



BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD 8

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Julie Reyes, **Chairperson**

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

Farrah Kule Rubin, **District Manager**

BOARD MEETING NOTICE

OFFICERS:

Vice Chairperson
Sergio Villaverde

Secretary
Margaret Della

Treasurer
Joy Campbell Priveterre

Immediate Past Chairperson
Laura Spalter

COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Aging
Mary Ellen Gibbs

Budget
David Gellman

Economic Development
Oscar Martinez

Education, Libraries & Cultural Affairs
Sylvia Alexander

Environment & Sanitation
Daniel Rowen

Health, Hospitals & Social Services
Rabbi Bob Kaplan

Housing
Rhashida Hilliard

Land Use
Charles G. Moerdler

Law, Rules & Ethics
Martin Wolpoff

Parks & Recreation
Debra Travis

Public Safety
Edward Green

Traffic & Transportation
Josh Land

Youth
Ramdat Singh

DATE: Tuesday, October 8, 2024

TIME: 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM

PLACE: Amalgamated Houses – Vladeck Hall (*Limited Street Parking*)
74 Van Cortlandt Park South Bronx, NY 10463

*** PUBLIC HEARING: Budget Requests for Fiscal Year 2026 at 6:30 PM**

Members of the public may attend via zoom or in person.

Board Members must attend in-person unless they have received a pre-approved exemption.

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

Join Zoom Meeting by Phone: **+1(646) 558-8656** Pin: **2114033690#**

*See Bronx Community Board 8’s Procedures for Hybrid Meetings [LINKED HERE](#)

AMENDED AGENDA

1. Welcome and Announcements
2. Public Gallery Session
3. Report from the Mayor's Office
4. Report from the Bronx Borough President’s Office
5. Report from the 50th Police Precinct
6. Council Member’s Report
 - Council Member Eric Dinowitz
 - Council Member Pierina Ana Sanchez
 - Council Member Carmen De La Rosa
7. New York State Senator Gustavo Rivera- 33rd District
8. Elected Officials Reports
9. Roll Call
10. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes of September 12, 2024
11. Discussion of Executive Committee Meeting Minutes of September 4, 2024
12. Chairperson’s Report & Resolutions
13. Treasurer’s Report & Resolutions
14. District Manager’s Report

15. Committee Reports and Resolutions

- Environment & Sanitation
- Special Committee on Veterans' Services
- Public Safety
- Traffic & Transportation
- Law, Rules & Ethics
- Budget
- Education, Libraries & Cultural Affairs
- Health, Hospitals & Social Services
- Housing
- Youth
- Special Committee on Racial Equity
- Special Committee on Hudson River Greenway
- Aging
- Parks & Recreation
- Land Use
- Economic Development

16. Miscellaneous

17. Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 12, 2024

18. Adjournment

Julie Reyes

Chairperson



Pursuant to New York State 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.

RESOLUTIONS

ENVIRONMENT & SANITATION COMMITTEE
RESOLUTION
September 18th, 2024

**Resolution to Urge EPA to Adopt a Not Protective Determination in its Third Five-Year Review
Concerning the Hudson River PCB Cleanup**

WHEREAS, the Hudson River is an American Heritage River and the Hudson River Valley is a National Heritage Area, the health and beauty of the Hudson River is critical to the economic vitality of the communities surrounding it; and

WHEREAS, Bronx Community Board 8's district borders the lower-Hudson River Valley; and

WHEREAS, Bronx Community Board 8 has been a long time advocate for improved river access (including for the extension of the Hudson River Greenway) as well as cleaner water for all residents; and

WHEREAS, for 30 years, from 1947-1977, General Electric ("GE") dumped polychlorinated biphenyls ("PCBs") into the Hudson River from two capacitor manufacturing plants located in the towns of Fort Edward and Hudson Falls, N.Y.; and

WHEREAS, as a result of GE's PCB contamination, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") designated a 200-mile stretch of the Hudson River from Fort Edward to New York Harbor as a Superfund Site in 1984; and

WHEREAS, PCBs are man-made, bioaccumulative, persistent organic pollutants that have been linked to a wide variety of adverse health effects, including, among others: cancers, liver, and kidney disorders; reduced birth weight, conception rates, and live birth rates; persistent and significant deficits in neurological development, including visual recognition, short-term memory and learning; and developmental problems due to interference with thyroid hormone levels; and

WHEREAS, PCBs discharged by GE are still found at dangerous levels throughout the Hudson River ecosystem and as far south as New York Harbor: in soils and sediments within the river and the surrounding floodplains; in the living tissues of wildlife, from low-level organisms to larger animals such as birds and fish; and, periodically, suspended in the river itself or in the air; and

WHEREAS, in 2002 EPA selected a two-part cleanup plan to address in-river sediments in the Upper Hudson River, a 40-mile stretch of the Hudson River between Fort Edward and the Federal Dam at Troy, which called for targeted dredging of PCB-contaminated sediment from the river bottom, followed by an extended period of natural recovery; and

WHEREAS, the selected cleanup remedy was designed to reduce the dangerous health risks to humans and wildlife living in and near the Hudson River PCBs Superfund Site in an expedited time frame and reestablish the ecological and economic health of the Hudson River; and

WHEREAS, EPA’s original cleanup plan also focused on minimizing the long-term downstream transport of PCBs to the Lower Hudson River, a 160-mile stretch of the Hudson River from the Federal Dam at Troy to New York Harbor; and

WHEREAS, with the completion of dredging in 2015, the cleanup has transitioned from the dredging phase to the natural recovery phase; and

WHEREAS, federal Superfund law requires EPA to conduct a study every five years to evaluate the implementation and performance of the remedy to determine if the remedy is protective of human health and the environment; and

WHEREAS, on July 10, 2024, EPA released its draft third five-year review concluding that EPA needs more years of fish data to determine if the cleanup is meeting the expectations of the original cleanup plan; and

WHEREAS, EPA’s draft third five-year review report does not adequately address scientific data and analysis that show that there has been little improvement in fish and sediment PCB concentrations since the completion of dredging; and

WHEREAS, PCB concentrations in Upper Hudson River fish and sediment are not declining as anticipated by EPA to reach key remediation targets and adequately minimize the downstream transport of PCBs to the Lower Hudson River; and

WHEREAS, the continued presence of PCBs in the Hudson River has significantly diminished economic activity and recreational use and enjoyment of the river; and

WHEREAS, the understanding of the relationship between how much PCB was left behind in the sediments and the rates of recovery in sediment and fish needs to be updated to determine if further remedial work is necessary to protect human and environmental health; and

WHEREAS, the data available supports the conclusion that the selected remedy is not protective of human health and the environment. The human health and ecological risks are well in excess of EPA’s acceptable risk ranges, and will not be in the acceptable range for the foreseeable future; and

WHEREAS, the Bronx Community Board 8 Environment & Sanitation Committee hereby urges the EPA to adopt a “not protective” determination” in the third five-year review and acknowledge the failure of the Upper Hudson River remedy to meet the goals and objectives of the cleanup.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Bronx Community Board 8, hereby urges the EPA to adopt a “not protective” determination” in the third five-year review and acknowledge the failure of the Upper Hudson River remedy to meet the goals and objectives of the cleanup.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the EPA must begin the process of assessing additional remedial actions to protect the environment and our vulnerable communities along the Hudson River, who will otherwise continue to be exposed to toxic levels of PCBs for generations to come.

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
RESOLUTION
September 17th, 2024**

RENEWAL APPLICATION: Wine, Beer & Cider

WHEREAS Jon Beqiraj, a Representative of Savor Coffee and More, located at 3725 Riverdale Avenue, appeared before the Public Safety Committee on September 17th, 2024, to renew this establishment's liquor license.

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

WHEREAS the Public Safety Committee unanimously approved this application.

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

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
RESOLUTION
September 17th, 2024**

RENEWAL APPLICATION: Liquor, Wine, Beer & Cider

WHEREAS Franklin Vargas, a Representative of Caribe Bites Bar & Restaurant, located at 5586 Broadway, appeared before the Public Safety Committee on September 17th, 2024, to renew this establishment's liquor license.

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

WHEREAS the Public Safety Committee unanimously approved this application.

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

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
RESOLUTION
September 17th, 2024**

RENEWAL APPLICATION: Liquor, Wine, Beer & Cider

WHEREAS Adam Clayton Powell, a Representative of Tijuana Nites, located at 216 West 242nd Street, appeared before the Public Safety Committee on September 17th, 2024, to renew this establishment's liquor license.

WHEREAS, Representatives of NYPD's 50th Precinct provided documentation of numerous complaints and disturbances at the location of this establishment within the last 12 months, including: 101 311 calls, 29 911 calls, 64 summons, 1 complaint of attempted rape, 1 complaint of assault, and 3 people aided for physical sickness, injury and emotional disturbance.

WHEREAS the Public Safety Committee has received complaints about this establishment for several years, including public drunkenness and drug use outside the club, harassment of building residents by the club's patrons and employees, assaults resulting in injury, and excessively loud music routinely disturbing residents until 4am.

WHEREAS the Public Safety Committee has seen no attempt by this establishment to accommodate area residents and address the well documented history of complaints.

WHEREAS the Public Safety Committee voted unanimously to disapprove this application.

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

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
RESOLUTION
September 17th, 2024**

NEW APPLICATION AND TEMPORARY RETAIL PERMIT: Liquor, Wine, Beer & Cider

WHEREAS Kenya Peralta, a Representative of EL DF Mexican Patio, located at 5602 Broadway, appeared before the Public Safety Committee on September 17th, 2024, to apply for a new liquor license and temporary retail permit.

WHEREAS, the applicant agreed to sign a 2AM closing agreement for the first year of operation.

WHEREAS the Public Safety Committee unanimously approved this application.

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

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
RESOLUTION
September 17th, 2024**

NEW APPLICATION: Liquor, Wine, Beer & Cider

WHEREAS He Chen, a Representative of Tokyo House, located at 5648 Riverdale Avenue, appeared before the Public Safety Committee on September 17th, 2024, to apply for a new liquor license.

WHEREAS, the applicant agreed to sign a 2AM closing agreement for the first year of operation.

WHEREAS the Public Safety Committee unanimously approved this application.

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

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
RESOLUTION
September 17th, 2024**

NEW APPLICATION AND TEMPORARY RETAIL PERMIT: Liquor, Wine, Beer & Cider

WHEREAS Josefina Tineo, a Representative of Sweet Billiards Corp, located at 3004 Heath Avenue, appeared before the Public Safety Committee on September 17th, 2024, to apply for a new liquor license and temporary retail permit.

WHEREAS, the applicant agreed to sign a 2AM closing agreement for the first year of operation.

WHEREAS the Public Safety Committee unanimously approved this application.

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

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
RESOLUTION
September 17th, 2024

CORPORATE CHANGE: Liquor, Wine, Beer & Cider

WHEREAS Gemmy Quelliz, Owner of Bokagua, located at 3541 Riverdale Avenue, applied for a corporate name change (unrelated to operational methods already approved by Bronx Community Board 8).

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

WHEREAS Ms. Quelliz requested in writing to be exempt from appearing before the Public Safety Committee and her request was granted by Chair E. Green.

WHEREAS the application was filled out incorrectly and corporate change was not indicated.

WHEREAS the Public Safety Committee unanimously approved this application (contingent upon the Board receiving a proper application before our next Full Board meeting. **The Board received the properly completed application the following day*).

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

TRAFFIC & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
RESOLUTION
September 19th, 2024
STREET ACTIVITY PERMIT (SAPO) APPLICATION
HORACE MANN HOMECOMING EVENT

WHEREAS, Peter Clancy representing Horace Mann School attended the Traffic & Transportation Committee meeting on 9-19-24 to ask for support of their SAPO application to celebrate their Homecoming Event on October 19, 2024, and

WHEREAS, Horace Mann School is requesting the street closing of Tibbett Avenue between West 246 Street and College Road from 9:00am - 5:00 pm, and

WHEREAS, the Homecoming event has been held in the past with no issues, and

WHEREAS, 2,000 persons are expected to attend the all-day event, food will only be served in the cafeteria, and there will be on-site Security all day, and

WHEREAS, on condition that the Fieldston Property Owners Assoc. as well as the residences nearby will be notified of the event and a fifteen-foot lane for emergency vehicles and resident vehicles will be available on the closed street,

WHEREAS, the Bronx Community Board No, 8 Traffic & Transportation Committee approves this SAPO application.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED Bronx Community Board No, 8 approves this SAPO application.

TRAFFIC & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION

September 19th, 2024

DINING OUT NYC SIDEWALK APPLICATION

CASA TOBALA CORP. 3732 RIVERDALE AVE. BRONX NY 10463

WHEREAS, Elie Lopez representing Casa Tobala Corp. attended the Traffic & Transportation Committee meeting on 9-19-24 to ask for support of their Dining Out NYC Sidewalk application, and

WHEREAS, there were no comments or concerns related to the Café's physical footprint and dimensions, and

WHEREAS, there were no comments or concerns related to pedestrian flow, and

WHEREAS, there are no potential conflicts with existing curb use, and

WHEREAS, there were no complaints from the NYPD or community, and

WHEREAS, the Bronx Community Board No, 8 Traffic & Transportation Committee approves this SAPO application.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED Bronx Community Board No, 8 approves this SAPO application.

LAW, RULES & ETHICS COMMITTEE
RESOLUTION
October 8th, 2024

WHEREAS, Bronx Community Board 8 at its May 2024 regular monthly meeting, voted to end the practice of permitting for Extraordinary Circumstances (EC) to enable some Board members to participate in Bronx Community Board 8 meetings via telecommunications, and,

WHEREAS, Bronx Community Board 8, in eliminating EC, voted to continue to provide persons covered under the Americans with Disability Act (ADA) access to meetings through videoconferencing with the recognition that such persons be counted toward the quorum, and

WHEREAS, Bronx Community Board 8 needs to establish a process for identifying persons who are qualified to be recognized as ADA-eligible, and

WHEREAS, the chairperson of Bronx Community Board 8 needs to designate an individual who would be responsible for determining which Board members are ADA-eligible based on soon-to-be established criteria,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the board chairperson identify a board member responsible for screening persons who request such status and be empowered to identify those who appear to qualify based on soon-to-be adopted criteria,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that such temporary status continue until the November 2024 regular monthly meeting when it is anticipated that the Law, Rules and Ethics committee will offer a resolution for establishing the criteria for recognizing a Board member's ADA status.
