

Bronx CB8 Environment & Sanitation Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, March 19, 2025

Start Time: 7:00 PM

Location: Board Office – 5676 Riverdale Ave, Suite 100, Bronx, NY 10471

Meeting Recording

1. Welcome & Roll Call

Committee:

- Present (3): Daniel Rowen, Emily Hausman, Steven Froot
- Zoom (2): Karen Argenti (Community Committee Member), Robert Fanuzzi (Community Committee Member)
- Absent (2): Laura Spalter, Rob Spalter (Community Committee Member)

Public:

- Zoom: Jodie Colón

2. Approval of Committee Minutes – January 15, 2025

- With a quorum of 3 members present in person, the minutes were passed unanimously.

3. Chairperson's Report

- Beginning April 1st, DSNY will be enforcing the mandatory separation of organics for composting/methane production. All food, yard waste, greasy paper, etc. must be separated and set out in the brown bins for collection on the same day as recycling pickup or buildings with 9 and fewer units could face fines.
- Questions were asked regarding the replacement or repair of a Buckner Box in Henry Hudson Park, which DEP says they have nothing on their end to do for it once Parks Dept. fixed the service line.
- An issue was raised about why there is a gate blocking parking at the bottom of W. 254th Street, which we believe to be a ConEd question/issue as they are doing work in the area and limiting access.

4. Harlem River Use and Attainability Assessment (UAA) Plan proposed change to SB-WW (or no swimming)

- Karen and Bob from Bronx Council for Environmental Quality (BCEQ) presented on the recent Harlem River UAA Plan, see attached PowerPoint at end of minutes.
- Bob wishes the proposal was not just moving the goal line.
- Karen also discussed the need for more green infrastructure throughout the district, where there are very few projects in the works presently.
- While daylighting Tibbett's Brook is a high-impact green infrastructure project going forward, CB8 could use additional rain gardens and pervious pavers, especially along Broadway and Bailey Ave corridors, which are prone to flooding.
- The committee would also support the CSO Control Tunnel under the Harlem River to divert all CSOs straight to the wastewater treatment plant, despite the high expense that would entail.

5. Unfinished Business

- Updated Status of Metro North Property Easement (W 230th - W 225th Streets)
 - Plans are still being finalized, waiting on MTA. The easement was passed, but this committee and the entire board have also previously passed a resolution urging the MTA to cease trash operations along the tracks there directly next to Marble Hill Houses, which are already an environmental justice area.
- FY27 Capital and Expense Budget Priorities
 - DEP asks us to be more specific about exactly where we would suggest putting rain gardens or other green infrastructure throughout the district.
 - Steven suggests that while DOT is planning major work along W 254th Street that they should work with DEP to integrate more green designs into that plan, such as using pervious pavers along the two new sidewalks and building rain gardens around any new trees being planted.

- Bob supports better Uniform Stormwater Rules as well as more funding for review personnel to better enforce those rules. Possible new budget request for funding the Bureau of Environmental Assessment.

6. New Business

- n/a

7. Adjournment

- Meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm