



BROOKLYN BOROUGH BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, October 7, 2025 @ 6:00 p.m.

Brooklyn Borough Hall

209 Joralemon Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201

[Webex Recording](#)

Welcome & Roll Call

Present: Gina Barros CB 1, Anthony Buissereth (CB3), Robert Camacho (CB4), Alice Lowman (CB5). Eric McClure (CB6), Julio Pena (CB7), Irsa Weatherspoon (CB8), Fred Baptiste (CB9), Stephanie Simone Mahoney (CB10), Marnee Elias-Pavia (CB11), Jenny Hernandez (CB13), Shawn Campbell (CB 14), Theresa Scavo (CB 15), Margaret Brewer (CB16), Naomi Hopkins (CB 18).

Council Members Angela Yang (Restler-33), Gutierrez-34, Hudson-35, Malloy-39, Osse- 36; (Hanif 39), Mealy 41, Zhuang-43, (Louis-45), Frank Shea (Narcisse-46), (Carr-50)

Borough President's Office: Carol-Ann Church, Spencer Williams

Quorum established at 27. Late arrivals: Lambert (CD 42), Daley (CB 17).

Approval of the Agenda - by consent, Scavo, McClure

Approval of the Minutes 09.02.2025 by consent Weatherspoon, Scavo.

Borough Hall & Board Member Updates

CB 13: Community Advisory Board for the Coney Island Casino met on Sept 29, the board voted 2-4-0 so the project will not move forward. The board appreciates the Borough President's support on the issue.

The board recently held elections, and Jenny Hernandez was elected vice-chair.

CB 14 – The board will host its annual community awards on October 30 at East Midwood Jewish Center

CB 9 – The board will host a townhall on the upcoming NYC charter revisions on October 9 @7pm at MS 61 also virtual attendance is possible; check the website for the link.

CD 41 – Council Member Mealy will host:

- a shredding event on 10/22; 9am -noon
- Every Friday 2-3:30 pm Boots on the Ground Mt. Ararat Senior Center (1630 St. Marks Ave
- Boots on the Ground Class at Mt. Ararat Senior Center every Friday 2-3:30 pm
- 2 (Office of Administrative Trials and Hearings (OATH) events on November 19
 - ✓ Brooklyn Public Library Saratoga branch 11am -12:30 pm)

- ✓ Brooklyn Public Library Stone Avenue branch from 1pm)

CB 3 – hosted a successful shredding and e-waste collection event on October 4.

Will co-host a Veterans Day Parade with Community Boards 5 & 16 on November 1

Borough Hall

Community Board member workshops started with SLA and led by David Stoler, Regional Director.

Upcoming are:

- October 23 - Office of Cannabis Management
- December 4 - Independent Budget Office
- January 15 – ULURP

All workshops are virtual and begin at 6:00pm

Civic Engagement Commission also has workshops planned throughout the Fall at the following dates and times:

- Social media: 10/29 12:00 - 1:00pm and 6:30 - 8:00pm and 11/13, 6:30 - 8:00 pm
- Language Access: 11/12.12:00 - 1:00pm and 11/20 6:30 - 8:00pm
- Voting Rights for People with Disabilities: 10/15 12:30 - 1:30pm; 10/21 6:30 - 8:00pm and 10/23 6:30 - 8:00pm

CB Applications will open soon. The early opening date means that the deadline will not be extended. This year the office will be hosting pre-application workshops to educate the public on community boards.

Unfinished Business

Voting Item 1

Proposed reconstruction of the sidewalk at Prospect Park Grand Army Plaza from Plaza Street East, from Eastern Parkway to Vanderbilt Avenue and Vanderbilt Avenue from Plaza Street East up to the bend.

Motion to open voting on both items as borough wide interests

Baptiste/Scavo. Passed 25-1-1.

Motion to recommend the project proceed as presented

Pena and Malloy; 23-0-4

Voting Item 2

Proposed reconstruction of the Shirley Chisholm Pavilion and Parkside Restroom into an all-gender facility, with shaded rest areas, water fountains and informational displays.

Motion to recommend the project proceed as presented

Campbell and Weatherspoon, Passed 21-0-6

Communications & Reports

Statement read on behalf of the Brooklyn Solid Waste Advisory Board (SWAB). Volunteer citizens advisory board that advises the Borough President on policies and programs regarding NYC's waste prevention reuse and recycling.

Department of Sanitation (DSNY) recently released its draft 2026 Solid Waste Management Plan that governs NYC's waste policies for the next 10 years. The public has 45 days to provide feedback on the plan before it is submitted to the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation. DSNY will hold a public meeting on 10/27 to provide a plan overview. The Brooklyn SWAB will be inviting all community boards to its public hearing which is yet to be scheduled.

PRESENTATION

Principles of Urban Design, Department of City Planning. An explanation of New York City's urban design principles presented by Sagi Golan, the Deputy Director of DCP's Urban Design Division and supported by Amritha Mahesh, Senior Leader at DCP's Brooklyn Office, Bianca Bryant.

The principles were worked on for a decade by multiple urban designers at DCP and a year ago the plain language guidebook was released. The book is meant for everyone: developers, professionals, laypeople. Urban design is all about how we interact with the city. Does the city feel welcoming? Is the building too big, is the city accessible? How do you recognize a public space without having to see a plaque? The width of a sidewalk, the presence of shade trees, and the location of the loading dock are important elements of urban design. Urban design's goal is

to meet the pedestrian's perspective. The guide considers the diversity of the city and its building typologies. The guide was developed with community input sourced from community board, meetings, a website survey and workshops.

The guide contains the four principles and a chapter on resources.

1. Enhance People's Daily lives
 - a. How does it enhance? Bring together various uses it supports a live /work experience. Example Ashland Place and Flatbush Avenue,
2. Care for a Neighborhood History, Culture & Identity
 - ✓ Outcome of community outreach, meetings with community, HPD. Example 581 Grant Avenue
3. Embrace the City's Dynamism – Resourcefulness and Tenacity
 - a. Space to grow, it's flexible and dynamic. Example: Weeksville Heritage Center
4. Confront greatest challenges – sustainability and adaptability. Gowanus

Discussion

- How to integrate community input from the ground up when creating these plans?
 - ✓ The agency uses outreach events, websites and topic based working group sessions. Was very successful on the Gowanus project, was able to integrate many voices. Acknowledges the size of the city can make engagement difficult.
- How, apart from the statement of needs, can the community get input into a project before it reaches the board. There should be conversations that can give more “flavor” in terms of the spirit of the community, history, and culture.

- ✓ Even if projects seem fleshed out, they're still going through the permitting process, so it is an opportunity to continue shaping it. Advisory comments go along – find that developers are often amenable. The department reviews the district needs statement especially when considering capital planning.
- If there are liaisons, is it possible to connect them with the land use committees? It would offer the opportunity to convey community vision and the agency can have those conversations with the developers.
 - ✓ Will take this suggestion back to the agency
- How can community boards integrate the plan into their decision-making? It was suggested that the community boards integrate this by asking questions such as
 - ✓ What's on the ground floor
 - ✓ What will the pedestrians experience
 - ✓ Where will the curb be?
 - ✓ Is the commercial space suitable for community needs?
 - ✓ Will there be a community facility?
 - ✓ Present a mood board, show the developers what you like and don't like.
- Does urban design make space for homeownership opportunities?
 - ✓ They work with HPD to advocate for a variety of typologies. There's a concerted effort by the city to promote home ownership.
- It feels as if City of Yes has taken away community input with so many actions now deemed as-of right. It ignores the local knowledge community has to offer.

PUBLIC HEARING

David Yum, on behalf of the Prospect Park Alliance, presented a proposal to reconstruct the Willink Restroom to provide the services and amenities on the east side of the park by rehabilitating the existing restrooms. This will include updating the mechanical infrastructure of the building and making repairs to the roof. Repairs to the exterior envelope will address the preservation of the existing historic facades.

The pavilion designed by Hubert and Hulme was built in 1913 and is heavily used. Last reconstructed in the 1990's, the roof tiles are now falling, and the central port portion of the roof has collapsed inward. The restroom is now closed due to water leaks. The façade is in good condition and will only have minor restoration work to the mortar joints and address some basic chipping.

The proposed work will bring the restrooms to ADA standards with a new layout. The exterior doors, hardware, windows, and window grates will be replaced. New lighting will be installed and display panels updated.

One side of the restroom was converted decades ago to an office space which remains essential for efficient park operations as it is the only available space in the area to store equipment and staff operations.

Budget is \$4 million, Council members of districts 35, 39 and 40 districts have contributed \$2.37 million while Prospect Park Alliance has contributed \$598, 878.

Major Discussion Points:

- It appears that the renovation 30 years ago was last time the building was maintained - if that is true the City is neglecting its properties. What is the useful life of the project?
 - ✓ The roof is expected to last 30 years – the city has done maintenance in the interim. Will get the maintenance information and share with the board.
- Four million dollars for a small structure seems a lot. Is there a bid process?
 - ✓ The approximate cost is developed based on material acquisition and going rates. Still working out the cost final which is used to determine the appropriate range of suitable bids which are acquired through a competitive process.
- Is the project time sensitive?
 - ✓ It does need to be addressed within a year or two.

There were no comments from non-board members.

Motion: Camacho/Daly that the matter just presented is of borough wide importance. Voice vote: 1 abstention. Motion passes.

Motion: to vote on the item at the meeting Camacho/Baptiste. Unanimous

Motion: to recommend the project as presented Pena/Scavo. 21-0-1 – motion passes.

Other Business

Member Daley (CB17) provided the following update:

- There was a police-involved shooting in the district, community board is working with the council member's office.
- Former long time board member Adlin Gallimore has died
- October 18, board will host community fair Utica + Linden. 57 agencies and officials expected

Designee Lambert (CD42) informed the board:

- Dedra Cheatham former designee from CM Banks' office had died suddenly
 - Office will be hosting a townhall on Charter revisions
- i. Expiration of Open Meetings Law Hybrid Provision - this item was tabled for next month due to the as it is already past 8:00 p.m. However, if the board desires to elevate the matter to the state legislature, the board should begin discussing strategy and goals.
 - ii. November meeting date – **Thursday, November 6** as the regular meeting date is being rescheduled to accommodate election day.

Adjournment On motion by Scavo and Camacho, the meeting ended at 8:15pm

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