



Community Board Six Manhattan

East Midtown News and CB6 Activities - Feb. 5, 2014

In this newsletter: public safety updates (Block Watcher program, Community Councils, preventing catalytic converter theft, NYPD alerts, CERT program, NYPD coverage of protests); Quality of Life Forum on Thurs. Feb. 13; topics at CB6 committee meetings; mandatory winter heating levels for NYC buildings; show removal rules, \$1,000 grants for volunteer block improvement projects.

Public Safety Updates

The NYPD Block Watcher Program Seeks CB6 Volunteers

To support police security efforts, NYPD is launching a new informal network for concerned citizens to report emergencies and non-emergencies to the New York Police Department and other agencies. Anyone can volunteer to become a Block Watcher, to monitor their block and report any criminal activities someone who wants to make sure their block and neighborhood is safe. Contact the 13th Precinct at 212-477-7427, or the 17th Precinct at 212-826-3228. "It's up to everyone in the community to help keep our blocks and neighborhoods safe. Please consider participating in the block watcher program, and join in to protect our streets," says Nick Smolney, chair of CB6 [Public Safety and Environment Committee](#).

Visit the next Community Council meeting for your police precinct

The [17th Precinct covers](#) Sutton Area, Beekman Place, Kipps Bay, Turtle Bay, and Murray Hill. Its Community Council usually meets on the last Tuesday of the month at 6 PM at the Sutton Place Synagogue, 225 East 51st Street. This month's meeting is Feb. 25. The [13th Precinct](#) covers Stuyvesant Town and Gramercy Park. Its Community Council meets at 6:30 PM on the third Tuesday of each month at 230 East 21st Street. This month's meeting is Feb. 18.

Protect Your Car from Catalytic Converter Thieves

Thefts typically happen to vehicles that are parked for prolonged periods in large parking lots. [Here are tips from NYPD](#) on how to safeguard your vehicle.

Get NYPD Email Updates

To receive more information about NYPD's crime prevention programs, safety tips, Police Athletic League, Youth Police Academy, Operation Safe Child, Summer Youth Employment or At-Risk Youth Programs, contact 17th Precinct Community Affairs Officer Jeffrey Arlotta at 212-826-3228 or jeffrey.arlotta@nypd.org.

NYC Community Emergency Response Team Training to Start in February



NYC Office of Emergency Management is now accepting applications for its upcoming Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training cycle that begins in February. OEM's CERTs are groups of local volunteers who have undergone a 10-week training program that focuses on emergency preparedness, fire safety, traffic control, disaster medical operations, and more. CERT members serve their community by assisting first responders, helping at citywide planned events, and educating the public about emergency preparedness. To learn more, please visit nyc.gov/cert or email cert@oem.nyc.gov.

Effects of Egyptian Election Felt on East 58th St.

We received an inquiry in January from Andy Turshen at Accent on Flowers about a sharp rise in the number of political protests across the street from his shop. Political protests have been taking place regularly since the fall of the Egyptian government outside Egypt's Consulate at 2nd Ave. and 58th St. and its Mission at 45th Street. We contacted the 17th Precinct and learned it was in response to absentee voting in the Egyptian election taking place at those locations. Police officers from the 17th Precinct are assigned to provide security and monitor sound levels at each demonstration, and they average one demonstration each day. Because of the Constitutional right to [peacefully assemble](#), groups don't require a permit to protest where they wish, and can do so 24 hours a day, although demonstrators must apply for police permits for megaphone or sound equipment.

Events

Kips Bay Quality of Life Forum

Thursday, February 13, 6:30 - 8:30 PM

Co-hosted by Manhattan Community Board Six and Kips Bay Neighborhood Alliance.



Podell Auditorium, 1st floor of Bernstein Pavillion, Beth Israel Medical Center, 1 Nathan Perlman Place, between 15th & 16th Streets and 1st and 2nd Avenues.

A panel discussion with representatives from NYC agencies, moderated by City Council Members Dan Garodnick and Rosie Mendez.

Panelists will address quality of life issues in the Kips Bay neighborhood, such as street safety, area greening, and improving communication with City agencies. Residents can submit questions prior to the forum, or in written form during the event. For more information, please contact kbna.info@gmail.com or office@cbsix.org. Visit kbna.tumblr.com or cbsix.org.

Next meeting of Kips Bay Neighborhood Alliance, Tues. Feb. 18

[KBNA](#) seeks volunteers for their flower planting in March, and to help assemble a youth group. Contact kbna.info@gmail.com for time and location of their next organizational meeting.

Community groups seeking meeting spaces in east midtown

Local groups are looking for places where 5 to 50 people can get together for a meeting or an event at no charge. [Contact CB6](#) if your restaurant, nonprofit or house of worship would be interested and we'll connect you.

At Upcoming CB6 Committee Meetings in February

- The Land Use & Waterfront Committee on Feb. 5 will hear a presentation on NYU's Kimmel Center, and the long range plan for CB6.
- The By-Laws Committee will continue to review the by-laws on Thurs. Feb. 6.
- The Mayor's Preliminary Budget is now expected to be released on Wednesday, February 12. The Budget & Governmental Affairs Committee will prepare a response early in March - and will not hold its scheduled meeting this month. A public hearing will be held in March.
- The Housing, Homeless and Human Rights Committee will hear about new initiatives from Common Ground.

- The Public Safety and Environment Committee will hear a presentation from the Mayor's Office of Long Term Planning and Sustainability, and will discuss a bill in relation to the authority of enforcement officers to issue violations for removal of commercial waste.
- Health & Education will discuss local impacts of a host of education issues - budget concerns, special ed reform, Common Core and testing.
- The Business Affairs and Street Activities Committee will review a number of liquor license applications on Thurs. Feb. 27.

See [the CB6 committee calendar page](#) for dates, times, locations and details.

Services

Heat Season Rules

OCTOBER 1ST - MAY 31ST
DAY
6 a.m. - 10 p.m.

BELOW 55° OUTSIDE

AT LEAST 68° INSIDE

OCTOBER 1ST - MAY 31ST
NIGHT
10 p.m. - 6 a.m.

BELOW 40° OUTSIDE

AT LEAST 55° INSIDE

Tenants Without Heat Should Call (24 Hours a Day - 7 Days a Week)

3-1-1 Citizen Service Center
For Hearing Impaired
TTY (212) 504-4115

NYC Department of
Housing Preservation
& Development

City law requires building owners to [provide heat and hot water to all tenants](#). Building owners are required to provide hot water 365 days a year at a constant minimum temperature of 120 degrees Fahrenheit.

Between October 1st and May 31st, a period designated as “Heat Season”,

building owners are also required to provide tenants with heat under the following conditions:

- Between 6 AM and 10 PM, if the outside temperature falls below 55 degrees, the inside temperature must be at least 68 degrees F.
- Between 10 PM and 6 AM, if the temperature outside falls below 40 degrees, the inside temperature must be at least 55 degrees F.

Tenants who are cold in their apartments should first attempt to notify the building management. If heat is not restored, call 311.

Reporting Snow or Ice on City Sidewalks

After the snow stops falling, property owners must clear a path for pedestrians and remove snow from sidewalks next to bus stops and hydrants as follows:

- If snowfall ends between 7 AM and 5 PM, property owners must clear sidewalks within 4 hours.
- If snowfall ends between 5 PM and 7 AM, property owners must clear sidewalks before 11 AM.

The City may issue property owners a summons for a failure to clear the sidewalks within these time frames. You can make a complaint at any time about snow or ice on sidewalks in front of public property, such as bus stop shelters, park paths, or schools. [You can also make a complaint about snow or ice on sidewalks in front of private property](#) after property owners have had an appropriate amount of time to clear their sidewalks.

Win \$1,000 to beautify your block

Citizens Committee for NYC and NYC Service are giving out grants of up to \$1,000 to resident-led volunteer groups as well as access to city agency services for trash collection, vacant lot cleanup, graffiti removal, dead tree removal, tree planting, providing wood chip mulch for gardening projects, repair of and installation of street signs and street lights, traffic safety surveys, and more. [The deadline to apply is February 20.](#)

Got a question or complaint?

Please [contact the CB6 office](#) with your comments, suggestions, questions and service requests.

See previous CB6 newsletters

Visit [our newsletter archive page](#). Our [resource page](#) also has directories of community organizations, senior services, and elected officials.

February CB6 Committee Meetings

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

Transportation Committee, Monday, 2/03

Parks, Landmarks and Cultural Affairs Committee, Tuesday, 2/04

Land Use and Waterfront Committee, Wed., 2/05

By-Laws Ad Hoc Committee, Thursday, 2/06

Budget and Governmental Affairs Committee, Monday, 2/10

Housing, Homeless and Human Rights Committee, Tuesday, 2/11

Full Board Meeting, Wednesday, 2/12

Quality of Life Forum, Thursday, 2/13

Executive Committee, Wednesday, 2/19

Public Safety and Environment Committee, Monday, 2/24

Health and Education Committee, Tuesday, 2/25

Business Affairs and Street Activities Committee, Thursday, 2/27

For location, time and details see [our calendar page](#).