE CAMPUS WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION

JUAN KASOUEZ

NESS OW

TEMEVE DIDI FA



# Join thousands of New Yorkers who are volunteering in our parks!

Visit nyc.gov/parks/volunteer or scan to sign up for an event near you.



## Unlocking Doors—HPD Pilot Program

"Unlocking Doors" is a new program that will invest up to \$10 million to renovate distressed rentstabilized homes and then connect New Yorkers experiencing homelessness with access to those homes. Through this pilot, the City will provide up to \$25,000 for qualifying repairs for up to 400 rent-stabilized homes that are currently vacant and unavailable for rent. After the repairs are complete, HRA will then match the rehabilitated apartments with households with City Fighting Homelessness and Eviction Prevention Supplement (CityFHEPS) vouchers for use and distribute the reimbursement to the apartment's owner.

## Eligibility

Each Unit must be registered with DHCR as vacant in 2022 and 2023 and the legal rent of that specific unit must be below the threshold established in the CityFHEPS Rules and below:

- (A) \$1200 for a dwelling unit with up to one bedroom;
- (B) \$1300 for a dwelling unit with two bedrooms; and
- (C) \$1400 for a dwelling unit with three or more bedrooms.

All work must be completed per <u>CityFHEPS</u> guidelines and requirements. Units will only be eligible to receive the funding associated with the program after the unit and building passes an inspection by HPD according to CityFHEPS requirements and a CityFHEPS voucher holder is offered a two-year lease.

## How to Apply

Step 1 – Preliminary Eligibility Determination

Please ensure the below documents are uploaded with initial submission for Preliminary Eligibility Determination

- HCR rent registration for prior two years indicating vacancy and most recent rent levels prior to vacancy
- Supplemental Application: https://www.nyc.gov/assets/hpd/downloads/pdfs/services/ unlocking-doors-supplemental-application.pdf

#### Step 2 - Inspection and Work Verification Submission

Applicants have up to 6 months from date of Preliminary Eligibility Determination to complete renovation and submit proof of cost. Please ensure the below documents are uploaded to ensure a complete application is submitted.

<u>Unlocking Doors Cost Schedule</u> (in excel only is available on the HPD website)

Owner's Affidavit: https://www.nyc.gov/assets/hpd/downloads/pdfs/services/unlocking-doors-owners-affidavit.pdf

- Proof of Completion
- Certificate of Occupancy,
- DOB documentation of approval, or
- Architect's/Engineer's Affidavit: https://www.nyc.gov/assets/hpd/downloads/pdfs/services/ unlocking-doors-architect-or-engineer-affidavit.pdf

• Detailed receipts/invoices from contractors and proof of payment. Each receipt should be labeled with the corresponding Item # in the Cost Schedule. Application may be rejected or returned without Item #s labeled on the receipts/invoices.

# All supporting documentation for Steps 1 and 2 must be submitted through the <u>Unlocking Doors</u> <u>Application Portal</u>

Applications should be filed on an individual unit basis and will be considered for eligibility on a first come first served basis and approved after work verification and inspection. Only up to three units per building will be approved for the Unlocking Doors repair grant. The program will fund up to 400 units.

#### <u>Contact</u>

Please email <u>UnlockingDoors@hpd.nyc.gov</u>

# CANNABIS/LIQUOR LICENSE NOTIFICATION (S)

 Farrah Sattan d/b/a QuantLeaf Labs Incorporated 198-03 Hillside Avenue in Hollis NEW - Retail Dispensary Premises - Cannabis



- Sabor Latina Concession Corp. 65-38 Kissena Boulevard in Flushing NEW - Full Liquor License
- Zen Fusion, Inc. 79-28 Parsons Blvd. in Fresh Meadows Renewal - Full Liquor License
- Cheap Shots NY LLC 149-05 Union Turnpike in Flushing Renewal - Wine, Beer & Cider Liquor License
- Wo Kee Noodle Inc. 168-10/12 Union Turnpike in Fresh Meadows Renewal - Wine, Beer & Cider Liquor License

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

	CONSTRUCTION NOTICE (S)		
Voter Registration/Change of Enrollment	CONSTRUCTION NOTICE (5)		
February 14, 2024 is the last day for the NYC Board of Elections to receive your change of party enrollment to vote in the primary this year. Any changes received after February 14th will become effective on July 5, 2024. CB8 has voter registration forms available for you!	<ul> <li>76-19 173rd Street - Excavation</li> <li>75-06 137th Street - Excavation</li> </ul>		
CITY PARKING RULES	CANNABIS/LIQUOR LICENSE		
The City suspends alternate side parking regulations for both street cleaning purposes and traffic flow, on	Committee Meeting		
legal and/or religious holidays.	Tuesday, February 20, 2024		
PARKING	7:30 p.m.		
ZONE	Community Board 8 Office		
	197-15 Hillside Avenue		
	Hollis, NY 11423		
Lunar New Year's EveFri., Feb. 9th	Places when it written testimenty in our part on accient		
Lunar New YearSat., Feb. 10th Lincoln's BirthdayMon., Feb. 21st	Please submit written testimony in support or against new Liquor License and/or Cannabis application by		
Ash WednesdayWed., Feb. 14th	the end of business day on <u>Friday</u> , February 16, 2024.		
President's DayMon., Feb. 19th	If you have complaints about illegal cannabis shops,		
(Parking meters are still in effect.	please contact the Office of Cannabis Management at https://cannabis.ny.gov/report-an-incident or call 1-888-OCM-5151 (1-888-626-5151).		
(Farking meters are still in ejjett. * Except during major holidays)			
<i>T</i> · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
	11		



# Community Board 8, Queens

				-,		
SUN	MON	TUE		THU	R	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7 Executive Cmte. Meeting 7:30 p.m. CB8 Office	8	9	10 The second se
11	12 Capital/ Expense Budget Cmte. Meeting 7:30 p.m. CB8 Office	13	14 Happy: Valentines Day?	15	16	17
18	19 HAPPY. * Presidents: * DAY We're closed	20 Liquor/ Cannabis Cmte. Meeting 7:30 p.m. CB8 Office	21 Board Meeting Public Hearing 7:30 p.m. Hillcrest Jewish Center 183-02 Union Turnpike	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		

"Never be limited by other people's limited imaginations."

-Dr. Mae Jemison, first African-American female astronaut