



CITY OF NEW YORK
MANHATTAN COMMUNITY
BOARD No. 4

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Jeffrey LeFrancois
Chair

Jesse R. Bodine
District Manager

November 2023 Full Board Minutes

Meeting Date / Location	<p>The Manhattan Community Board 4 (MCB4) Full Board met at 6:30 pm on Wednesday November 1, 2023, in a hybrid format, with the majority of Board members meeting in person (with members of the public present) at the Hotel and Gaming Trades Council (43rd St and 8th Avenue), 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 November Full Board Meeting at: https://blockparty.studio/Archive</p>
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Presentation and Public Hearing

Second Vice Chair Leslie Boghosian-Murphy provided an overview of the draft FY2025 Statement of District Needs for Manhattan CB4, and then invited input from the public on the draft. There was only one speaker for the session (Miriam Fisher), who asked if subway accessibility (especially in connection with more elevators to the subways) could be prioritized in the Statement of District Needs. Leslie explained that the issue would be taken up by the CB4 Transportation Committee.

Presentation

Midtown North Precinct Commanding Officer John O'Connell offered a report regarding precinct activities. He was pleased to report that crime is down 13%, and he spoke positively about foot patrols, accessibility and improved communications. He reported that the precinct is the fifth best command in all of New York City with regards to crime reduction compared to 2022. He also said that they assign their officers on foot as much as possible, and that the goal is 2 hours on foot per tour, but in reality it is probably closer to one hour per tour. The officer can be reached at john.oconnell2@nypd.org or 212-767-8413.

Public Session

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| Carla Roussos | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Speaker spoke to raise awareness for upcoming programming for Ryan Health. |
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Miriam Fisher	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker spoke to raise awareness for accessibility improvements to subway entrances/exits in MCD4
Alexa Cruz	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker spoke to oppose both the demolition and rebuild and RAD/PACT for the Elliott-Chelsea and Fulton Houses
Selinas Miranda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker spoke to oppose the demolition and rebuild proposal for the Elliott-Chelsea and Fulton Houses
Jacklynn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker spoke to oppose the demolition and rebuild proposal for the Elliott-Chelsea and Fulton Houses
Charlie Dulik	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker spoke to raise awareness of the Housing Conservation Coordinators conference Nov 2023
Lisa Wager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker spoke to raise awareness for upcoming Fashion Institute of Technology programming
Bobby Vangelatos	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker spoke to raise awareness for upcoming Chelsea Recreation Center programming
Michael Huarachi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker spoke in favor of making efforts to reduce traffic deaths in MCD4, safe use sites, licensing for marijuana, wage theft enforcement.
Nilda Perez	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker spoke to oppose the demolition and rebuild proposal for the Elliott-Chelsea and Fulton Houses
Rose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker spoke to oppose the demolition and rebuild proposal for the Elliott-Chelsea and Fulton Houses
Ramir	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaker spoke to support the demolition and rebuild proposal for the Elliott-Chelsea and Fulton Houses and to raise awareness on concerns

Reports From Elected Officials	
Assemblymember Tony Simone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We had a Town Hall last week that was well attended, where I got to hear about a wide range of constituent issues. We will be having more of these, as well as “Talks with Tony” which we will start soon. • We will be hosting several flu vaccine events in the next month – more details on our web site. • I did a walk-through recently to address safety issues on West 42nd Street, which was very productive. I will also be doing a walk-through to address similar safety issues on West 45th Street. • Shout-out to Yadira Jimenez, former MCB4 member who is our new manager of Constituent Services. She was honored last week for her tremendous work on housing issues with our constituents. • Along with many others, I have asked the federal government to help with the migrant influx in the city. I am also working to expedite work authorizations for our newest arrivals. • I am also asking for stronger state action to address the housing crisis in NYC.

Councilmember Erik Bottcher	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Tomorrow I am introducing legislation that will allow the City to padlock shops that sell illegal cannabis and that sell cannabis to people under 21. At the moment, we have over 8,000 unlicensed cannabis shops in NYC. ● We passed a bill a few weeks ago prohibiting “ghost cars” where people obscure their license plates to avoid tolls or evade other regulations. ● The City recently passed my legislation that requires the City to develop an Urban Forest Master Plan with a goal of achieving 30% tree coverage across NYC. This will help with flood mitigation, clean air, habitats for birds and insects, and quality of life in our neighborhoods. ● We are getting ready to cut the ribbon on two recently renovated parks – Chelsea Park on 28th Street and 10th Ave., and Hell’s Kitchen Park. My goal as a City Council member is to renovate every park in Council District 3. ● We hosted a Zoom Forum last week with NYC Special Narcotics Prosecutor Bridget Brennan. It is well worth a watch.
Bracha Rosenberg, Office of Manhattan Borough President Mark Levine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The MBP’s office is very concerned about the rise in anti-semitism and islamophobia. We are working with all relevant agencies. ● Earlier today, the MBP hosted and celebrated veterans at the Met, in collaboration with Councilmember Powers and Representative Nadler. ● The MBP continues to be very focused on increasing accessibility to public bathrooms in NYC. The office is live-streaming about the issue today. There are two City Council bills that the MBP is promoting to help address this issue: Intro 1154 and Intro 1096. ● This coming weekend is our office’s Day of Action during which we will be hosting Community Clean-Ups at 5 locations in the District. ● Lastly, a quick reminder to Community Board members to please attend our Leadership Training Series the week of Nov. 13th.

Board Reports & Business	
Adoption of Agenda and Minutes	Item 11 was sent back to committee. The Agenda was adopted unanimously. The October Full Board Minutes were adopted unanimously.
District Manager Report	<p>MCB4 Hybrid Meeting Policy remains in effect.</p> <p>The office has created 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>MCB4 November Committee Schedule:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● There is a joint Land Use Committee on Wednesday, November 8th to review the City of Yes Economic Opportunity Text Amendment ● Business License & Permits Committee will meet on Tuesday, November 14th ● Cannabis Task Force will meet on Tuesday, November 21st at 6:30pm at the District Office. ● All other committees will be meeting at their regular time

	<p>Office will be closed on the following days:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuesday, November 7th – Election Day • Friday, November 10th – In observance of Veterans Day
Chair's Report	<p><u>Presentations & Hearings</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Midtown North Precinct Commanding Officer John O'Connell • Public Hearing: Statement of District Needs and Budget Request <p><u>Task Forces\Working Groups\Small Meetings\Other Points of Interest</u></p> <p>Active Task Forces\Working Groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PABT Working Group Continues to Meet • Started monthly calls with NYCHA re Chelsea NYCHA Proposal • First meeting of the Cannabis Task Force <p>Other Events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Groundbreaking for Pier 94 <p><u>Small Meetings\Briefing:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DM Jesse Bodine continues to attend the New York Forward Garment District capital improvement program.

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 December 6, 2023 Hybrid Meeting

As recorded by Roberta Barnett and Katy Stokes

