



# BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD 8

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Laura Spalter, Chairperson

Ciara Gannon, District Manager

## NOTICE OF BOARD MEETING

### OFFICERS:

**Vice Chairperson**

Bob Bender

**Secretary**

Robert Jacklosky

**Treasurer**

Joyce Campbell Priveterre

The regular Board Meeting of Bronx Community Board 8 will be held via Zoom on **Wednesday, June 29, 2022, at 7:00 PM.**

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2114033690>

Join Zoom Meeting by Phone: +16465588656

Passcode: 2114033690#

### COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

**Aging**

Daniel Padernacht

**Budget**

David Gellman

**Economic Development**

Nicholas R. Fazio

**Education, Libraries & Cultural Affairs**

Sylvia Alexander

**Environment & Sanitation**

Robert Fanuzzi

**Health, Hospitals & Social Services**

Omar Murray

**Housing**

Theodore R. Morris II

**Land Use**

Charles G. Moerdler

**Law, Rules & Ethics**

Martin Wolpoff

**Parks & Recreation**

Ramdat Singh

**Public Safety**

Edward Green

**Traffic & Transportation**

Debra Travis

**Youth**

Julia Gomez

## AGENDA

1. Public Gallery Session
2. Report from the Bronx Borough President's Office
3. Report from the 50<sup>th</sup> Police Precinct
4. Chairperson's Report
5. Treasurer's Report
6. District Manager's Report
7. Report from the NYC Department of City Planning
8. Roll Call
9. Report from Nominating Committee
10. Election of Officers & Committee Chairpersons
11. Committee Reports:
  - a) Law, Rules & Ethics
  - b) Parks & Recreation
  - c) Public Safety
  - d) Traffic & Transportation
  - e) Youth
  - f) Aging
  - g) Budget
  - h) Economic Development
  - i) Education, Libraries & Cultural Affairs
  - j) Environment & Sanitation
  - k) Health, Hospitals & Social Services
  - l) Housing
  - m) Land Use
  - n) Special Committee on Hudson River Greenway
  - o) Special Committee on Racial Equity
  - p) Special Committee on Veteran Services
12. Discussion of Executive Committee Meeting Minutes of May 4, 2022
13. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes of May 10, 2022
14. Miscellaneous Business



*Pursuant to recent NYS legislation signed by Governor Kathy Hochul (Bill S1150A), The Community Board is required to post material to be discussed at a public meeting. Please know that the material below has not been voted on or discussed by the full board at this time.*

## Joint Resolution of the Parks and Recreation and Environment and Sanitation Committees

June 22, 2022

**Whereas**, the joint New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) are submitting their design, "Daylighting of Tibbetts Brook and Construction of a Greenway, between Hester and Piero's Mill Pond, Van Cortlandt Park, and West 230th Street, Bronx" to the New York City Public Design Commission (PDC) for a Conceptual Level review on July 11, 2022; and,

**Whereas**, DEP and DPR presented their preliminary design for the Daylighting of Tibbetts Brook and Putnam South Greenway to a joint meeting of Bronx Community Board 8 (Bronx CB 8) Environment & Sanitation (E & S) and Parks & Recreation (P & R) Committees on December 17, 2021, and presented "Daylighting of Tibbetts Brook and Construction of a Greenway, between Hester and Piero's Mill Pond, Van Cortlandt Park, and West 230th Street, Bronx", which will be submitted to the PDC for Conceptual Review, to a joint meeting of Bronx CB 8 E & S and P & R committees on May 25, 2022; and,

**Whereas**, Bronx CB 8's 197-a Plan, adopted by the City Planning Commission and the City Council in 2003, proposed including reuse of the abandoned Old Putnam Line railroad Right of Way (ROW) south of Van Cortlandt Park as an opportunity for the creation of a new multi-purpose linear open space in Kingsbridge, and,

**Whereas**, on October 12, 2010 Bronx CB8 voted to approve a ULURP application by DPR to amend the City Map in order establish 1). "a park running generally alongside the Major Deegan Expressway, between 230<sup>th</sup> and Van Cortlandt Park South" and 2).a park addition to Van Cortlandt Park, between Van Cortlandt Park South and The Bronx-Westchester County Line" and to authorize acquisition of real property (CSX ROW); and

**Whereas**, on May 13, 2014 Bronx CB 8 passed a resolution adopting the Van Cortlandt Park Master Plan, which presented conceptual plans to construct a mixed-use greenway, utilize green infrastructure, and daylight Tibbetts Brook inside Van Cortlandt Park and along the proposed Putnam South Greenway;

**Whereas**, Bronx CB 8 unanimously passed Resolutions on April 12, 2016, April 19, 2017, and February 13, 2018 in strong support of the Putnam Greenway and Daylighting of Tibbetts Brook citing their unique recreational, economic, and environmental benefits; and,

**Whereas**, representatives of Bronx CB 8 attended meetings of the newly formed Tibbett's Advisory Group (TAG) on March 10 and April 19, 2022 and the TAG site visit on April 21; and,

**Therefore, Be It Resolved**, Bronx Community Board 8 supports the concept and goals of the DEP and DPR submission, "Daylighting of Tibbetts Brook and Construction of a Greenway, between Hester and Piero's Mill Pond, Van Cortlandt Park, and West 230th Street, Bronx" that is the subject of a Conceptual Review of the New York City Public Design Commission on July 11; and,

**Be It Further Resolved** that Bronx Community Board 8 receive regular updates from DPR and DEP on design changes to the joint Daylighting Tibbetts Brook and Putnam Greenway project for the purpose of review and the consideration of new and separate resolutions pursuant to Preliminary and Final PDC review, as well as any other agency from which they seek approval.

**Be It Further Resolved** that Bronx Community Board 8 attaches a statement of design priorities and recommendations to this resolution, which may be updated by the consent of the Board, for consultation by DEP, DPR, and DOT in the ongoing design processes and future design modifications.

E and S Committee members in favor: Karen Argenti, Robert Fanuzzi, Rob Spalter, Deb Travis

Parks and Recreation Committee members in favor: Bob Bender, Rob Jaclosky, Deb Travis, Ramdat Singh

Abstension: David Gellman

## I. Environmental, Water and Watershed Management

### A. DESIGN PRIORITIES

1. Design Putnam Greenway for as close to possible “zero-discharge” within VCP and alongside the CSX ROW by utilizing green infrastructure, native plants, and an effective Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) and Erosion and Sediment Controls (E&SC). All designs must meet all requirements for Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) and New York State Pollutant and Discharge Elimination System (SPDES) permit, pre-and post-construction SWPPP.
2. Maintain an adequate level to size the water feature as needed to meet the Long Term Control Plan (LTCP) goals. Mitigate areas that are not wide enough for the greenway with cantilevering over the water feature, which also provides some shaded areas as found in nature.
3. Use the DEP’s Long Term Control Plan just for the City strategy to reduce the amount of storm water causing combined overflow into the Harlem, Hudson, and East Rivers. Climate change requires separate funding and continually updated reports on the changes we are seeing -- more rain, more often, for more hours, with greater speeds, pollutants, and erosion than ever before.
4. Prepare a maintenance manual for management guidance.
5. Create environmental educational signage to highlight ecological function of new wetlands restoration within VCP and historic trail of Tibbetts Brook along Putnam Greenway South, in consultation with local stakeholders
6. Provide maximum vegetative screen and historically appropriate facing for above ground manhole access to DEP Jerome Park Reservoir “blow off” valve within VCP wetlands area
7. Include and/or advise of permits concerning any of the above issues.

### B. RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Expand the CSO reduction impact of Daylighting Tibbetts Brook, the largest Green Infrastructure project in NYC, supplement "end of pipe" practices, and design for resilience by seeking ways to clean and capture water at its source. As the first water pollution treatment that is aesthetically beautiful, ecologically productive, and a new addition to our natural resources, Daylighting is the first step toward upstream, watershed-based stormwater management.
2. Maximize impact of CSO reduction at WI 056 by adopting and designing the Daylighting of Tibbetts Brook within the Tibbetts Brook/Harlem River Watershed, one of the largest subwatershed areas producing the highest outfall in the city.
3. Use the largest Green infrastructure and its flood mitigation impacts on the Broadway commercial corridor to drive Broadway economic development and engage local merchants
4. Use the largest Green Infrastructure to enhance and leverage citywide flood mitigation in and around Van Cortlandt Park and along the Major Deegan (Hurricane Ida), in consultation with DEP and Mayor's Office of Climate and Environmental Justice (MOCEJ).
5. Put funding for Green Infrastructure, in citywide sustainability and resiliency programs, including existing underfunded MS4 permitting. Said program requires select city agencies to maintain good housekeeping and pollution prevention activities. Sustainability goals include carbon sequestration, lowering greenhouse gas and the urban heat island effect as well as noise mitigation from I-87 and human powered, non motorized transportation methods.
6. Enhance the impact of the largest Green Infrastructure project in NYC by planning GI projects throughout the WI056 watershed, including ROW and public retrofits and incentivized private property, and discharges from surrounding DTB watershed (i.e., SMRP, etc.) Climate Change requires the use of new federal funding extended to every agency in order to shore up the high cost of flooding and its harms to life and property.
7. Consult with NYS DOT on GI and flood mitigation to regulate stormwater runoff from I-87 into VC Park and along the I-87 corridor adjacent to the Putnam Greenway.

## II. Park & Greenway

### A. DESIGN PRIORITIES

1. Continue S-curve design of the Putnam Greenway within VCP for the continuation of the Putnam Greenway in the Van Cortlandt Park and along the CSX ROW to the extent possible.
2. Implement all appropriate and available traffic calming measures on Greenway and access points to ensure pedestrian safety along the shared use Putnam Greenway
3. Incorporate lockable gates for Putnam Greenway within VCP and south along CSX ROW for possible closure, working with community stakeholders to determine appropriate hours.
4. List Rules for Park at every access point, working community stakeholders to prepare.
5. Maintain consistent DPR design idiom for lighting fixtures, preferably solar and with dark sky feature, along Putnam Greenway in VCP and south of VCP..
6. Minimize impact on sight line of proposed fencing on the VCP dam and specify materials.
7. Use planks on viewing platforms to match existing boardwalks over tree roots in the Putnam Greenway South inside VCP.
8. Utilize permeable asphalt on the Putnam Greenway wherever feasible and where required to maximize infiltration and greenway width.
9. Utilize special lighting and cameras pursuant to recommendations from NYPD for Putnam Greenway route beneath Van Cortlandt Park South underpass and other locations to ensure safety.
10. Incorporate 1% for public art opportunities into design with provisions for Bronx-based artists.
11. Incorporate waste/recycling cans and maintenance access into design of Putnam Greenway.
12. Include water fountains and DPR-approved bicycle repair stations in design of Putnam Greenway
13. Shared use throughout the Putnam Greenway, maintaining minimum required width for greenways, including a rain garden on the buffer area for water infiltration
14. Design baffle wall separating the Putnam Greenway from I-87 with vegetative cover and sound buffering
15. Clarify access from Van Cortlandt Park South.
16. Remove all chain link fencing between VCP, replacing chain link fence in VCP parking lot with attractive wooden barriers as much as possible

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. Select and design access points along the CSX ROW to maintain where feasible or as much as possible, equitable upland access for communities living in neighborhoods east and west of I-87
2. Incorporate access to existing playgrounds and parks along the route of the Putnam Greenway south of VCP to maximize and improve recreational opportunities within existing parks and playgrounds.
3. With DOT, design Putnam Greenway along CSX ROW to incorporate access to DOT existing and planned bikeways for connection to parkland and city streets under consideration for the Harlem River Greenway.
4. Design access and exit from Putnam Greenway at its southern terminus to allow connection to parkland and city streets under consideration for the Harlem River Greenway.
5. Study alternative bicycle routes parallel to and south of Greenway on streets for use when the Putnam Greenway is closed.

6. Study the use of access to the existing cantilevered plaza the Major Deegan Expressway at Albany Crescent opposite Verveelen Place as a Bailey Avenue east side access point.
7. Study the Tibbetts Brook/Putnam Greenway as a transportation spine, including the extension of the Empire State Trail from Van Cortlandt Park to 230th Street and southbound connections to the Harlem River Greenway.
8. Make public the best practices for maintenance of the plant pallet, both planned and after the project is completed, to assist in the development of community stewardship.

Parks & Recreation Committee

Resolution on the Van Cortlandt Park Wrought Iron Fence

Whereas representatives from the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) appeared before the Parks & Recreation Committee of Community Board 8 at its meeting of June 22, 2022, to present a proposed design for the renovation of the wrought iron fence around the Van Cortlandt House Museum (VCHM); and

Whereas the renovation of the badly deteriorated fence, which contains lead paint, has been a priority of the committee and of the Van Cortlandt Park Alliance (VCPA) for several years; and

Whereas the DPR representatives answered questions from committee members and other attendees regarding the project and assured those in attendance that no lead exposure would take place in the park and neither would the heavily used pathway adjacent to the fence on the north be closed during the project; and

Whereas DPR asked the committee for its support for the project;

Therefore Be It Resolved that the committee supports this project as presented, on the condition that DPR return to the committee if there is any substantive alteration to the design as presented to the community.

In favor: Singh, Bender, Gellman, Jaclosky, Travis

Opposed: none

Abstain: none

## SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON VETERAN'S SERVICES

**June 29, 2022**

**WHEREAS**, currently there are approximately 22 million veterans living in the United States and approximately 33,000 live in The Bronx; and

**WHEREAS**, Bronx Community Board 8 supports all efforts to assist those who have served in the armed forces of the United States especially those who have returned to be residents of our community; and

**WHEREAS**, the needs of veterans can involve jobs, education, housing, health and mental health, financial assistance and support services; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of New York has created a Department of Veterans' Services and the Bronx Borough President has called upon the borough's community boards to form committees to address the needs of our veterans;

**WHEREAS**, Bronx Community Board 8 desires to give consideration to the needs of our veterans in cooperation with community groups, elected officials, government agencies, and any other stakeholders in a public and inclusive manner;

**WHEREAS**, on March 9, 2021 Bronx Community Board 8 passed a resolution to re-establish a Special Committee on Veterans Services;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that pursuant to Article VI, Section 5 of our By-laws, this Special Committee be reauthorized in order to continue to hold public meetings or informational forums and report to the Community Board its findings and recommendations, if any, on the issues concerning our residents who are United States Veterans;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Special Committee be comprised of

Sergio Villaverde, chair, Julia Gomez, Herb Barret and others to be determined;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Special Committee be discontinued immediately following the next Annual Board elections unless it is specifically continued either by resolution of the Board or by public declaration of the newly elected chairperson of the Board, which declaration shall be recorded in the minutes.



## SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON HUDSON RIVER GREENWAY

**WHEREAS**, residents of Bronx Community Board 8 support a Hudson River Greenway extending from Spuyten Duyvil to Yonkers, providing runners, walkers, people with disabilities, cyclists and others an enjoyable riverfront experience with a superb view of the Palisades, as well as access to the Greenway to the north and the Greenway to the south, so that a continuous Greenway runs from Manhattan to Westchester;

**WHEREAS**, Bronx Community Board 8 has resolved that consideration of an all- river Greenway route should continue under the auspices of Bronx Community Board 8 in cooperation with local residents, community groups, elected officials, government agencies, the affected rail companies and any other stakeholders;

**WHEREAS**, Bronx Community Board 8 desires to continue the consideration of an all-river Greenway route in an efficient, transparent and inclusive manner;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that THE Special Committee ON THE HUDSON RIVER GREENWAY CONTINUE to hold public meetings and report to the Community Board its findings and recommendations, if any, on the creation of an all river Greenway route;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Special Committee be comprised of three members who shall be Bob Bender, Dan Padernacht and Laura Spalter;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Special Committee shall select a Chairperson by majority vote of its three members;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Special Committee be discontinued immediately following the next Annual Board elections unless it is specifically continued either by resolution of the Board or by public declaration of the newly elected chairperson, which declaration shall be recorded in the minutes.

## **Special Committee on Racial Equity (SCRE)**

**WHEREAS**, Bronx Community Board 8 passed a resolution on June 9, 2020, that consideration of systemic racism and inequality should be addressed under the auspices of Bronx Community Board 8; and

**WHEREAS**, on July 9, 2020 Bronx Community Board 8 established a Special Committee on Racial Equity to initiate consideration of addressing systemic racism and inequality in a thoughtful, transparent and inclusive manner; and

**WHEREAS**, a framework is needed in order to research, consider and identify issues of inequity within the purview of Bronx Community Board 8 and its committees that affect our diverse communities and to propose recommendations for addressing such issues; and

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that Bronx Community Board 8 reauthorizes the Special Committee on Racial Equity to continue research, consideration, and identification of issues of inequity in Community Board 8, and to make recommendations to the Community Board;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Special Committee shall be comprised of Margaret Della, Bob Bender, Bob Fanuzzi, Julie Reyes, Camelia Tepelus and, chair to be elected by committee;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Special Committee shall engage members of the Community Board and the community in undertaking its work and shall be inclusive of their expertise, resources, and experience;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that in accordance with the bylaws, the Special Committee be discontinued following the next annual Board election unless it is specifically continued either by resolution of the Board or by declaration of the newly elected Board chairperson, which declaration shall be recorded in the minutes.

**Public Safety Committee**

**May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

**NEW APPLICATION:** Liquor, Wine, Beer & Cider.

**WHEREAS**, Jose Jimenez, a Representative of Estrellita Poblana Taqueria Express, located at 5975 Broadway, appeared before the Public Safety Committee on May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022 to apply for a new liquor license and temporary retail permit.

**WHEREAS**, the applicant signed a 2AM closing agreement, agreeing to close their establishment no later than 2AM.

**WHEREAS**, Representatives of NYPD's 50th Precinct stated they were unaware of any prior notable disturbances or complaints at the location of the establishment.

**WHEREAS**, the Public Safety Committee unanimously approved this application.

Therefore, **BE IT RESOLVED**, Bronx Community Board 8 approves this application.

In Favor: C. Calhoun, M. Donato, E. Green, M. Joyce, R. Kaplan, G. Santiago, S. Vasquez

Opposed: 0

Abstained: 0

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**Public Safety Committee**

**June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

**RENEWAL APPLICATION:** Liquor, Wine, Beer & Cider.

**WHEREAS**, James P. Maloney, a Representative of Madison's, located at 5686 Riverdale Avenue, appeared before the Public Safety Committee on June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022 to renew the establishment's liquor license.

**WHEREAS**, Representatives of NYPD's 50th Precinct, via email confirmation, prior to the meeting, stated they were unaware of any prior notable disturbances or complaints at the location of the establishment.

**WHEREAS**, the Public Safety Committee unanimously approved this application.

Therefore, **BE IT RESOLVED**, Bronx Community Board 8 approves this application.

In Favor: C. Calhoun, M. Donato, N. Fazio, E. Green, G. Santiago, S. Vasquez

**RENEWAL APPLICATION:** Liquor, Wine, Beer & Cider.

**WHEREAS**, Ariel Ferreira, a Representative of Blissful Kreations, Inc., located at 6661 Broadway, appeared before the Public Safety Committee on June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022 to renew the establishment's liquor license.

**WHEREAS**, Representatives of NYPD's 50th Precinct, via email confirmation, prior to the meeting, stated they were unaware of any prior notable disturbances or complaints at the location of the establishment.

**WHEREAS**, the Public Safety Committee unanimously approved this application.

Therefore, **BE IT RESOLVED**, Bronx Community Board 8 approves this application.

In Favor: C. Calhoun, M. Donato, N. Fazio, E. Green, G. Santiago, S. Vasquez

Opposed: 0

Abstained: 0

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**RENEWAL APPLICATION:** Liquor, Wine, Beer & Cider.

**WHEREAS**, Satnam Singh, a Representative of The Last Stop, located at 5977 Broadway, appeared before the Public Safety Committee on June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022 to renew the establishment's liquor license.

**WHEREAS**, Representatives of NYPD's 50th Precinct, via email confirmation, prior to the meeting, stated they were unaware of any prior notable disturbances or complaints at the location of the establishment.

**WHEREAS**, the Public Safety Committee unanimously approved this application.

Therefore, **BE IT RESOLVED**, Bronx Community Board 8 approves this application.

In Favor: C. Calhoun, M. Donato, N. Fazio, E. Green, M. Joyce, R. Kaplan, G. Santiago, S. Vasquez

Opposed: 0

Abstained: 0

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**NEW APPLICATION:** Liquor, Wine, Beer & Cider.

**WHEREAS,** Ortencia Jimenez Gomez, a Representative of La Villa, located at 240 West 231st Street, appeared before the Public Safety Committee on June 14th, 2022 to apply for a new liquor license.

**WHEREAS,** the applicant signed a 2AM closing agreement, agreeing to close their establishment no later than 2AM.

**WHEREAS,** Representatives of NYPD's 50th Precinct, via email confirmation, prior to the meeting, stated they were unaware of any prior notable disturbances or complaints at the location of the establishment.

**WHEREAS,** the Public Safety Committee unanimously approved this application.

**Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED,** Bronx Community Board 8 approves this application.

In Favor: C. Calhoun, M. Donato, N. Fazio, E. Green, G. Santiago, S. Vasquez

Opposed: 0

Abstained: 0

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# Traffic and Transportation Committee

## Bronx Community Board No. 8

### Street Activity Permit Request for Goulden Avenue

from May 19, 2022 Meeting

**WHEREAS**, the James Baldwin Outdoor Learning Center presented their plan in support of a partial sidewalk closure for a weekly farmers market on the closed slip lane off of Goulden Avenue at Sedgwick Avenue on Saturdays from June 18, 2022 through October 29, 2022 between the hours of 8am and 6pm including setup and breakdown time;

**WHEREAS**, this farmers market has occurred at this location during the summer since August, 2020 without any community complaints;

**WHEREAS**, the JBOLC Farmers Market is a valuable source for the Kingsbridge Heights community of locally grown, fresh vegetables and fruit and features activities that include healthy cooking demos, story reading for children, poetry readings and music performances;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT**, the Community Board 8 Traffic & Transportation Committee supports the street activity permit for the partial sidewalk closure on the closed slip lane off of Goulden Avenue requested by the James Baldwin Outdoor Learning Center Farmers Market.

#### Committee Vote:

Favor: Debra Travis (Chair), Kelli Buford, Mary Ellen Gibbs (CCM), Christopher Calhoun, Edward Green, David Gellman,

Oppose: None