

**(Pending Committee Approval)**

**Bronx CB8 Environment & Sanitation Committee Meeting Minutes**

**Date: Wednesday, June 17, 2026**

**Start Time: 7:00 PM**

[Meeting Recording](#)

1. Welcome & Roll Call
  - a. Committee:
    - i. Present: L. Spalter, R. Spalter, D. Rowen, E. Hausman
    - ii. Zoom: K. Argenti, M. Lewis
    - iii. Absent: S. Froot
  - b. Public:
    - i. Jeremy, Sima Wolf, Melissa Braverman, Daniella, Deborah Shapira
2. Approval of Committee Minutes – May 20, 2026
  - a. Approved unanimously with no corrections.
3. Chairperson’s Report
  - a. See attached DEP 311 table for May 2026 as well as the June quarterly Jerome Park Reservoir Rehabilitation Newsletter.
  - b. Also see the attached news articles relating to environmental and sanitation issues which were passed around and discussed during the meeting:
    - i. <https://www.curbed.com/article/sanitation-workers-stuck-needles-ozempic-glp-1-peptides.html>
    - ii. <https://www.amny.com/law/court-nyc-sewage-discharge-notify/>
    - iii. <https://council.nyc.gov/press/2026/05/15/3122/>
    - iv. <https://www.riverdalepress.com/stories/dog-waste-complaints-spark-support-for-new-city-council-legislation,233041>
4. DSNY questions and follow-up from CB8 Joint Meeting on Broadway Corridor Conditions
  - a. The Board Chair, District Manager, and Committee Chairs of Economic Development, Environment and Sanitation, Traffic and Transit, as well as the Special Committee on Racial Equality met with Counsel Members de la Rosa,

Dinowitz, and p. Sanchez as well as representatives from NYC DOT and the MTA to discuss conditions along the Broadway Corridor from W. 225<sup>th</sup> Street up to W. 242<sup>nd</sup> Street. MTA gave a presentation discussing their responsibilities during the construction and our follow-up letter is attached. Since the meeting, the MTA has cleaned up around their work sites and equipment, has added signs for businesses that face the street, and have started putting crossing guards at each of the affected intersections with blind left turns due to the curtains installed around the elevated tracks. Also attached is MTA's recent response detailing their responses to our issues thus far.

5. DEP request to study flooding along Arlington Avenue

- a. I reached out to Effie at DEP to discuss the need to study the flooding and road conditions along Arlington Avenue around W. 252<sup>nd</sup> and W. 254<sup>th</sup> Streets. Attached is her response dismissing the notion that any NYC agency has jurisdiction on underground streams, but she confirmed that most if not all the homes along that street are connected to DEP sewers. She suggests we check with NYSDEC to see if they have any possible oversight. She also stated that there had not been many or any 311 reports of flooding or sewer backups in the area, so residents are encouraged to report both to 311 whenever they occur so that the city can have a paper trail and record of these issues here.
- b. Karen shared her screen and showed a map that did not suggest any underground stream there. She did, however, question where the outfalls from I87 go and if we could find a map of those. She also shared Google Gemini instructions outlining the steps to dedicate an undedicated street, see attached.
- c. CM Eric Dinowitz was on Zoom and brought up the frequent flooding on this street, concurring with multiple residents who were also online to express how big of an issue flooding is. He also confirmed that Arlington here is an undedicated street.
- d. Daniella on Zoom also cited flooding and bad erosion and potholes along the street.
- e. Jeremy on Zoom concurs with Daniella on the flooding.
- f. Melissa on Zoom is another neighbor reporting flooding and sewer backups in her basement. The committee questioned her on how sewer backups could be storm water related if there are no storm water drains along the street.
- g. Sima on Zoom is also upset that no one owns the street. She also reports frequent dumping on Spencer Ave and W. 260<sup>th</sup> Street. Possibly something to refer to CM Dinowitz's office for ACE cleanups.

- h. L. Spalter feels a study of why flooding has gotten worse could be helpful and suggests the neighbors form a block association.
- i. Neighbors are encouraged to report all flooding and sewer backups to 311 and also to request FloodNet sensors by filling out this form:  
<https://arcg.is/0vGbmW>

## 6. New Business

- a. DEP announces construction on the Tibbetts Brook Daylight project will begin Fall 2026!
  - i. Karen and Laura were at the meeting, but state that we are still awaiting the final storm water plan as well as staging plans during construction.
  - ii. See attached press release from DEP  
(<https://www.nyc.gov/site/dep/news/26-016/nyc-dep-major-milestones-project-daylight-tibbetts-brook-bronx>) and Bronx Times coverage of their announcement: <https://www.bxtimes.com/work-to-begin-on-tibbetts-brook-daylighting/>

## 7. Unfinished Business

- a. DSNY containerization rules are now in effect for buildings with 9 and fewer units; trash must be set out in NYC Bins effective June 1, 2026, with a warning period until September 7<sup>th</sup>!
- b. CB8 has produced new dog waste signs (see attachment) to be distributed throughout the district, anyone interested is encouraged to contact the board office: <https://cbbronx.cityofnewyork.us/cb8/about/contact/>

## 8. Adjournment at 8:20 pm.

Submitted by Daniel Rowen  
Chair, Environment & Sanitation Committee

## Top 30 Complaints

08 BRONX May 2026

Descriptor 1	# of SRs
Dirty Water (WE)	56
No Water (WNW)	32
Hydrant Running Full (WA4)	30
Lead Kit Request (Residential) (L10)	26
Noise: Construction Before/After Hours (NM1)	25
Hydrant Running (WC3)	19
Noise, Barking Dog (NR5)	17
Manhole Overflow (Use Comments) (SA1)	13
Noise: air condition/ventilation equipment (NV1)	13
Street Flooding (SJ)	12
LOW WATER PRESSURE - WLWP	10
Leak (Use Comments) (WA2)	7
Possible Water Main Break (Use Comments) (WA1)	7
Illegal Use Of A Hydrant (CIN)	6
Noise: Alarms (NR3)	6
Catch Basin Sunken/Damaged/Raised (SC1)	5
Hydrant Leaking (WC1)	5
Noise: lawn care equipment (NCL)	5
Air: Dust, Construction/Demolition (AE4)	4
Hydrant Defective (WC2)	4
Sewer Odor (SA2)	4
Catch Basin Clogged/Flooding (Use Comments) (SC)	3
Hydrant Knocked Over/Missing (WC)	3
Manhole Cover Missing (Emergency) (SA3)	3
Sewer Backup (Use Comments) (SA)	3
Air: Odor/Fumes, Vehicle Idling (AD3)	2
Catch Basin Search (SC2)	2
Noise: Construction Equipment (NC1)	2
Water Meter Broken/Leaking - Private Residence (CMR)	2
Asbestos Complaint (B1)	1
Chemical Odor (HD1)	1
Clear Water With Organisms (Insects, Worms) (QE2)	1
Concrete In Catch Basin (IEA)	1
Noise, Other Animals (NR6)	1
Unsafe Chemical, Abandoned (HC2)	1
Waterway-Color (IHD)	1

## Bronx, NY

## June 2026 Quarterly Update

# Jerome Park Reservoir and Aqueduct Rehabilitation

3055 Goulden Avenue  
Bronx, NY 10468

Project: JRAQ-REH

The Jerome Park Reservoir is a raw water reservoir supplying raw water to the Croton Filtration Plant. The primary purpose of the JRAQ-REH construction contract is to rehabilitate and upgrade components of the Jerome Park Reservoir and to maintain the reservoir in a state of good repair.



Temporary Ramp and Walkway South Basin

### Project Scope

Construction of a Diversion Structure and filling the Old Croton Aqueduct (OCA) with Controlled Low Strength Material (CLSM), repair of leaks in the East Reservoir Wall, demolition of the existing fence along the East Reservoir Wall and construction of a new fence and guide rail, repair of the Lehman College Parking Lot retaining wall, repair of an existing rubble wall along the South Reservoir Access Road, repair and reinforcement of the North Basin Ramp, shotcrete repair of the North Basin inlet archway and wing walls, resetting of the East Reservoir Wall capstones, re-pointing of the East Reservoir Wall dimension stones, construction of a shotcrete armor wall along lower half of East Reservoir Wall (North and South Basins), and removal / replacement of the reservoir asphalt access roadways.

### Contract Work Schedule

May 2021 to December 2026

Zohran K. Mamdani  
Mayor  
Lisa F. Garcia  
Commissioner

### Work Performed During the Period

- Completed disposal of bitumastic stone/ soil.
- Completed draining of South Basin.
- Completed the installation of temporary ramp and walkway in the South Basin.
- Completed survey of South Basin East Wall.
- Commenced cleaning of the South Basin floor.
- Commenced removal of capstone and dimension stone from South Basin East Wall.

### Upcoming Work Activities (Next 3 Months)

- Complete cleaning of the South Basin floor.
- Complete removal of capstone and dimension stone from South Basin East Wall.
- Commence installation of formwork and rebar for the South Road Grade Beam.
- Commence installation of dowels for shotcrete on East wall in the South Basin.
- Commence repointing at East and West wall in the South Basin.

### Work Hours

- Regular work hours: 7:00 AM - 4:30 PM, Monday to Friday.
- Extended hours, low noise activity: 7:00 AM – 6:00 PM, Monday to Friday, and 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM on Saturdays (only as necessary).

### Community Impacts

During construction hours, you can expect the following:

- Intermittent elevated levels of noise.
- Delivery trucks to use construction entrances on Sedgwick Avenue (north end of reservoir) and West 197th Street (south end of reservoir). Flag person will be utilized for maintenance and protection of vehicular and pedestrian traffic.
- No water in South Basin during the construction period.
  - South Basin anticipated to be out of service (empty) until December 2027.

### Community Construction Liaison (CCL)

The DEP has assigned Robert Vargo, PE, CCM of Arcadis as the Community Construction Liaison (CCL) for this project. Please contact Robert Vargo for any project related inquiries/concerns.

**Phone:** (917) 567-6660

**Email:** Robert.Vargo@arcadis.com

# More Sanitation Workers Are Getting Pricked by Used Needles



By Matthew Sedacca, a Curbed writer who covers New York City

JUNE 16, 2026

SAVE

17



Photo-Illustration: Curbed; Photos: Getty

Mike Plotkin, who's been a New York City sanitation worker for 20 years, recently noticed something happening at his garage on Staten Island. In the last 14 months, there have been 15 incidents in which one of his colleagues has gotten stuck by a needle someone tossed in the trash alongside their used tissues and Oreo wrappers. That number felt unprecedented. "When I first started, working out of a Coney Island garage, the rate was about one stick every other year," Plotkin, who runs a blog called *Behind the Truck*, wrote in early June. "Sometimes longer." And he had a theory about the apparent increase in needle sticks: GLP-1's. "Hundreds of thousands of Americans are doing this now. All of them new to needles, most of them with no medical training."

It was a compelling enough theory that I reached out to the Sanitation Department to see if they'd noticed anything similar. It turns out that what Plotkin had noticed at his garage appears to be part of a citywide trend. Per DSNY, in 2019, there were just 25 cases of sanitation workers getting stuck by a needle while on the job. This could be an undercount, since not everyone who gets jabbed reports it, but it was a baseline. By 2024, there were 36 reported cases. And in 2025, there were 46. As of June 3 of this year, there have already been 35 needle injuries, which puts the city on track for about 83 by year's end. A spokesman for the department, Vincent Gragnani, declined to speculate on what might be behind the rise in incidents, but he did offer a reminder that syringes, clean or used, should be thrown out in a sharps container — the red ones with biohazard signs. Failing that, any heavy-duty plastic, such as a detergent bottle, that you label "home sharps" should do. (People can also take their used needles to a hospital or a pharmacy that accepts sharps drop-offs.) "Disregarding these rules endangers the health and safety of our Sanitation Workers, which is our top priority," says Gragnani.

But we *are*, increasingly, a city of injectors, right? Beyond the more familiar terrain of diabetics, IVF patients, people using hormone therapy, and intravenous users of illicit drugs, people have been turning themselves into lab rats for new *wellness* frontiers. Per a 2025 Gallup survey, 12.4 percent of people nationwide said they were using semaglutide drugs — and that's to say nothing of the new crop of cosmetic treatments that people have been sourcing through luxe longevity clinics, telehealth portals, and, in some cases, from China via WhatsApp. Dr. Neil Paulvin tells me that his midtown office has seen a 50 percent increase in patient inquiries about peptides this year, and William Allen, a marketing manager at the West Village-based Extension Health, tells me peptide orders to his clinic have essentially doubled compared to what he was seeing in 2025. It seemed worth asking around, so I started reaching out to people in the city using peptides, GLP-1s, semi-illicit

hyaluronic acid infusions, and other at-home cosmetic injectables about how they discard their spent needles.

Grace, one of the people I talked to, had until recently been using a compounded semaglutide. After scheduling an appointment with an online telehealth provider based in Illinois, she was sent a vial of a GLP-1, a package of syringes, and a prerecorded video on how to take the weight-loss drug. In the nearly five-minute clip, a blonde woman with a heavy midwestern accent instructs viewers on how to draw the medication from the vial and where to inject it on the body. This woman did not, however, say anything about how to dispose of the needles. So Grace just tossed them in the trash uncapped. “I was more concerned with my roommates seeing there was a needle in the trash than I was about having a lid on it,” she says. Another person I spoke to who’s been dabbling in peptides since late last year says he also tosses his needles in the trash — but he caps them. Did the prescribing health-care provider talk to him about disposal? “It never came up,” he says. (This seems to be the case for a lot of users considering the volume of posts on semaglutide and peptide-related sub-Reddits about proper syringe disposal.) A third person I talked to says that while she ordered a sharps container off Amazon to dispose of her used semaglutide syringes, a friend who gave her a tutorial on self-injecting just tossed hers, loosely capped, into the trash. But why would someone do that? “I don’t think there was any thought process about it one way or another,” she says. (Perhaps it goes without saying, but Gragani says capping and tossing isn’t a secure way to discard old needles. Caps can come loose.)

This is, of course, anecdotal. There are likely many explanations for the rise in needle pricks, and for every injectables novice throwing uncapped needles in the trash, there are certainly many more who know how to dispose of their used needles properly (or at the very least bother to Google it). The providers I talked to were also insistent that needle-discard best practices are very much part of how they’re talking to their patients. “I strictly advise my patients never to toss used needles directly into the household trash or recycling bins,” Jennifer Levine, a plastic surgeon on the Upper East Side, says. And Mandeep Singh, a registered nurse at Atlas Men’s Health Clinic, which has an office in midtown, says he and his colleagues give clients being prescribed peptides or whatever else print-out instructions on how to dispose of their syringes. No patient left behind. “We give a pamphlet out to the testosterone guys; we have print-outs that have these instructions on them,” he says. He was just as surprised as I was to hear that some people actually need them. “You’d think it’s common sense.”

# NYC must notify residents when sewage discharges into rivers and creeks, court rules



By Isabella Gallo

Posted on June 4, 2026



A court ruled that the city must notify residents when sewage is discharged in its waters.

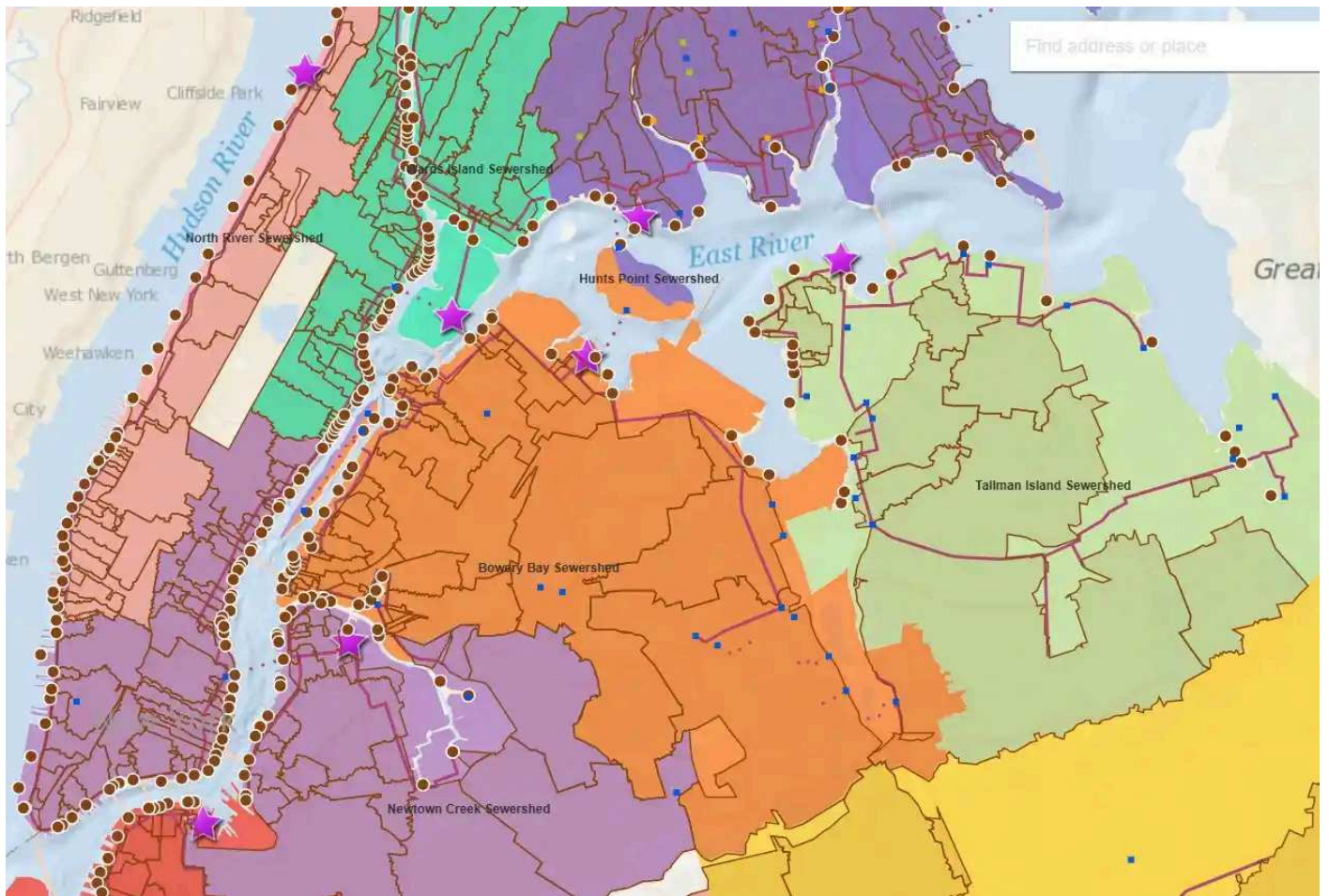
Photo by Lloyd Mitchell

New York City must notify residents every time **sewage is discharged into its rivers and waterways**, a state appeals court **ruled** Wednesday.

The decision affirms a lower court and stems from a 2019 suit brought by environmental advocacy organization Riverkeeper, which argued the city was violating local law by not immediately notifying residents every time its sewage system overflows into its rivers.

“This is a victory for the health of all New Yorkers and for transparency surrounding environmental health,” said Mike Dulong, Riverkeeper’s legal program director. “It’s especially impactful for water users: the fishing, boating, and yes, even the swimming communities in New York that are affected by this.”

When it rains heavily, the city’s sewage system overflows into the East and Hudson Rivers at about **450 Combined Sewage Overflow (CSO) sites**, resulting in raw sewage being discharged into water people touch, fish, boat, swim, and walk near, in, and on. Exposure to raw sewage can cause gastroenteritis, skin rashes, ear, nose, and throat problems, pinkeye, respiratory infections, meningitis, and hepatitis.



A map of all the sewage overflow sites in the city.

Previously, the city would only notify people when so much sewage was discharged into its waters it violated water quality standards. Now, whenever sewage is discharged into any water surrounding the city, officials will have 4 hours to notify the public via an electronic notification system.

“On one out of every three days, one of these CSOs discharges into the water,” Dulong said. “Previously, New York City only notified the public about a fraction of those discharges. Now they’ll have to notify the public of every single one.”

When asked for comment, a spokesperson from the city’s Law Department said it was reviewing the court’s decision. The Department of Environmental Protection could appeal it to the state’s highest court, the Court of Appeals.

The city had argued that, because it kept a running list on its website of all the places sewage was overflowing into the water, it was complying with the law, known as the Sewage Pollution Right to Know Act.

Riverkeeper, however, which pushed for the law’s passage, emphasized that the law required notifications when any discharge starts, which the Appellate Division, Second Department, agreed with.

Notification of any and all sewage discharge is important, the advocacy group said, because parts of the East and Hudson Rivers, where people kayak and walk their pets near, are so deep and wide that sewage being discharged into them would “hardly ever” result in a water quality standard violation that would trigger a notification.

“You could have sewage discharging in tune of millions of gallons, but there would be no notification to the public, who are kayaking and boating, and literally swimming in these waters,” Dulong said. “We’re just trying to make sure that everybody knows when there’s discharge.”

# Speaker Menin, Council Members, and Animal Rights Advocates Rally in Support of SCOOP Act to Address Dog Waste and Community Cleanliness

May 15, 2026

*Bills would expand access to dog waste bags, increase public education, and establish a composting pilot program*

**NEW YORK, NY** – Today, New York City Council Speaker Julie Menin, Council Members, dog enthusiasts, and animal rights advocates rallied at the Tompkins Square Park Dog Run in support of the Safe and Clean Outdoor Ownership Practices (SCOOP) Act, a package of legislation aimed at improving community cleanliness, enhancing support for dog owners, and ensuring dog waste is picked up throughout all five boroughs. The legislative effort comes after the City saw a [spike in dog waste complaints](#) by New Yorkers during the first two months of the year following consecutive winter snowstorms. During that period, 311 received 821 complaints about dog waste citywide, up 35.8% from the same period last year.

The SCOOP Act would expand access to dog waste bags, launch a new pilot program to compost dog waste collected from dog runs, establish a new public education campaign, and strengthen enforcement in certain areas. Most of the bills in the legislative package will be heard by the [Committee on Sanitation and Solid Waste Management on Tuesday, May 19](#).

The livestream of the event is [here](#), and photos will soon be [here](#). A video announcing the SCOOP Act can also be found [here](#).

“Having clean streets and sidewalks isn’t just a quality of life issue, it’s also a public health matter that the Council’s SCOOP Act legislation will help address,” said **Speaker Julie Menin**. “Today is about giving dogs and their busy owners more resources, and friendly reminders to care for their furry friends and for their community.”

The SCOOP Act includes the following legislation:

1. **[Introduction 857](#)**, sponsored by **Speaker Julie Menin**, would require the Department of Sanitation (DSNY) to install and regularly fill dog waste bag dispensers on or next to all public litter baskets on city streets. This bill would also require DSNY to work with the Department of Health and Mental

- Hygiene (DOHMH) to conduct a public awareness campaign to educate the public on the negative public health consequences associated with dog waste.
2. **Introduction 864**, sponsored by **Council Member Harvey Epstein**, would require the Commissioner of Parks and Recreation to establish a pilot program to collect dog feces from dog runs under the Department of Parks and Recreation's (DPR) jurisdiction for composting. At dog runs, the Commissioner would install dog feces collection bins, provide compostable dog feces bags, and post a sign at each bin recommending that individuals deposit dog feces in the bins.
  3. **Introduction 906**, sponsored by **Council Member Justin Sanchez**, would establish procedures for the Department of Sanitation (DSNY) once it receives at least 3 complaints of dog waste on the same city block within 7 days. DSNY would be required to either remove the waste on that block or inform property owners of their obligation to remove the waste and issue violations to those who do not remove the waste.
  4. **Introduction 872**, sponsored by **Council Member Shahana Hanif**, would require the Commissioner of Health and Mental Hygiene, in consultation with the Commissioner of Sanitation, to develop and conduct a public education and outreach campaign to inform the public about dog waste removal and the dangers of failing to remove dog waste.
  5. **Introduction 880**, sponsored by **Council Member Mercedes Narcisse**, would require the Commissioner of Parks and Recreation to post signs at the entrances and exits of parks, and at certain park facilities, stating the rule prohibiting a person from leaving dog waste on the ground and the associated penalties for violation. Separately, this bill would require the Commissioner of Transportation to post signs on the New York State requirement concerning dog waste removal in public areas and associated penalties.

At the rally, the Council also launched the @nycscoop patrol account on [Instagram](#) and [X](#), which can be tagged by New Yorkers who want to participate in community-organized cleanups. Speaker Menin also appointed the dog influencer Maxine the Fluffy Corgi as the first-ever Dog Speaker, who will serve as an honorary co-sponsor of the SCOOP Act. The City's Dog Mayor and Deputy Dog Mayor also agreed to serve as honorary co-sponsors.

"I am happy to welcome Speaker Menin and my colleagues to Tompkins Square Park to call for the passage of the SCOOP Act, creating a comprehensive plan for dog waste in our city," said **Council Member Harvey Epstein, Chair of the Council's Animal Welfare Caucus**. "My bill Int. 864 would create a pilot program for composting dog waste in our city's dog runs. As the Chair of the Animal Welfare Caucus and an avid composter, I cannot wait to participate in this when I take my dog, Homer, to the dog run."

"Being a responsible dog owner means making sure your number one priority is never leaving number two behind," said **Council Member Justin E. Sanchez, Chair of the Committee on Sanitation and Solid Waste Management**. "My bill is about accountability, respecting our neighbors, and making sure

the people who do the right thing every day are not forced to deal with the consequences of the people who don't."

"Every New Yorker deserves clean and safe public spaces, said **Council Member Shahana Hanif**. "The SCOOP Act takes a comprehensive approach to addressing dog waste in our neighborhoods, and I'm proud to introduce legislation creating a public education campaign so every New Yorker — and especially dog owners — understands the rules, public health impacts, and importance of picking up after pets."

"Our city has 600,000 dogs, 311 complaints are surging, and virtually no irresponsible dog owner is facing consequences," said **Council Member Mercedes Narcisse**. "The law has been on the books since 1978 but without visible reminders in the places where the problem is worst, we're relying on the honor system. This package puts signage at park entrances and on sidewalks flagged by complaints so dog owners see the rules and the penalties. It's simple, it's low-cost, and our communities have been asking for it."

"At Voters For Animal Rights, we believe being an animal-friendly city means being a responsible city," said **Allie Taylor, Founder of Voters For Animal Rights**. "Supporting dogs and the people who love them also means keeping our streets, parks, and public spaces clean, safe, and accessible for everyone. Thoughtful policies that reduce dog waste pollution help protect public health, improve quality of life, and strengthen the bond between New Yorkers and their companion animals. We're proud to stand with Speaker Julie Menin and Council Member Harvey Epstein in support of commonsense legislation that promotes cleaner neighborhoods and more responsible pet guardianship."

"Pets are cherished members of the family, and a vital part of the fabric of our city as evidenced by the New York City Council's recent creation of an Animal Welfare Caucus to promote animal welfare and advance legislation to make pet ownership more affordable for animal-loving New Yorkers," said **Michelle Villagomez, Senior Director of Municipal Affairs for the ASPCA**. "Whether you're an experienced pet parent or a first-time dog owner, it's important to keep your canine companion's health and happiness a top priority and abide by local laws to license your dog, keep them on a leash when in public places, and scoop up their poop. While most pet parents do clean up after their dogs, there are certain problem areas, usually on less densely populated streets, and we welcome the City Council's efforts to address this issue to ensure happier, safer communities for people and pets across the city."

# Dog waste complaints spark support for new city council legislation

Posted June 5, 2026



**City Council District 11 saw residents fire between 60 and 90 311 complaints about dog waste between January and May of this year.**

MICHELLE MULLEN PHOTOS



**by Michelle Mullen**

A package of city council bills aimed at reducing dog waste on city streets is drawing support from some Riverdale residents, though questions remain about whether the policies can change the behavior of dog owners who already ignore existing laws.

The Safe and Clean Outdoor Ownership Practices Act, known as the SCOOP Act, was introduced May 15 following a spike in dog waste complaints citywide after a winter marked by consecutive snowstorms.

The legislative package would expand access to dog waste bags, increase public education efforts and strengthen responses to repeated complaints.

In City Council District 11 — which includes, Kingsbridge, Riverdale, Norwood, Van Cortlandt Village, Wakefield, Woodlawn and Bedford Park — residents filed between 60 and 90 complaints between January and May 2026, with ZIP codes 10471 and 10463 each accounting for roughly 35 complaints during that period.

Residents interviewed by The Press pointed to recurring trouble spots in heavily trafficked pedestrian areas throughout greater Riverdale where dog owners regularly walk their pets. Several described conditions as particularly unpleasant after January's snowstorms, when weeks of accumulated waste emerged as snowbanks began to melt.

For Jason Bunin, a Riverdale dog owner who lives near West 235th Street, the problem became especially noticeable during those weeks.

“When people start treating the neighborhood disrespectfully and just leaving dog waste, it gets frustrating,” Bunin said. “One of the reasons we live in Riverdale is because it’s beautiful. I love the community, I love the neighborhood, I love the parks.”

Bunin said carefully navigating some sidewalks became necessary to avoid piles of waste left behind after the snow. As a dog owner himself, he said irresponsible behavior by a minority of pet owners reflects poorly on everyone else.

“It’s a responsibility,” Bunin said. “If you take on a pet, you’re taking on a responsibility.”

City lawmakers say the SCOOP Act is intended to address both the practical and behavioral sides of the problem, making cleanup supplies easier to access while reminding pet owners of their obligations.

The legislation consists of five separate bills. One measure would require the department of sanitation to install and regularly refill dog waste bag dispensers on or adjacent to every public litter basket on city streets.

Another would establish a pilot program to collect dog waste from parks department dog runs for composting.

Additional proposals would require public education campaigns about the health and environmental impacts of uncollected dog waste, increase signage in parks and public spaces, and create new sanitation procedures for blocks that receive repeated complaints.

Under one bill, if DSNY receives at least three complaints about dog waste on the same block within seven days, the department would be required to either remove the waste or notify property owners of their obligation to do so and issue violations if they fail to comply.

Council member Eric Dinowitz , among the city council members in support of the bill, said dog waste complaints increased somewhat after the winter storms but have not been among the most common issues reported to his office.

“There was some additional concern around the snowstorm, because there was poop left on the ground and the snow covered it,” Dinowitz said. “It’s not one of the top complaints we get.”

Still, Dinowitz said legislation alone cannot solve the problem.

“We can provide all the free bags in the world, but they’re meaningless unless people choose to clean up after their dogs,” he said. “The neighborhood belongs to all of us.”

Longtime North Riverdale resident Anna Purves said the issue of dog waste has ebbed and flowed over the years.

She recalled seeing significant accumulations of dog waste after winter storms, particularly in areas around Marble Hill and sections of Post Road. Yet this spring, she said, conditions seem somewhat improved compared with earlier in the year.

Even so, she said one of the most frustrating aspects of the problem is how rarely residents actually witness violations taking place.

“Every time I see someone walking the dog, they pick it up,” Purves said. “I don’t catch anybody in the act.”

That challenge has also complicated enforcement efforts.

In a statement, a DSNY spokesperson said summonses are difficult to issue because enforcement officers must directly observe a dog owner failing to remove their dog’s waste.

“The chances of someone not picking up after their dog while an enforcement officer is watching is very, very slim,” the spokesperson said.

According to the department, a three-day enforcement stakeout in Mott Haven in 2024 resulted in just one summons. Weeklong patrols in Washington Heights, Harlem, Morningside Heights and Flatbush in 2025 produced none. Citywide, DSNY issued only two summonses for failure to remove canine waste during 2025.

“It is clear that people only leave piles behind when they know no one is watching,” the spokesperson said.

Daniel Rowen, chair of Community Board 8’s Environment and Sanitation Committee, said conditions deteriorated significantly during the coldest weeks of winter before improving considerably this spring.

“It was horrible when it was super cold this winter,” Rowen said. “People just sort of were like, it’s too cold, and stopped completely.”

Rowen said the community board received a noticeable increase in complaints during that period, prompting discussions about both enforcement and public education.

In April, he said, DSNY informed Community Board 8 that it had begun a pilot program attaching dog waste bags to existing litter baskets in certain areas while conducting educational outreach about proper disposal practices. He added that there are currently no cameras used to monitor dog waste violations in the district.

The community board has also distributed dog waste bag holders and educational materials at neighborhood events in an effort to encourage responsible pet ownership.

The proposal to place dog waste bag dispensers at litter baskets has also drawn attention to another issue: the baskets themselves.

The Press identified a number of locations in Community Board 8 where litter baskets shown on DSNY's online map appeared to be missing.

Residents and community board members said the absence of trash cans may discourage proper disposal, particularly along popular walking routes.

"There's not a lot of public receptacles," Bunin said. "People just figure they don't want to carry it, so they're just going to leave it."

A DSNY spokesperson acknowledged that some of the department's approximately 23,000 litter baskets periodically go missing.

"We do our best to replace them as we notice them or as they are reported," the spokesperson said.

For longtime dog owner Linda Goodman, however, the biggest obstacle is not access to bags or trash cans.

Goodman, who owned dogs before New York State's original Pooper Scooper Law took effect in 1978, said most dog owners already understand what is expected of them. The law requires owners to clean up after their pets in public spaces, with fines of up to \$250 for violations. But enforcement can be difficult, she said, because offenders generally must be caught in the act.

"Nobody likes stepping in dog poop," Goodman said. "The people who don't clean up don't like it, so you do it right."

She questioned whether additional bag dispensers would significantly change the behavior of those who already ignore the rules.

"If you're not going to clean up after your dog, and you're in the park, you're not going to go over to a trash can and grab a bag," Goodman said.

For residents like Goodman, the challenge has remained largely unchanged since New York adopted its original Pooper Scooper Law nearly five decades ago. Rules, signs and bags may help, she said, but courtesy is harder to legislate.

**DATE:** June 5, 2026

**TO:** CM de la Rosa and staff  
 CM Dinowitz and staff  
 CM P. Sanchez and staff  
 NYC DOT Bronx Borough Commissioner and staff  
 MTA  
 DSNY (not present)  
 SBS (not present)  
 NYPD (not present)

**FROM:** Bronx Community Board 8 Board Chair, District Manager and Committee Chairs on Economic Development (EDC), Environment & Sanitation (E&S), Traffic & Transportation (T&T) and Special Committee on Racial Equity (SCRE) - referred to as Bronx CB8.

Thank you for meeting with Bronx CB8 on Monday, June 2, 2026, regarding our concerns on the Broadway Corridor that ranged from unsafe conditions to lack of multi-agency accountability. As previously documented, we began raising the alarm in September 2025 during Bronx CB8 Committee meetings, requesting agency action. We requested the help of our elected officials in March 2026. Bronx CB8 Board Members regularly travel and document concerns, as recent as May 28, 2026. We thank you for your time and the seriousness provided to this situation during our discussion.

Following MTA's June 2nd presentation, Board Members revisited the corridor to provide an update on outstanding requests. As of June 3rd, we are pleased to report the following progress on requested action items:

- **Enclosures vastly improved from 225th Bridge to 242nd Street, including height, materials and exposures** - Improper chains draped along massive construction materials, especially when no workers present and in heavily pedestrian trafficked areas, beginning Summer 2025 have largely been replaced by proper wooden or metal materials and orderly enclosures since May 28, 2026. See images of June 3, 2026, and 6992 and 6993 as examples near 225th that remain unaddressed.
- **Traffic guards at 225th and 230th Streets** to improve safety by helping pedestrians cross and cars turn safely during high traffic
- **Abatement areas appear properly closed off**
- **Cleaner enclosures and streets** - As a result, streets and enclosures have improved between 230th to 242nd Streets. However, issues still remain (See image taken since meeting: 0039, 6993, 6987, 6995, 6996, 1939)
- **Bird netting removed from under 231 station** due to work being done.
- **Curb cut (Inwood side)** to allow for wheelchairs, strollers and other wheeled assists to access/exit only 225th Bridge pedestrian pathway(As of May 5, 2026).

- **231st Street Stair Reconstruction** (separate, yet adjacent project) Subway Appurtenance Protection resolved.

**MTA/NYC DOT/DSNY/SBS Issues that remain incomplete or unaddressed (photos):**

- **Outstanding business signage** guiding cars/deliveries/dropoffs. Requested in February 2026, followed up in March 2026.
- **Request for Comprehensive Small Business Plan for NYC transit projects:**
  - As evidenced in [May 28, 2026 Center for Urban Future's Mom & Pop](#) discussion, transit projects are not only disrupting, but destabilizing small businesses across NYC: Give businesses tools, resources to redirect violence, crime, and persons who need social service supports or emergency services.
  - Counsel small businesses on available resources (ie loans/forgiveness, lending institutions with reasonable lines of credit, tax write offs for business damage due to conditions, commercial tenant rights)
  - Connect businesses with information on business associations and organizing
  - Monitor/enforce landlord requirements of abandoned commercial property for trash, graffiti, abandoned vehicles
- **Sanitation in/along enclosures remains unaddressed** at 225th to 230th Streets. Confirm authority and ensure accountability between MTA/DSNY for frequent monitoring/removal of trash in/around MTA construction barriers along entire corridor. October 2025 request.
- **Remove all construction materials from North-bound**, single file side of 225th Bridge for pedestrian safe passage. Expedite 225th South-bound pedestrian access.
- **Construction worker parked cars** in enclosures, blocking entire lane on 225th Bridge, double-parked, even in 'no parking' spaces adjacent to construction enclosures along South-bound Broadway (230 to 225th).
- **DSNY to provide funding and data transparency with NYPD w/r/t abandon cars** removal to improve coordination, efficacy, and back enforcement of large rigs, trucks, campers and other vehicles unable to be towed, illegal dumping. November 2025 request.
- **Compliance with MTA bird mitigation enclosure requirements** especially at 225th, 231st and 242nd Street stations. Netting must be:
  - Netting must be secured tightly using manufacturer-supplied stainless steel cables, net bolts, clips, and tensioned perimeters.
  - Ensure ISO 1806 mesh strength standards have not been compromised
  - Provide frequency schedule mesh is replaced due to wear/tear
  - Netting remains under pedestrian walkways at 238. See images of sagging netting harboring birds, icicles image0, 6903!
- **Sanitation strategy** to mitigate bird waste at 238, 231 and 225 Subway stations, including public information on feeding birds; enforcement of trash/disposal at

abandoned businesses by commercial landlords and tenants, illegal parked cars disrupting street cleaning, increase receptacles for patrons along corridor.  
October 2025 request.

Thank you for your efforts and partnership. We look forward to your response by June 23, 2026.

Kind regards,  
Bronx CB8

## June 2, 2026 Agenda: MTA/ NYC DOT/ DSNY/ NYPD Alignment for Results

### Safety:

- Review of New York State construction site enclosure requirements for compliance from 225th Bridge to 242nd Street, including height, materials and exposures
  - Ensure all boom trucks, lifts and other machines have proper enclosure
  - Confirm chain 'enclosures' approved by NYC DOT. Ensure compliant and correct, as required.
  - Review Subway Appurtenance Protection temporary posts or enclosures may be placed on subway gratings, support walls, especially between 225 Subway/MNR access points to 231st Subway. Ensure compliant and correct, as required.
  - Review abatement work areas fire-retardant plastic sheeting. Ensure compliant and correct, as required.
- Remove all construction materials from North-bound side of 225th Bridge for pedestrian safe passage. Review route for recent curb cut (Inwood) to allow for wheelchairs, strollers and other wheeled assists to access NYP, etc.
- Expedite South-bound side of 225th Bridge sidewalk renovations to open up safe passageway for high foot traffic area.
- Enforce no construction worker double-parked cars, equipment outside of construction enclosures, especially along South-bound Broadway (230 to 225th). Reasonably restrict construction enclosures.
- DSNY to provide funding and data transparency with NYPD w/r/t abandon cars removal to improve coordination, efficacy, and back enforcement of large rigs, trucks, campers and other vehicles unable to be towed

### Small Business:

- Review construction enclosures along 230th to 225th. Only 1-2 access points for patrons, double parked vehicles, no business signs guiding cars/deliveries/dropoffs.
- Give businesses tools, resources to redirect violence, crime, and persons who need social service supports or emergency services.
- Counsel small businesses on available resources (ie SBS loans/forgiveness, lending institutions with reasonable lines of credit, tax write offs for business damage due to conditions, commercial tenant rights)
- Connect businesses with information on business associations and organizing
- DSNY monitor/enforce landlord requirements of commercial property for trash, graffiti, abandoned vehicles

**Sanitation:**

- Confirm authority and ensure accountability between MTA/DSNY for frequent monitoring/removal of trash in/around MTA construction barriers along entire corridor.
- Compliance with MTA bird mitigation enclosure requirements especially at 225th, 231st and 242nd Street stations. Netting must be:
  - Netting must be secured tightly using manufacturer-supplied stainless steel cables, net bolts, clips, and tensioned perimeters.
  - Ensure ISO 1806 mesh strength standards have not been compromised
  - Provide frequency schedule mesh is replaced due to wear/tear
- Sanitation strategy to mitigate bird waste at 238, 231 and 225 Subway stations, including public information on feeding birds; enforcement of trash/disposal by commercial tenants, illegal parked cars disrupting street cleaning, receptacles for patrons along corridor.

## Bronx Community Board 8 Request for Joint Meeting — Broadway Corridor Conditions and Community Concerns

Flynn, Jonathan <jonathan.flynn@mtahq.org>

Tue, Jun 23, 2026 at 6:03 PM

To: Margaret Della <bxathenianoath@gmail.com>

Cc: d14scheduling <d14scheduling@council.nyc.gov>, "Luciano, Rene" <rluciano@dot.nyc.gov>, "Sanchez, Pierina" <PSanchez@council.nyc.gov>, "Villalobos, Maria" <MVillalobos@council.nyc.gov>, Constance Barnes <cbarnesbxc8@gmail.com>, "Lopez, Moises" <MLopez@council.nyc.gov>, Julie Reyes <JReyes@cb.nyc.gov>, Debora <dla.bronxcb8@gmail.com>, "Klaus, Jenna" <JKlaus@council.nyc.gov>, "Dinowitz, Eric" <EDinowitz@council.nyc.gov>, d11scheduling <d11scheduling@council.nyc.gov>, Daniel Rowen <nyc@bofis.net>, "DePalma, Luke" <Luke.DePalma@nyct.com>, "Songhai, Lucille" <Lucille.Songhai@nyct.com>, edgreenbxc8 <edgreenbxc8@optimum.net>, "Castellanos, Kimberly" <KCastellanos@council.nyc.gov>, "Bonilla, Soraya" <SoBonilla@council.nyc.gov>, d10scheduling <d10scheduling@council.nyc.gov>, "Rodriguez, Luis" <LRodriguez@council.nyc.gov>, "Cruz, Darisa" <dcruz2@dot.nyc.gov>, "Carias, Claudia" <CCarias@council.nyc.gov>, "BX08@cb.nyc.gov" <BX08@cb.nyc.gov>, "fkulerubin@cb.nyc.gov" <Fkulerubin@cb.nyc.gov>

Good afternoon,

I'm sharing the latest updates following our recent conversations and continued collaboration on conditions along the Broadway corridor.

Below is a summary of current on-site coordination, safety measures, and upcoming work.

### Open for Business Signage

The "Open for Business" signage has been installed on site. Signs have been placed in clearly visible locations to ensure that pedestrians, customers, and delivery personnel are aware that the area remains accessible during active construction. We are currently in the process of creating "Open for Business" signage for the businesses affected during Phase 2 of the work. **Photos attached.**

### NYPD Traffic Enforcement Agent Deployment

NYPD Traffic Enforcement Agents continue to assist with traffic control throughout the work zone from W 225th Street & Broadway to W 230th Street & Exterior Street. A total of 11 personnel were deployed, including 10 officers assigned to Maintenance and Protection of Traffic (MPT) and one supervising officer. Their support helped maintain safe pedestrian movement and vehicle flow through a heavily constrained work environment. **Photos attached.**

### Clean and Safe Work Zones (225th–230th Street)

Throughout the month of June, the project team has maintained clean and safe work zones from 225th to 230th Street. I have included photos documenting site conditions, which show consistent efforts to promptly remove debris, keep materials properly secured, and ensure pedestrian pathways remain unobstructed and safe for public use. **Photos attached.**

### Bird Netting and Station Mitigation Work

The project team has confirmed that the current contract includes installation of new netting and spikes at the 231st, 236th, 238th, and 242nd Street stations. This work will proceed once the painting phase is complete and is expected to address ongoing bird mitigation and cleanliness concerns at these locations.


Thank you for your ongoing partnership as we continue to coordinate closely throughout this project. We look forward to maintaining clear communication and delivering the full scope of work in the year ahead.


Best,  
Jonathan

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**Jonathan Flynn**

Assistant Director, Government and Community Relations  
New York City Transit

 646-252-2651

 646-522-8104

 [Jonathan.Flynn@mtahq.org](mailto:Jonathan.Flynn@mtahq.org)

2 Broadway, New York, NY 10004





Daniel Rowen &lt;nyc@bofis.net&gt;

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**Arlington Ave/W. 252nd Street**

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**Ardizzone, Eleftheria (DEP)** <EleftheriaA@dep.nyc.gov>

Mon, Jun 8, 2026 at 11:15 AM

To: Daniel Rowen &lt;nyc@bofis.net&gt;

Good Morning Daniel,

Please feel free to call me anytime if you want to discuss any of these issues in greater detail (718-595-3493). Please see below:

Regarding underground streams, at the moment, there is no specific nyc agency that has jurisdiction on underground streams. They are naturally occurring and you may want to check with NYSDEC to see if there is any possible oversight on their end since they regulate activities that disturb the bed/banks of protected streams and water courses. Also check with the Buildings Dept to see if they have rules pertaining to construction on underground streams.

Regarding the property owners on Arlington Ave between W 252nd St and W 254th Sts, I confirmed that most if not all are connected the city sewer. There are minimal 311 complaints regarding sewer conditions from these homeowners. I encourage them to call 311 when they have any concerns. We are not aware of any DEP related issues at this location.

Finally, as with any new development, DEP requires sewer certification. The developers' architect/engineer must submit application proving the existing sewer can handle the additional sanitary and/or stormwater discharge. DEP checks the connecting sewer and downstream infrastructure. If the capacity is insufficient, the project may require onsite detention, sewer extensions, or other mitigations. Newer regulations mandate stormwater management for larger projects. This includes retention-first approaches to reduce runoff into the sewer system, reduce overflows, etc.

Just an fyi -- I have another mtg to attend on June 17th.

I hope this information helps.

Thank you,  
Effie

-----Original Message-----

From: Daniel Rowen <nyc@bofis.net>

Sent: Friday, June 05, 2026 2:21 PM

To: Ardizzone, Eleftheria (DEP) <EleftheriaA@dep.nyc.gov>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Arlington Ave/W. 252nd Street

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. Report suspected phishing emails with the Phish Alert Button or forward them to [phish@oti.nyc.gov](mailto:phish@oti.nyc.gov) as an attachment.

Hi, thank you again for attending our last E&S meeting and answering all of our questions patiently :-)

At the Land Use committee meeting this month the issue was raised of frequent flooding around the southern end of Arlington Ave (near W. 252nd Street) where the committee just approved a SNAD application for a new synagogue that will be replacing the house at 5204 Arlington.

They said that the property owners have confirmed they have a DEP sewer connection already, but many neighbors sent in a letter and/or attended the meeting and expressed concerns about flooding in the area. The new synagogue

will obviously be capturing all the rain that falls on its larger roof and other drained areas around the property into retention tanks, etc, so I think that will all be a net positive for that lot at least. However, there remains concern about possible underground streams flowing through this area and the Land Use chair asked that I reach out and request DEP study flooding in this area specifically to look into how it might be further reduced or mitigated, and if there is a stream underground, or under the road, if there are any ways to control that flow better.

I put this onto the agenda for our June 17th meeting, but figured I could just reach out to you now and I can report back at the meeting, you may not really need to attend.

Daniel Rowen

Chair, Environment & Sanitation Committee Bronx Community Board #8

<http://www.nyc.gov/bronxcb8>

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[DEP-Social-Media] <<https://on.nyc.gov/44g89HD>>

## How do you dedicate an Undedicated street in NYC?

To formally dedicate an undedicated or private street in New York City and turn it into an official public street, you must navigate the NYC City Map amendment and land use process. Dedication requires the city to formally accept the street, which must meet strict modern infrastructure standards. [[1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#)]

### The Step-by-Step Process

1. **Petition the Community Board:** Contact your local NYC Community Board to outline your proposal. You will need strong community support, usually demonstrated through petitions from neighbors, property owners, and local stakeholders.
2. **Contact your City Council Member:** Work with your local representative. To formally dedicate a street, you will generally need sponsorship from your local NYC City Council Member.
3. **Map Amendment Application:** Dedicating an unmapped or private street requires amending the official NYC City Map and undergoing the Uniform Land Use Review Procedure (ULURP). This process ensures the street meets essential public criteria.
4. **Engineering and Infrastructure Standards:** The street must be brought up to strict NYC Department of Transportation (DOT) standards. This often involves reconstructing the roadbed, laying compliant sidewalks, installing proper drainage, and accommodating utilities. [[4](#), [6](#)]

### Important Caveats

- **Maintenance Responsibilities:** Until the street is officially mapped, dedicated, and accepted by the city, property owners and developers are entirely responsible for the paving, repair, and liability of the road.
- **City Discretion:** The city is not required to accept a private road. If a street is too narrow or lacks the necessary drainage and utility infrastructure, the DOT or the Department of City Planning may deny the dedication request. [[2](#), [4](#), [8](#), [9](#), [10](#)]

If you are looking to find the exact classification or ownership of your street, reach out to NYC311 to confirm if the street is currently classified as public, private, or mapped but undedicated. [[11](#)]

*AI responses may include mistakes.*

- [1] <https://betenskylaw.com/road-dedication-procedure-in-new-york/>
- [2] <https://codes.findlaw.com/ny/village-law/vil-sect-6-610/>
- [3] <https://www.nyc.gov/site/brooklyn18/resources/street-co-naming.page>
- [4] <https://www.facebook.com/groups/grovewatchgroup/posts/2904508193075319/>
- [5] <https://www.thecity.nyc/2023/03/20/how-to-rename-a-street-in-nyc/>
- [6] <https://up.codes/s/private-streets>
- [7] <https://zr.planning.nyc.gov/print/pdf/node/21399>
- [8] [https://codelibrary.amlegal.com/codes/franklinville/latest/franklinville\\_ny/0-0-0-1636](https://codelibrary.amlegal.com/codes/franklinville/latest/franklinville_ny/0-0-0-1636)
- [9] <https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/laws/TWN/200>
- [10] [https://codelibrary.amlegal.com/codes/laverkinut/latest/laverkin\\_ut/0-0-0-3632](https://codelibrary.amlegal.com/codes/laverkinut/latest/laverkin_ut/0-0-0-3632)
- [11] <https://www.nyc.gov/site/dca/about/contact-us.page>

# Work to begin this fall on Tibbetts Brook daylighting, one of the city's largest green infrastructure investments



By Emily Swanson

Posted on June 10, 2026

Comments



Renderings showing plans for public greenspace in the Tibbetts Brook daylighting project.

Rendering courtesy NYC DEP

The New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) announced that work will begin this fall on the Tibbetts Brook “daylighting” project, one of the city’s largest green infrastructure investments.

The project will bring the brook above ground for over a mile between Hester and Piero’s Mill Pond to West 230th Street, creating new public parkland and improving local water quality.



After construction, Tibbetts Brook will run above ground from Hester and Piero's Mill Pond to West 230th Street.

Photo courtesy Van Cortlandt Park Alliance

DEP announced the final steps towards beginning the work. It recently awarded a \$149.5 million construction contract and reached an agreement with the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) for creating a new conduit for the brook beneath MTA property.

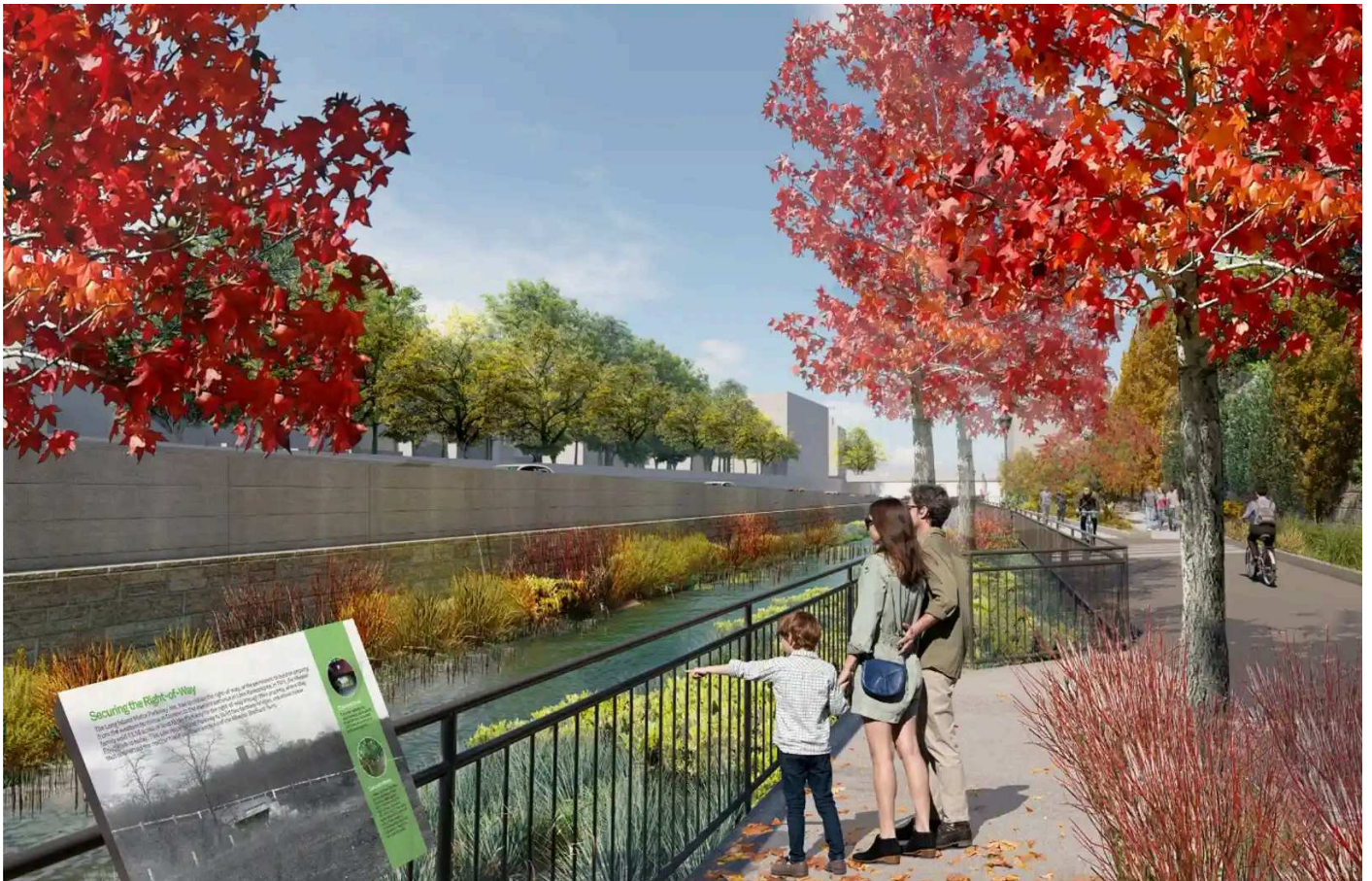
Local residents and organizations, including The Van Cortlandt Park Alliance and Bronx Council for Environmental Quality, have [pushed](#) for this work since the 1990s and expressed excitement about it starting soon.

“The daylighting of Tibbetts Brook has been a dream of the Bronx Council for Environmental Quality for the past 30 years,” said Karen Argenti, who served on the Tibbetts Advisory Group,

in a statement.

“This project turns a vacant, garbage-strewn railroad into a natural area with water and green features. The environmental benefits and biodiversity will mitigate critical climate challenges and cool the surrounding area. We are so excited that this next step will get us closer to the completion.”

Tibbetts Brook is a small but significant waterway that begins in Yonkers and flows south into Van Cortlandt Park. It was dammed in the 18th century to create the lake within the park, and in 1912, part of the brook was buried and funneled into the city sewer system at a rate of at least 4 to 5 million gallons per day in dry weather. The water is treated at Wards Island, even though it flowed in cleanly.



The project will add more than a mile of pedestrian and cyclist greenway.

Rendering courtesy NYC DEP

The daylighting project will restore the brook's natural connectivity to the Harlem River rather than the sewers, with several accompanying benefits.

For one, it will result in a new path for pedestrians and cyclists by extending the Harlem River-Putnam Greenway.

It will also remove clean water from the sewer system and reduce sewer overflow into the Harlem River during storms by as much as 215 million gallons per year, according to DEP. This action improves water quality while also eliminating energy costs and emissions required to treat brook water that becomes wastewater.

“We’re proud to mark these important milestones on the Tibbetts Brook daylighting project — DEP’s most ambitious green infrastructure project — and I am grateful to the local community, NYC Parks and the MTA for their partnership,” said DEP Commissioner Lisa F. Garcia in a statement. “By restoring the brook above ground, we’re reducing flooding and relieving pressure on our sewers, especially during heavy rainstorms, to create a cleaner, healthier Harlem River.”

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