



# Community Board Six Manhattan

## East Midtown News & CB 6 Activities - April 17, 2014

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**News:** new CO at 17th Precinct; new pre-K seats; resilience presentation to CB6 PSE Committee; report on arts education in schools; flashing lights for buses; CB best practices. **Events:** flower planting volunteer days, walking tour, free workshop on cutting energy bills for co-ops & condos on 5/06; household product drop-off. **Highlights at May CB6 Committee Meetings:** Transportation, PSE, HHR, H&E. **Construction updates:** After hours work, water service issues. **Services:** changing alarm timing; summer youth activities from NYPD; graffiti removal.

### News

#### New Commanding Officer at 17th Precinct

Deputy Inspector James Sheerin has been reassigned. The new CO is Captain Clint McPherson. The [17th](#) covers CB6 from [30th to 59th Streets](#). Their Community Council is 4/29.

#### Pre-K sections to open at local schools

Full-day pre-K sections are coming to area schools this fall. [P.S. 116 will add 36 seats and P.S. 40 will add 18](#). Eric Goldberg, a member of the area's Community Education Council, said that 54 additional seats is a good start but we still have a long way to go toward universal pre-K, and more spaces need to be found.

#### Mayor's Office of Long Term Planning resilience presentation to CB6



*Peter Cooper Village in Hurricane Sandy*

After Hurricane Sandy, the City studied how to rebuild neighborhoods not just as they were, but better. OLTPS staff gave a presentation to the CB6 Public Safety & Environment Committee. [See the presentation here.](#) The NYC Panel on Climate Change projects that the average temperature could rise from 4 - 6.5 ° F by the 2050s, and the number of days with temperatures about 90 ° F could triple. Areas of the City at risk of flooding will continue to increase and storms will be more frequent. The City is strengthening coastal defenses, upgrading buildings, protecting critical infrastructure and services, and making neighborhoods safer and more vibrant. [The City plan](#) contains 257 initiatives to build resilience to extreme weather events.

### **A Plan to Boost Arts Education in New York City Schools**

Experts recognize that arts education is important for children's future academic and employment success, which is especially relevant as the NYC economy is increasingly focused on industries that value creativity, innovation, and problem solving. However, provision of arts education in NYC public schools has become both inequitable and underfunded. A new report from Comptroller Scott Stringer provides a first-ever school-by-school breakdown of the state of arts education. 28% of NYC schools have no full time art teacher, and 21% have neither a full time nor a part time arts teacher. The report includes recommendations to make arts education and the opportunities it provides equally accessible to all. See the map of schools without art teachers, and [read more here.](#)

### **Flashing lights for Select Bus Service buses**

The de Blasio Administration wants to rapidly expand [Select Bus Service](#) express buses (SBS) to new routes. SBS riders have to get fare payment receipts from curbside machines before they can

get on the buses, and some riders worry they won't have enough time to print out the receipt before their bus arrives. One way to make the system easier to use is by putting flashing purple lights on SBS buses so they can be seen coming from a distance. The flashing lights would also [help riders](#) know whether they're boarding an SBS bus, with its special payment system, or a local bus. This issue was covered in [PIX 11 News](#) and [Streetsblog](#). CB6 passed a resolution in favor of adding flashing lights to SBS buses.

## **Best practices for Community Boards**

Councilmember Ben Kallos, chair of the Committee on Governmental Operations, [issued a report on best practices](#) in recruiting and appointing members of Community Boards. The report will be reviewed at an upcoming meeting of the Budget and Governmental Affairs Committee.

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## **Events**

### **Volunteers Welcome at Gardening Days in Kips Bay**

Note that there are two separate Kips Bay neighborhood groups, each with their own events.

[Kips Bay Neighborhood Alliance](#) flower planting on 4/19 and 4/26, and a community day on 5/17. [Email them](#) for details.

[Kips Bay Neighborhood Association](#) every other Saturday morning from Easter through Labor Day. [Email them](#) for details.

### **Free Workshop**

#### **Cutting Energy Bills for Co-ops & Condos**

**Tuesday, May 6, 6:30 to 8:30 PM**

**Co-sponsored by CB6, Solar 1, and NYS Energy Research and Development Authority**

Sutton Place Synagogue, 225 E. 51st Street, NY NY 10022

In this interactive workshop for co-op board members, multi-family building owners and managers, learn how to cut costs, increase tenant comfort, have a greener building, and comply with new building codes. Residents invited too! You will learn about:

- Proven strategies for working with your coop or condo board,

building residents and staff, and property managers;

- Incentives and funding sources for capital improvements related to energy efficiency and renewable energy systems;
- Complying with new laws and code changes - such as the phase out of No. 4 and 6 heating oil - and avoiding associated penalties. [RSVP and more info here.](#)

### **Free Historical Walking Tour of Turtle Bay, Sat. May 3, noon**

This Municipal Arts Society walk will explore [East Midtown's history from colonial days to the present](#). Led by area [resident and historian](#) Pamela Hanlon. No charge to attend.

### **Get Rid of Harmful Household Products, Sunday, May 11**

NYC Dept. of Sanitation is holding [a one stop drop-off day](#) for potentially harmful household products at Union Square from 10 AM - 4 PM, rain or shine. Here's [a video](#).

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### **Highlights at May CB6 Committee Meetings**

- Transportation Committee, May 5: Presentations on East Side Access, and MoveNY congestion pricing plan.
- Housing, Homeless and Human Rights Committee, May 13: Update from Dept. of Homeless Services on shelters within CB6, and DHS initiatives with the new mayoral administration.
- Public Safety & Environment Committee, May 19: discussion on requiring NYPD to report noise complaints on quarterly basis.
- Health and Education Committee, May 27: Presentation by Councilmember Dromm, Chair of the City Council Education Committee; discussion on lack of space for expansion in CB6 pre-K and middle schools.

See [our calendar](#) for all committee meeting details.

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### **Construction updates**



### **Crane at construction site**

The site is on 50th and 2nd.

[More pictures here.](#)

### **303 East 51st Street Update**

After hours work will continue until 9 PM each night this week. [Updates here.](#)

### **Water Service Interruptions on 1st Ave.**

As part of the [Third Water Tunnel project](#), the existing water main in this area must be replaced. [Over the next few](#)

[weeks](#), buildings with water service on 1st Ave. between E. 57th and 59th Streets may have water shutoffs.

### **Water main installation on East 42nd St. to start in mid-April**

DDC plans to [install water mains on East 42nd St.](#), Park Avenue, and adjacent streets, on the western edge of CB6. It is expected to be complete in summer 2016.

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## **Services**

### **Reducing the stress of school alarm testing**

Last month, a CB6 resident informed us that a local high school was performing a daily test of its fire alarm at 6:45 AM. The Fire Department confirmed that schools must test their alarms daily but the timing of the test is up to the school. CB6 staff spoke with the building manager, and the alarm testing time has been moved to early evening.

### **Summer Youth Police Academy**

New York City residents attending school, between the ages of 10

