



**District Managers Report
November 10, 2009**

1. The Department of Education (DOE) presented a Bronx school planning presentation detailing a New District Borough Planning Committees that will incorporate a new Community Communications process. This is a direct result of district managers expressing concern that community boards were not included in DOE planning. Community Boards (CB) will now be included in the planning process with recommendations to be reviewed by DOE Planning Committees. In District 10 there will be a focus on expanding middle schools. There are plans to locate a school in this board but no locations have been identified yet. The report and my notes were sent to the Education Committee chair and are available in the board office.
2. In October, I attended the Bronx Borough Board meeting on behalf of the Board chair. At this meeting there was a presentation by City Planning on a residential text amendment. It will be forwarded to the Board for review in mid-October. I referred this to the chair of Traffic & Transportation Committee.
3. At the October Borough Service Cabinet meeting, there were several updates presented:
 - a. The capital projects in the Board, specifically West 230th Step Street, Palisades and Bailey Place Retaining Walls, information, maps, starting and completion dates were provided to the chair of the Traffic & Transportation committee.
 - b. The Bronx Rodent Initiative was updated. This project targeted areas where rodents were prominent. The program increased inspections, baited, educated the community and provided training to businesses, building superintendents, etc. to address the high rodent population. CB8 does not qualify for the program because the level of rodent problems in the district is low. However, I asked for the inclusion of Marble Hill in the Washington Heights Rodent project and negotiations are continuing.
4. The Food Systems Network invited me to participate on a panel to discuss the involvement of community boards in starting a farmers market. CB8 was the first community board to initiate a Youthmarket. Presenters also included the Manhattan Borough Presidents office and a Brooklyn Community Board member. The meeting participants included Dept. of City Planning, and many other food system programs in NYC, Westchester, NJ and CT. The Food Systems Network would like to duplicate the CB8 initiative in other areas of the city.
5. In addition, I attended a Food Systems Network proposal development meeting to create an interactive citywide mapping tool to reflect all aspects of local food

systems in NYC with CUNY & the Dept. of City Planning. The discussion included what would be a useful and easily accessible tool for community boards.

6. I updated the website to include the new mission statements, new community health profiles, budget priorities for FY2011 and FY2011 and the FY 2011 District Statement of Needs. Our website has received great attention as the first Bronx CB DoITT website and is the model for 2 other Bronx CB websites and one Manhattan CB website.
7. Recently two office equipment rental contracts and one service contract have been renegotiated to reduce costs. The copier rental agreement ended and a new, smaller, less expensive and more efficient copier was contracted. Additionally, a new smaller, less expensive postage machine contract was renewed. Due to the decrease in mailings, these smaller machines will better suit the office environment. Over the past 2 years, paper, envelopes and postage usage and costs have decreased significantly. This has occurred by switching over 75 board members, city agencies and individuals to email. Annual saving totals are approximately \$3100.
8. The Financial Management System (FMS) will be implementing a new system in January 2010. FMS is required by all city agencies for bill payment, contracting, and up to date budget information. I have received several days of training to use the new FMS system.
9. The Office of Citywide Events, Street Activity Permit Office held a special training for district managers for the new online e-permitting system that will modernize and increase efficiency of the overall permit application process. Trainings were held for NYPD as well. The community board will be able to review, upload files, comment, and signoff online. Anticipated implementation date is January 2010.
10. The new alternate side parking regulations are in phase 1 in parts of the Board area. I wrote press release that was sent to the press. The Board office has received calls and DOS and DOT has provided flyers and maps that are available in the office and by email.