



CITY OF NEW YORK
MANHATTAN COMMUNITY
BOARD No. 4
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Jeffrey LeFrancois
Chair

Jesse R. Bodine
District Manager

October 2023 Full Board Minutes

Meeting Date / Location	<p>The Manhattan Community Board 4 (MCB4) Full Board met at 6:30 pm on Wednesday October 4, 2023, in a hybrid format, with the majority of Board members meeting in person (with members of the public present) at Pier 57 (25 11th Ave at 15th St), and remote participation via Zoom by other members of the Board and the public.</p> <p>The meeting was accessible in person, via Zoom webinar and live streamed on YouTube. It can be viewed at: MCB4 Full Board Meeting</p> <p>A third-party draft transcript of the meeting can be found by selecting the MCB4 October Full Board Meeting at: https://blockparty.studio/Archive</p>
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Public Hearing

Second Vice Chair Leslie Boghosian-Murphy opened the hearing on Community Board 4's statement of district needs for FY2025.

Miriam Fisher	Speaker requested accessibility improvements, including the addition of an elevator, at subway entrances on 23rd St and 6th Ave.
Charles Disability	Speaker requested an increase in audible pedestrian signals for the blind throughout Manhattan Community District 4.

Public Session

Miguel Acevedo	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Speaker spoke to raise concerns relating to the way MCB4 conducted its public meetings on NYCHA Fulton and Elliott-Chelsea Houses and to support the plan for demolition and rebuild.
Celinas Miranda	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Speaker spoke to oppose demolition of NYCHA Fulton and Elliott-Chelsea Houses.
Nilda Perez	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Speaker spoke to oppose demolition of NYCHA Fulton and Elliott-Chelsea Houses.
Hector Vazquez	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Speaker spoke to support demolition and rebuild of NYCHA Fulton and Elliott-Chelsea Houses.
Stephanie Mercado Altman	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Speaker spoke to raise awareness for NYC Smoke Free programming. Speaker may be contacted at saltman@nysmokefree.org

Phyllis Waisman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker spoke to raise concern regarding Charming Deli at 366 W 23rd St's outdoor seating.
Richard Marans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker spoke to raise concerns regarding MCB4's recommendations enumerated in its letter to DOT regarding pedestrian and cyclist safety.
Elke Fears	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker spoke to both recommend support and to raise concerns regarding MCB4's recommendations enumerated in its letter to DOT regarding pedestrian and cyclist safety.
Ron Wisniski	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker spoke to both recommend support and to raise concerns regarding MCB4's recommendations enumerated in its letter to DOT regarding pedestrian and cyclist safety.
Lisa Wager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker spoke to raise awareness of the Fashion Institute of Technology's upcoming programming. Those interested in a tour of the museum's upcoming exhibit November 13 may contact lisa_wager@fit.nyc.edu.
Michael Hurachi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker spoke to both recommend support and to raise concerns regarding MCB4's recommendations enumerated in its letter to DOT regarding pedestrian and cyclist safety.
Mike Noble	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker spoke to support demolition and rebuild of NYCHA Fulton and Elliott-Chelsea Houses.
Wendy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker spoke to oppose demolition of NYCHA Fulton and Elliott-Chelsea Houses.

Reports From Elected Officials	
Councilmember Gale Brewer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • My office continues to focus on illegal smoke shops, which continue to be a very big problem. • A high school principal reports that vaping is becoming a very big problem in high schools, so we are investigating what we can do to help solve it. • An anonymous donor is donating \$6-\$7 million to transform the playground and basketball court at Harborview Terrace. • We did a graffiti survey from 55th street to 108th street and we are working with the Sanitation Dept. to get the 300+ graffitied buildings cleaned up. • The issue of e-bikes is number one on my complaint list so we are tackling it in a variety of ways, including supporting legislation at both the city and state levels.
Kesha Sutton-James, Office of the Manhattan Borough President	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Today we hosted our first Immigration Workshop to help migrants learn their rights. We brought together professionals from several fields as well as immigrants from 7 or 8 countries. The program was full of important information, and it was recorded, so please look for it on our web site in about a week. • We've also started providing our Community Board training webinars. We are also starting our Leadership Training Series in November, so please consider participating. • We have launched a Volunteer Corp and already have about 400 volunteers signed up. If you would like to join us when we do projects in your community, please go to our web site to sign up.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please get boosted for COVID, and don't forget that you can have 4 COVID tests sent to you by requesting them at covid.gov.tests.
State Senator Liz Krueger	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E-bikes and illegal mopeds are also a big issue for my office. I have passed a number of bills this year, including one that says if a bike can't be ridden in NYC due to regulations, then it can't be sold in NYC. • Illegal cannabis shops are also a big issue for me. I introduced the bill that raised the penalties and made it easier to go after the illegal stores. We are also working with DA Bragg's office to go after landlords of the illegal cannabis shops.
State Senator Brad Hoylman-Sigal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Illegal cannabis shops are also a top priority for my office. I asked the Governor why the state won't grant the City enforcement abilities. • Thanks to everyone who has reached out to support Jacob Priley, my former Chief of Staff, who was critically injured last week when riding his bike. More than a thousand people have already contributed to the GoFundMe campaign. We are all pulling for Jacob! • A big thank you to MCB4 for the years of hard work to ensure Bayview will be 100% affordable and supportive housing. It is going to be extraordinary and it wouldn't have happened with your support. • Too often, tenants in Manhattan don't know who their landlord is, because many landlords hide their identities behind shell company LLC's. I am working with several of my colleagues to pass a bill that will require landlords to make their names available in the public domain. • I am Chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee and we are focused on trying to improve Family Court, which many have described as dehumanizing. • I joined Governor Hochul yesterday as she announced a new online platform to connect recently-arrived migrants with 18,000 job postings once they have their work papers.
Robin Forst, NYC Mayor's Office	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Mayor's Office is grateful for the money and resources made available by the State to help asylum seekers, particularly those who have recently received temporary protected status from Venezuela, to get legal services and case management resources. • The Mayor has created a telehealth service through NY Health & Hospitals to make abortion care available through telehealth. Patients will have the ability to consult with a medical provider to discuss their medical needs. • "Text with Eric" is a new initiative to facilitate communication with the Mayor's team and city residents. You can text to 917-909-2288.

Board Reports & Business	
Adoption of Agenda and Minutes	Agenda Item 14 was tabled. The Agenda was adopted unanimously. The September Full Board Minutes were adopted unanimously.
District Manager Report	<p>MCB4 Hybrid Meeting Policy remains in effect. The office will be creating an online form for members to request for an extraordinary circumstance and/or disability accommodation. If you have any questions about the hybrid policy please contact me directly.</p> <p>Budget Process</p> <p>MCB4 will be voting on our Statement of District Needs and budget requests throughout October. Please help share the board's survey. It is on our homepage.</p>

	<p>Community Board Executive Officer Elections</p> <p>The Nominating Committee will be Chaired by Alice Wong and include the following members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christine Berthet • Aurora Cruz • Matt Green • Kerry Keenan • Raul Larios • Charlie Todd <p>Any members interested in running for one of the positions should email me directly.</p> <p>MCB4 October Committee Schedule:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arts, Culture, Education, and Street Life will be meeting on Tuesday, October 17th at 6:30pm. • Budget Task Force will be meeting on Thursday, October 19th at 6pm • The Cannabis Task Force will be holding a public meeting on Tuesday, October 24th at 6:30pm. • Nominating Committee will be meeting on Thursday, October 26th at 6:30pm • All other committees will be meeting at their regular time
Chair's Report	<p>Task Forces\Working Groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PABT Working Group Continues to meet • MCB4 continues to participate in the Pier 76 Task Force • NYCHA will be attending both the Housing, Health, and Human Services Committee (10/5) and the Chelsea Land Use Committee (10/16) in October. <p>Small Meetings\Briefing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CLU\CHKLU leadership met with DCP for a briefing on the Midtown South Mixed-Use Study (MSMX) • TPC leadership met with elected officials re: Congestion pricing infrastructure being installed on the sidewalks in our district. • DM Jesse Bodine continues to attend the New York Forward Garment District capital improvement program. • ACES members met with Superintendent of both elementary/middle and High School Superintendents to discuss budget requests for CD4 schools. • BLP leadership met residents of West 24/25 Street and the SLA applicant for 11 West 24th Street.

Meeting Agenda

Arts, Culture, Education, and Street Life

Item 01: Letter to Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment re Updated Study of Small Theater Concerns

Business License & Permits Committee (BLP)

Item 02: BLP Letter to SLA re 239 W 15th Street - La Sandwicherie Chelsea LLC - **APPROVED**

Item 03: BLP Letter to SLA re 25 11th Avenue, Market 57, Kiosk 16 - Sahadi's Pier 57 LLC - **APPROVED**

Item 04: BLP Letter to SLA re 124 7th Avenue - M1-BFG LLC - **APPROVED**

Item 05: BLP Letter to SLA re 160 7th Avenue - SH Operations LLC - **APPROVED**

Item 06: BLP Letter to SLA re 160 8th Avenue - Andreas CH LLC - **APPROVED**

Item 07: BLP Letter to SLA re 307-309 W 17th Street - PK's Diner LLC - **APPROVED**

Item 08: BLP Letter to SLA re 313 W 46th Street - Gurume Restaurant Group LLC - **APPROVED**

Item 09: BLP Letter to SLA re 366 W 23rd Street - Chelsea Charming Deli Inc. - **APPROVED**

Item 10: BLP Letter to SLA re 455 W 37th Street – G.F. 37 Rest Group LLC. - **APPROVED**

Item 11: BLP Letter to SLA re 505-507 W 23rd Street - SDFL LLC. - **APPROVED**

Item 12: BLP Letter to SLA re 75 9th Avenue, Retail Space B – JBSA LLC – Serial# 1324920 - **APPROVED**

Item 13: BLP Letter to SLA re 496 9th Avenue - SB Tavern LLC - Serial# 1350080 - **APPROVED**

~~**Item 14:** BLP Letter to SLA re 458 9th Avenue – The Wrecking Club LLC – Serial# 1342197 -~~
TABLED

Waterfront, Parks & Environment Committee (WPE)

Item 15: Letter to DPR re Penn South Playground Redesign - **APPROVED**

Chelsea Land Use Committee (CLU)

Item 16: Letter to LPC re ADA Upgrades at Church of the Holy Apostles at 296 9th Avenue - **APPROVED**

Transportation Planning Committee (TPC)

Item 17: Letter to DOT & Electeds re Pedestrian and Bike Rider safety Initiatives - **APPROVED**

Item 18: Letter to DOT re Intercity Bus Permit Application for Durama Inc. at 11th Avenue (37th/38th Sts.) - **APPROVED**

Item 19: Letter to DOT and City Council re Street Re-Naming/Co-Naming: W 50th Street & 11th Avenue after Captain C.B. Sullenberger - **APPROVED**

Executive Committee (EXEC)

Item 20: Amendment to MCB4 Hybrid Policy re People with Disability - **APPROVED**

New Business

Item 21: HHHS Committee Letter to Administrative Judge re 410-412 West 46th Street - **APPROVED**

Item 22: HHHS Committee Letter to HPD re 410-412 West 46th Street - **APPROVED**

Item 23: HHHS Committee Letter to Owner re 410-412 West 46th Street - **APPROVED**

Item 24: HHHS Committee Letter to HPD re Hudson Hotel 353 W 57th Street - **APPROVED**

Item 25: HHHS Committee Letter to DOB re Hudson Hotel 353 W 57th Street - **APPROVED**

Item 26: HHHS Committee Letter of Support re Bill 1099 - City Retirees Choice of Medicare Plan - **APPROVED**

Nothing to Report

Housing, Health & Human Services Committee (HHHS)

Clinton\Hell's Kitchen Land Use Committee (CHKLU)

See appended vote sheet for complete details for each item's vote

Meeting Resolution	
Adjournment	Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM
Next Meeting Date and Location	6:30pm on Wednesday November 1, 2023 Hybrid Meeting

As recorded by Roberta Barnett and Katy Stokes

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