



BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD 8

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Julie Reyes, **Chairperson**

Vanessa L. Gibson, **Bronx Borough President**

Farrah Kule Rubin, **District Manager**

MEETING MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

MEETING INFORMATION						
Date	April 21, 2026	Start Time	7:00 PM	End Time	9:05 PM	
Meeting Held At	NYPD 50 th Precinct					
Address	3450 Kingsbridge Avenue, Bronx, NY 10463					
ATTENDANCE						
Present	Edward Green (Chair), Laura Spalter (Vice Chair), Angel Ortega (Vice Chair), Michael Courtney (CCM), Margaret Della, Althea Eboh, Nick Fazio, Debra Harris				Total	8
Absent	Carol Blake, Laura Levine-Pinedo				Total	2
Guests	Lieutenant Wolverers (NYPD), Detective Jamsheer (NYPD), Olivia Young (Riverdale Press), Thomas Queenan (Gaelic Park), Daphne Borowski (Frass Box), Rodney Crump (C&L Distributor), Elizabeth Thompson (Guest), Shajada Brown (Guest), Miles Prior (Guest), Mitch Kaufman (Guest), Samuel Vega (Guest), Araceli Farciert (Guest), Jade Bravo (Guest), Radad Abdo (Guest), Mary Rosa (Guest)					

Chair Ed Green called the meeting to order at **7:00pm**

1. Introduction of Committee Members and Guests

Roll Call of committee members. Committee members introduced themselves.

2. Approval of the March 17th, 2026, Public Safety Committee Minutes

The March 17th Public Safety Committee minutes were approved unanimously.

3. NYPD Report (*See attached NYPD CompStat Report, Quality of Life Team Report, Traffic Report) –

Lieutenant Wolverers read the NYPD CompStat report. Issues discussed:

- Board member reported anti-Semitic graffiti in Van Cortlandt Park. Police investigation in progress.
- Resident reported a car was burned in front of 3718 Henry Hudson Parkway on 4/6/26. Cause of fire currently under investigation.
- Resident reported recent traffic accident at 256th Street & Riverdale Ave. Stated area is a constant source of concern for residents. Requested more traffic safety personnel and increased traffic enforcement at the location.
- Committee member reported large commercial vehicles parking regularly on Broadway between 254th Street and 259th Street occupying many parking spaces.

C&L Distributor: 436 West 238th Street

Rodney Crump, a representative of C&L Distributor, appeared before the Public Safety Committee to apply for a Retail Dispensary Premises License at 436 West 238th Street.

The committee distributed flyers of the Public Safety meeting agenda in nearby residential and commercial units, notifying residents and business owners of their opportunity to attend the meeting and express their views.

At the time of the Public Safety Committee meeting Bronx Community Board 8 received 2 emails of opposition and 1 email of support for C&L Distributor from area residents.

Approximately seven area residents attended the Public Safety Committee meeting and urged the Board to disapprove the application, while one area resident urged the Board to approve.

Resident reasons for opposition included: Ongoing issues of marijuana odor on the block, diminishing quality of life; limited parking will cause customers to double-park near the business and worsen already difficult traffic conditions; business will be in close proximity to a nursery school, a family shelter, a disorderly frat house and a church that was recently raided by the Sheriff's Department resulting in cannabis related arrests and fines.

The Public Safety Committee voted to disapprove this application.

Approve in favor (of disapproval) (5): M. Courtney, M. Della, N. Fazio, A. Ortega, L. Spalter

Opposed (3): A. Eboh, E. Green, D. Harris

Abstained: 0

9. Old Business

Discussion: Bronx District Attorney Darcel Clark Calls for Changes to Stop Youth Gun Violence:

The committee discussed Bronx District Attorney Darcel Clark's perspective on youth gun violence. The issue was previously presented to the committee by Bronx Assistant DAs at last month's Public Safety Committee meeting.

The committee drafted a letter of support for DA Clark's recommendation to expand funding, services and programming to prevent youth gun violence, and for increasing services such as trauma counseling within the youth detention centers to prevent reoffending.

The committee letter will protest the inequitable distribution of \$1.55 billion dollars appropriated by New York State that New York City is currently ineligible to receive due to a requirement that funds be reserved for localities that adhere to a two-percent real estate tax cap.

The committee unanimously agreed the letter should be sent to Elected Officials requesting a sensible solution to accessing these funds.

The committee discussed DA Clark's crime data analysis and three suggested adjustments to Raise The Age Legislation:

Data shows that since Raise the Age legislation was implemented in 2018 crime committed by youth is down in all categories except for a surge in gun violence, as more youths are carrying loaded illegal guns and shooting those weapons (<https://www.thecity.nyc/2025/12/15/raise-the-age-youth-crime-statistics/>)

<https://nypost.com/2026/01/06/us-news/nyc-youth-crime-hits-historic-highs-in-2025-as-some-parents-blame-raise-the-age-law/>).

DA Clark's suggested changes are:

1) Make all firearms charges (Penal Law Article 265) eligible for retention by the Youth Part in Criminal Court. There is a requirement that the defendant "displayed" the firearm. As a result, youth who are in possession of a loaded gun see their cases sent to Family Court. If they possess a loaded gun, it should be eligible to remain in the Youth Part.

2) Allow Youth Part judges to access Family Court records, and such records should be made available to all parties to a Youth Part case for the purposes of setting bail, sentencing and alternatives to detention. Judges do not have the authority to access Family Court records, which may contain information that is relevant for purposes of setting bail, sentencing and alternatives to detention. The practical effect of this is that Youth Part judges do not know a defendant's prior Family Court history. In effect, as far as Youth Part judges know, it is always a youthful offender's first and only charge.

3) Give Family Court jurisdiction over 18-year-olds if the offense with which they are charged is alleged to have been committed when the defendant was 16 or 17 years old. The presumption is that a case should be transferred from the Youth Part to Family Court, unless one of three facts exist (causing serious or significant injury, displaying a firearm, or certain sex offenses), or there is a showing of "extraordinary circumstances." If you commit a crime when you are 16 or 17, and your case goes to Family Court, its jurisdiction ends when you turn 18, so the case ends. This is clearly an unintended consequence.

Committee Chair and Vice Chairs expressed support for Bronx DA's suggested adjustments.

The committee reached a consensus to draft a resolution regarding Bronx DA Darcel Clark's proposed legislative adjustments. The resolution will be discussed at the May 19th Public Safety Committee meeting.

FY28 Budget Priority Requests – Final Draft:

The committee finalized FY28 Capital & Expense Budget Request Lists.

FY28 Capital Budget Requests:

Argus Cameras: Cameras capture continuous (24 hour) high-definition video footage, with a range of up to two blocks distance from the camera. The footage can be accessed by any 50th Precinct Police Officer and is often reviewed to identify perpetrators, license plates and can also be a deterrent to crime (auto theft, local business security, etc.).

Locations:

- West 238th Street & Broadway
- West 238th Street & Bailey Avenue
- Van Cortlandt Park South & Bailey Avenue
- West 239th Street & Independence Avenue
- West 261st Street & Riverdale Avenue
- Fort Independence Street (facing 3353 Fort Independence Housing)
- East Side of Broadway between 5240 Broadway and 5360 Broadway

- Allen Shandler Park Entrance at 3545 Jerome Avenue
- Reservoir Avenue & Webb Avenue
- 2831 Exterior Street (facing North bound)
- Henry Hudson Parkway (Southbound between 246th & 239th St.)

*Argus cameras are funded by allocations from elected officials for use within their districts. Specific location recommendations should be provided to the local precinct commander for submission to the Information Technology Bureau once funding is allocated. NYPD will attempt to accommodate specific location requests whenever funding is provided but reserves the right to place cameras as appropriate due to current crime trends and operational needs.

Firehouse Windows: FDNY requests \$375,000 to replace all windows at Engine 52 / Ladder 52 Firehouse located at 4550 Henry Hudson Parkway:

Outdated windows lead to poor ventilation, higher energy costs and safety concerns for members. New double-pane windows would eliminate drafts, keep air-conditioned air inside the structure and help Firefighters cool down after exposure to extreme heat during runs.

FY28 Expense Budget Requests:

John Deer Gator Utility Vehicle: Used for NYPD park patrol. Item patrols areas inaccessible to police cars. Especially useful for areas of Van Cortlandt Park (i.e. trails) where robberies and muggings have occurred. Increases police accessibility and visibility in remote areas of parks.

Five (5) Vehicle Anti-Theft Boots for Vouchered Vehicles: Applied to the wheels of cars that have been seized by NYPD, preventing cars from being moved.

The committee will submit these capital and expense budget request lists to the Bronx Community Board 8 Budget Committee before the May 15th deadline.

10. New Business

None.

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05pm

Minutes submitted by Public Safety Committee Chair Ed Green