



Community Board Six Manhattan

East Midtown News and CB 6 Activities - 12/02/14

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*In this issue: **News:** East Midtown rezoning, the Vision Zero 25 MPH speed limit, NYS preparedness training, and much more. **Events:** Free flu shots, many holiday events; E. 25th St. public plaza design workshop on 12/15. **Services:** Join the CB6 list of leaders of East Midtown coop and condo boards and tenant associations; electronic waste disposal rules changing; food truck location rules; eviction prevention resources guide; tips for using 311.*

News

Discussion continues on East Midtown rezoning and One Vanderbilt project

A public hearing took place in November on proposed new commercial development along Madison and Vanderbilt Avenues between 42nd and 47th Streets. CB6 board members are closely involved in the City review process. [Background information here](#).

Vision Zero update: the City's new 25 MPH initiative

Effective November 7, New York City is reducing its speed limit to 25 MPH to improve safety and to help meet the City's goal of bringing traffic fatalities to zero. Data shows that driving at or below 25 MPH makes it easier for drivers to avoid crashes. Penalties for violating the speed limit will not change. For most drivers, it ranges from \$150-\$600, depending on how many miles per hour over the speed limit they were travelling, and how many previous speeding tickets they had received. Drivers get points on their license for speeding. Violations issued by speed cameras carry a \$50 fine but are not added to license records. [More about the 25 MPH campaign here](#).

Getting prepared

Over 700 residents, many from Stuyvesant Town and Peter Cooper Village, [attended an emergency preparedness training](#) organized by Governor Cuomo and co-sponsored by area elected officials and CB6. Review [the Four Steps to Preparedness presentation online here](#): creating a household emergency plan; preparing an emergency kit; becoming aware of potential disruptions and learning what to do before, during and after; and lastly, volunteer opportunities.

Exhibit of 42nd Street light rail proposals



[vision42](#) is a citizens' initiative to re-imagine and upgrade surface transit in Midtown Manhattan, with a light rail line running river-to-river along 42nd Street within a landscaped pedestrian boulevard. It could be a prototype for a whole network of landscaped, pedestrian/light rail streets throughout the city. See an exhibit of [four design finalists](#) through January 5 at 4 Times Square, on 42nd St. between 6th Ave. and Broadway. Mon-Fri 8 AM to 6 PM.

In other news...

At the October meeting of the CB6 Land Use and Waterfront committee, Councilmember Dan Garodnick asked for suggestions on how to use the \$1 million in funding he has secured for [East River access](#). Local waterfront organizations attended the November meeting to offer their proposals. For the last three summers, kayakers have launched from Stuyvesant Cove Park.

In response to community concerns about safety, Councilmember Garodnick is calling for [more NYPD enforcement of bicycle riders](#) failing to yield to pedestrians and disregarding traffic rules.

Bellevue Hospital received a Federal FEMA grant of \$380 million for [post-Sandy rebuilding](#).

The Senior Citizen Rent Increase Exemption (SCRIE) program is now only available to residents who live in rent regulated housing. The CB6 Housing Committee [voted to support a resolution in the City Council](#) urging the State Legislature to expand SCRIE's availability.

The owner of Rivergate Apartments on E. 34th St. seeks to build a commercial building on part of a children's playground that would eliminate some of the park space. [CB6 is opposing the plan](#), and negotiating with the developers.

Thought you'd like to know...

Neighbors taking care of trees

Kudos to [Salon Amici](#) on 255 E. 50th St. between 2nd and 3rd Avenues, for adopting the tree bed in front of their store and making a commitment to watering it and keeping it clean. [Tempo](#), a condo building on E. 23rd St., has adopted five tree beds on the east side of Second Avenue between 22nd and 23rd Streets. [Hill and Bay](#) has adopted the tree in front of their restaurant on Second Avenue. Let us know of neighbors who have adopted trees. More [tree resources here](#).

NYC Dept. of Transportation plans to install bike racks at 18 locations within CB6. DOT will install CityRacks [for free on request](#). They're a safe, secure and organized way to temporarily park bikes, and are especially good for businesses that use delivery bikes.

["Small Business Success."](#) a new report from Center for an Urban Future, lists a dozen ways the City can help small businesses grow, including: sending counselors to more of the city's existing small businesses (rather than expecting small business owners to come to a handful of locations where technical assistance is provided), sponsoring opportunities for peer-to-peer learning, developing programs that help more small firms break into the corporate supply chain, and expanding efforts to get small businesses to adopt technology.

NYC Dept. of Sanitation has [released its snow removal plans](#) for the coming winter season.

Events

Free flu shots, Dec. 2

Office of [Assemblyman Brian Kavanagh](#), between 10 AM and 1 PM today! First Ave. and 14th St. Call 212-979-9696 for directions.

Caroling and tree lighting, Dec. 7

Plus hot chocolate, glogg and coffee [at Scandinavia House](#), 38th St. and Park Avenue, no charge to attend. The event is sponsored by the [Murray Hill Neighborhood Association](#).

Turtle Bay Association Toy Drive, Dec. 7

Seeking gifts for young children. [Holiday party](#), 3 - 5:30 PM at Parnell's.

Sutton Area Community Annual Holiday Tree Lighting, Dec. 10

Complimentary refreshments and holiday carols performed by the PS 59 Children's Choir at 6:30 PM in the Cul-de-SAC Park on 57th Street. [Flyer here](#).

Workshop on design of E. 25th St. Public Plaza, Dec. 15

The public plaza on E. 25th St. between between Lexington and 3rd Avenues, currently built with temporary materials, is slated to be redesigned to create a new, permanent public space. Come to a workshop sponsored by NYC DOT, NYC DDC and Baruch College/ CUNY to share your input about plaza design opportunities. 6 - 8 PM, Baruch College/CUNY, Newman Vertical Campus, Room 1-107, 55 Lexington Avenue at 25th St. between Lex & 3rd Ave. Contact David Breen at NYC DOT, 212-839-6693 or dbreen@dot.nyc.gov.

Sutton Place Menorah Lighting, Dec. 21

Come enjoy live music and refreshments. Cul-de-SAC Park on East 57th Street, 4 - 5 PM. Sponsored by [Chabad](#) at Beekman-Sutton.

December events at Church of the Covenant

Gospel concert on Sun. Dec. 7, 2:30 PM; Mandolin orchestra on Mon. Dec. 8, 7 PM; Blessing of the animals, Sun. Dec. 14, 4 PM - bring your pets to church. 310 E. 42nd St. [More here](#).

Construction

Due to the holiday construction embargo, there will be no work on Third Avenue between East 34th Street and East 35th Street and on East 34th Street from Lexington Avenue to FDR Drive between Thanksgiving and New Years.

Services

Join the Community Board 6 List of Leaders of East Midtown Coop and Condo

Boards and Tenant Associations

CB6 can provide information about an array of city services and assist boards of coops, condos and tenant associations in addressing city service delivery concerns and expediting service requests. [Join the contact list](#). Send us the name, email and other contact information for your president or representative, along with the address of your building. We'll add you to our [list of community organizations](#) - or if you prefer, we'll keep it private.

Electronic waste disposal changes coming soon

Starting in January 2015, it will be illegal for New Yorkers to discard electronics in the trash. There are many FREE, convenient options to properly recycle your unwanted electronics. Visit nyc.gov/electronics for more info.

- Department of Sanitation's [e-cycleNYC](#) program. Apartment buildings with more than 10 units can enroll for this free and convenient pickup service.
- Retail drop-off programs. There are over 90 locations where you can drop off electronics (no purchase required), including any Goodwill, Salvation Army, Best Buy, Staples (no TVs). See map of [NYC Electronics Drop Off Locations](#).
- Free mail-back programs. Check your brand's website for details.
- Electronics recycling events. Bring to drop off events run by organizations such as Lower East Side Ecology Center, or DSNY's [SAFE Disposal Events](#).
- Donate or sell working electronics through the [NYC Stuff Exchange](#).

The rules for food trucks

While food trucks and carts are restricted from some streets, and some placement constraints apply, they can generally set up shop wherever they wish. Here's [our short guide to permitted locations](#) for food trucks and carts, and applicable NYC Dept. of Health regulations.

Eviction Prevention Resource Guide

A small but growing number of area residents may be at risk of eviction from their home. CB6 has compiled a list of [eviction prevention, housing and tenant advocacy resources](#).

Use 311 for City service requests

Post or forward [our flyer](#) that explains how calling 311 can help keep our neighborhood clean and orderly. You can also enter 311 requests online at www.nyc.gov/311 or from a smartphone.

Contact office@cbsix.org with the 311 request number you are given to expedite service.

Call 911 to report emergencies or crimes in progress. [Download the flyer here.](#)

Learn More About CB6 and Community Boards

Go to our [resources page](#) to learn about how CB6 and community boards work, and other items such as directories of community organizations, senior services and elected officials.

Submit your Questions and Complaints

Please contact CB6 at office@cbsix.org with your questions and service requests.

See Previous CB6 Newsletters

Visit [our newsletter archive page](#) to catch up on what you may have missed.

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December CB6 Committee Meetings

Meetings are subject to change. Please visit [our calendar page](#) for updates.

Transportation, Monday, 12/01

Parks, Landmarks & Cultural Affairs Committee, Tuesday, 12/02

Land Use/Waterfront Committee, Wednesday, 12/03

Housing, Homeless & Human Rights Committee, Monday, 12/08

Full Board Meeting, Wednesday, 12/10

Public Safety & Environment, Monday, 12/15

Health & Education, Tuesday, 12/16

Executive Committee, Wednesday, 12/17

Business Affairs and Street Activities Committee, Thursday, 12/18

Budget & Government Affairs, No Meeting Scheduled