



CITY OF NEW YORK
MANHATTAN COMMUNITY
BOARD No. 4
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Jessica Chait
Chair

Jesse R. Bodine
District Manager

February 2025 Full Board Minutes

Meeting Date / Location	<p>The Manhattan Community Board 4 (MCB4) Full Board met at 6:30 pm on Wednesday, February 5, 2025, in a hybrid format, with the majority of Board members meeting in person (with members of the public present) at Pier 57 Classrooms – 25 11th Avenue (W. 15 th Street), 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 - February 2025 - Full Board Meeting</p> <p>A third-party draft transcript of the meeting can be found by selecting the MCB4 February 2025 Full Board Meeting at: https://blockparty.studio/Archive</p>
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Presentation by Jamestown about free community classrooms at Pier 57 (where this meeting is being held)

Overview slideshow presented by Natalie Mendell. There are three community classrooms that can be used for free if a community group reserves the space. To date, there has been 72% utilization of the space. In 2024 alone, we had 430 community groups and nonprofits use the space.

Presentation by Captain Wesley Fadera from the 13th NYPD Precinct 230 East 21st St.

Shared data about the first month of 2025 and welcomed questions. Said that robberies were up in January, mostly related to shoplifting. Two of our big hotspots are TJ Maxx and Old Navy. The majority of 311 calls are noise complaints.

Public Hearing about the Manhattan Cruise Ship Terminal Master Plan

No one signed up to speak on this topic.

Public Hearing on the Draft Scope of Work for 2 Developments: (1) 801 11 th Avenue & (2) 629 W. 54 th Street – DeWitt Clinton Park North Project

No one signed up to speak on these topics.

Public Session	
Judy Wessler	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tenant of 353 West 30th st a Clinton Housing Development having problems with heating water asks for support from board
Katy Stokes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Honored Bayard Rustin for Black History month
Carolyn Vuceciech	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thanked Jesse Bodine and Dolores Rubin for their communication regarding 305 West 49th. Asked for a provision to be added to maintain footprint of building
Lisa Wager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided updates about FIT
Juan Carlos Cabeza	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tenant at 540 West 53rd st spoke on the inefficacy of the housing, the lack of communication to residents, a high turnover of front desk staff, and a rooftop that is usable
Shonte Walker	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tenant 554 West 53rd Clinton Housing Development still having problems with the elevator, no communication with tenants, and has leak in roof
Racheal Lee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shared information on constitutional rights on citizenship and status
Pamela Wolf	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • speaking on behalf of Chelsea West 200 Block Association Opposes roadway dining for Merchants on the West 21st street

Reports From Elected Officials	
US Representative Jerrold Nadler, presented by Mackey Bentley	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Congressman Nadler is working hard as the senior judicial member to protect Civil Service employees, the FBI and the Inspector Generals, to name a few. He is also working to protect birthright citizenship and gender-affirming care. He is also closely monitoring ICE activity in NY.
NYS Assemblymember Tony Simone, presented by Ben Lowenstein	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assemblymember Simone has a number of new bills, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ in misdemeanor cases where the defendant is found unfit to proceed to trial due to mental illness, they are typically released without treatment, and Simone's bill will ensure that Crisis Intervention teams and other supports are provided at the moment of release ○ prohibiting "greenwashing" of marketing claims, which is when companies use deceptive claims to sell their products and services as more environmentally friendly than they really are. • Assemblymember Simone recently released a report to address the interconnected issues of substance abuse, homelessness and mental illness. The report includes goals such as increasing the quality and quantity of Supportive Housing by transferring contracts to modern funding systems; funding full-time nurses and people with backgrounds in Clinical Psychology to be part of Outreach Services; investing in and expanding inter agency hubs; updating the criteria

	<p>that allows for people to be involuntarily committed to what is used around the country; making psychiatric beds operational by investing in extended care facilities; and implementing a permanent annual COLA overall base wage increase for and overall base wage increase for Human Service workers.</p>
<p>NYC Council Member Erik Bottcher, presented by Carl Wilson</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The council member sent a letter to the acting Sanitation Commissioner regarding a proposed rule change that doesn't allow bagged garbage to go next to the corner receptacles. This rule would be a big operational challenge for our sanitation partners like BIDS and community groups, because then they would have to haul the trash away that they're gathering for the City. We've asked the Sanitation Commissioner to go back to the drawing board to come up with a rule that makes more sense for our sanitation partners. • I want to acknowledge the expansion of the Midtown Hub. The model for this Hub was originated by the District Attorney at 125th Street to deal with chronic quality of life and public safety issues. We have introduced that model along 8th Ave. in Midtown and now expanding into Hell's Kitchen. We also want to acknowledge Delores Rubin on MCB4 and say how glad we are that she is involved with this effort. • Introduced Quentin as the new Community Liaison.
<p>NYC Mayor Eric Adams, presented by Robin Forst</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Summer Youth Employment Program has recently launched. It is a terrific opportunity for people between the ages of 14 and 24 who are New York City residents and legally allowed to work in the City to gain work experience and earn money. Last year there were 100,000 people who participated. Encourage young people to apply! • Here are some interesting facts from the Mayor's office about 2024: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 1,300 illegal smoke shops shut down throughout the City ○ 20,000 illegal guns were removed from the streets ○ 500,000 potholes were filled
<p>Manhattan Borough President Office, presented by YiYi Wang</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applications to serve on MCB4, whether as a new member or a returning member, are due by Feb. 28. • Our office hosted two information sessions on how to apply to Capital funding for fiscal year 2026 and these information sessions are now available on our YouTube channel. For information on eligible projects, please visit our website. and all participants should be submitted. The deadline is February 20th at 5:00 p.m. •
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •

Adoption of Agenda and Minutes	Item 5 was tabled. The Agenda was adopted unanimously. The January 2025 Full Board Minutes were adopted unanimously.
District Manager Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Chelsea Land Use Committee will be meeting on Tuesday, February 18th at 6:30pm at Pier 57 Classrooms at 25 11th Avenue • All Committees will be meeting at their regular dates/time.
Chair's Report	<p><u>Updates on Ongoing Projects:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PABT – Held the first Community Construction Task Force <p><u>Upcoming:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NYC EDC continues community engagement about the Manhattan Cruise Ship Terminal Master Plan – The topic will be discussed further at WPE Committee this month • NYC DPC coming to CHKLU Committee to present on the Midtown South Mixed-Use Land Use Application • NY Public Library will be coming to the ACES Committee to update the community on the renovations of both the Columbus Branch and Muhlenberg Branch

Meeting Agenda

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

Item 01: Letter to DCP re 801 11th Avenue & 629 W. 54th Street – DeWitt Clinton Park North Project – Comment on Draft Scope of Work **APPROVED**

Item 02: Letter to DCP re proposed zoning text amendment for a development at 304 W. 49th Street (8/9) **APPROVED**

Chelsea Land Use (CLU)

Item 03: Letter to LPC re 318 West 22 nd Street – Application for Window Replacements **APPROVED**

Item 04: Letter to LPC re 261 11th Avenue\Terminal Building – Application for Amendments to the Signage Master Plan **APPROVED**

Housing Health & Human Services Committee (HHHS)

Item 05: Letter to HPD re 317-319 W 35th Street – Mixed Use Affordable Housing Application - **TABLED**

Arts, Culture, Education & Schools (ACES)

Item 06: Letter in support of Panel for Educational Policy Resolution - Affirming the NYC Public Schools as welcoming for all students **APPROVED**

Business License & Permits Committee (BLP)

Item 07: Letter to DOT re 88 7th Avenue - Westville - Application ID 20240725010037 –

Sidewalk – **RATIFIED**

Item 08: Letter to DOT re 121 W 19th Street - Ama La Vita - Application ID 20240718010035 – Sidewalk - **RATIFIED**

Item 09: Letter to DOT re 190 7th Avenue - Merchants NY - Application ID 20240727010004 - Roadway - **RATIFIED**

Item 10: Letter to DOT re 621 9th Avenue - Mama Mia 44 SW - Application ID 20240731010087 – Roadway - **RATIFIED**

Item 11: Letter to DOT re 116 8th Avenue - Jack’s Wife Freda - Application ID 20240702010007 – Roadway - **RATIFIED**

Item 12: Letter to DOT re 116 8th Avenue - Jack’s Wife Freda - Application ID 20240702010007 - Sidewalk **APPROVED**

Item 13: Letter to DOT re 119 7th Avenue - Cafeteria - Application ID 20240711010018 - Sidewalk **APPROVED**

Item 14: Letter to SLA re 190 7th Avenue - Merchants NY **APPROVED**

Item 15: Letter to SLA re 116 8th Avenue - Jack’s Wife Freda **APPROVED**

Item 16: Letter to SLA re 453 W 54th Street - One Drink LLC **APPROVED**

Item 17: Letter to SLA re 407 W 42nd Street - Risotto Balls LLC **APPROVED**

Item 18: Letter to SLA re 305 W 43rd Street a-k-a 681 8th Avenue - Studio Seaview Limited Liability Company **APPROVED**

Item 19: Letter to SLA re 851 8th Avenue - RPH Hotels 51st Street Owners LLC and Highgate Hotels L.P. **APPROVED**

Waterfront, Parks & Environment Committee (WPE)

Item 20: Letter to EDC re Manhattan Cruise Terminal Plans **APPROVED**

Item 21: Letter to DSNY re Proposed rule relating to entities engaged in cleaning services **APPROVED**

Transportation Planning Committee (TPC)

Item 22: Letter to Electeds, DOT & MTA re 34th Street Enhanced Bus Priority Service **APPROVED**

Item 23: Letter to DOT & DDC re Pedestrian Security Measures on 42nd Street (7/8) – Project HWM42PSM **APPROVED**

Item 24: Letter to DOT re Adjustments to shared street design on West 22nd Street **APPROVED**

Item 25: Letter to DOT re Maintenance and upgrade to bike and pedestrian infrastructure in MCD4 **APPROVED**

New Business

Item 26: Budget Task Force - Comments on the Preliminary Budget, Fiscal Year 2026 (FY26) **APPROVED**

Nothing to Report

Executive Committee (EXEC)

Cannabis Task Force

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

Meeting Resolution	
Adjournment	Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm

Next Meeting Date and Location	6:30 pm on Wednesday, March 5 at Mount Sinai West – 1000 10th Avenue, 2nd Floor Conference Room B Hybrid Meeting
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As recorded by Katy Stokes and Candice Hewitt.

