

**MINUTES OF THE APRIL MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND SANITATION COMMITTEE  
OF BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD 8**

April 21, 2021

Committee members present: K. Argenti, C. Dastis-Galvin, R. Fanuzzi, R. Spalter, C. Tepus, D. Travis

In attendance: B. Bender, D. Gellman, L. Spalter, O. Murray (CB8) T. Edwards, L. Mercado, A. Rauch, E. Muchuca, D. Guggenheim, A. Bleier, I. C. Engel, E. Lopez, J. Gorman, V. Were

7:00 PM Public Hearing of the Environment and Sanitation Committee

Community members attended a public hearing of the Environment and Sanitation Committee in answer to the following invitation included in the notice of the April meeting:

“Bronx Community Board 8 invites you to special public hearing on environmental justice in our community. The Mayor’s Office of Climate Policy and Programs Environmental Justice for All Report has designated Kingsbridge, Van Cortlandt Village, Kingsbridge Heights, the Broadway Corridor, Marble Hill, and the North Riverdale/Hebrew Home area as Environmental Justice areas. How is your health and well-being negatively impacted by environmental factors such as air quality, development, access to parks and river shorelines, affordable alternative energy solutions, pollution from cars, buses or highways, noise, light pollution, population density, flooding, lack of shade or cooling centers, and more?”

Community members stated the following needs:

Trash on streets, blowing from open receptacles onto neighboring properties

No recycling

Location of bus depots and waste transfer located in vulnerable communities contributing to health issues

Food deserts, especially between public schools and home

Green spaces and cooling stations in vulnerable communities

Rats on NYCHA Marble Hill, Broadway in the business corridor

Commercial dumping in Tibbett’s Tail along Bailey Avenue

JPR dumping

Flooding on W. 238<sup>th</sup> Street near Stop and Shop

Mosholu Parkway overpass flooding

NYCHA Marble Hill Houses flooding

Community use of green spaces on NYCHA property; greater tenant autonomy

Renewable energy generation/solar panel rebate or incentive program

#### 7:30 April Meeting

- I. Approval of Minutes  
Minutes of March 17 meeting were approved unanimously.
- II. Chair's Report
  - A. NYC Independent Budget Office has issued report that DSNY has reinstated 3 million dollars for organic recycling drop off at Greenmarkets. IBO report states that curbside organic pickup is the greatest source of organic recycling and that drop-off organic recycling
  - B. VCPA and BCEQ call upon local support for Daylighting of Tibbett's Brook through the Daylighting Coalition of which CB8 is a member
- III. Environmental Justice for All Report  
Environment and Sanitation completed its comment to the Environmental Justice for All Report, a Mayoral Climate Policy and Programs initiative that is aligning budget, services, and resources with environmental needs. Environmental needs in the report include Health indicators, proximity to parkland, flooding, environmental remediation, economic development and workforce opportunities, as correlated with poverty rate and percentage of minoritized population. Comment from the committee is appended to the minutes.
- IV. Community Needs Statement  
Committee uses DCP guidelines for assessing and recording community needs, with special attention to environmental and core infrastructure needs of the most vulnerable communities. Sources of information for committee's needs statement include 311 calls, committee meetings, public hearing, and work undertaken on behalf of the Environmental Justice for All. Community needs inform committee budget requests and priorities.  
  
Committee will approve its Needs Statement at its next meeting and distribute to Bronx Community Board 8 office for assistance in drafting District Needs Statement.
- V. 2023 Budget Needs  
Committee identified the following budget needs on the basis of public hearing and community needs, with special attention to Environmental Justice areas.

	<b>E and S DEP--Daylight Tibbetts Brook:</b> Support expenditure of agency funds necessary to daylight the freshwater wetland known as Tibbetts Brook, which currently discharges into the Van Cortlandt Lake Weir and the Broadway sewer, and reconnect it to the Harlem River along the southern extension of the Putnam Trail to reduce combined sewer overflow. I	
	<b>E and S DEP--Dickinson Avenue:</b> Repave and realign DEP owned street to connect with Goulden Ave and enable bikelane connection to Van Cortlandt Park	

	<b>E and S</b> DEP--Spuyten Duyvil waterfront: Convert DEP-owned property on Spuyten Dyvil Creek/Canal to a Living Shoreline to promote clean water and shoreline resiliency	
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	<b><u>Bronx CB8 FY2023 Initial Expense Budget Requests</u></b>	
	<b>E and S</b> - DSNY: Full restoration of all services required for clean streets in Bronx Community Board 8, especially in the Environmental Justice-designated areas Kingsbridge, Kingsbridge Heights, Marble Hill and the Broadway commercial corridor	
	<b>E and S</b> -DEP: Maintain DEP property and upgrade maintenance contracts for areas around Jerome Park Reservoir to clean up illegal dumping	
	<b>E and S</b> --DSNY: Additional Enforcement Agents dedicated to illegal commercial dumping occurring along Bailey Avenue, Jerome Park Reservoir, and Metro North Railroad in Spuyten Duyvil	
	<b>E and S</b> --DSNY--Fund NYC Compost Project to enable compost education and community-based compost and organic drop-off sites	
	<b>E and S</b> --DEP: Additional Asbestos and Noise complaint enforcement to respond to increased construction violations and environmental impacts throughout district	
	<b>E and S</b> -DEP: Install Right-of-Way Green infrastructure along Broadway to alleviate flooding in commercial district and Marble Hill Houses area and in Kingsbridge Heights to prevent CSO runoff	
	<b>E and S</b> -DSNY: Restore curbside organic recycling in Bronx District 8	
	<b>E and S</b> -DSNY: Restore e-cycling program with community drop-off in Bronx District 8	

VI. Old Business

VII. New Business

- A. DEP owns property along the Spuyten Duyvil Harlem River waterfront that could be Living Shoreline, added to the 2023 Capital Budget
- B. Marble Hill needs a Living Shoreline along the Harlem River waterfront, added to the 2023 Capital Budget priorities
- C. Half Moon overlook is being cleaned up by local resident Andres Rojas. Committee members are connecting Mr. Rojas to additional help.

VIII. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 9:05

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Fanuzzi,  
Chair