



# Community Board Six Manhattan

## East Midtown News and CB 6 Activities - 6/04/14

*In this issue:*

**News:** Multi-Board Task Force on Midtown East wins award; new planning process for East Midtown Rezoning announced; deadline for Manhattan Borough President's Community Grant applications; DOT street safety campaign continues; CBs in WSJ; update on post-Hurricane Sandy repair of Queens Midtown Tunnel. **Events:** Murray Hill and Turtle Bay festivals; Vision Zero Forum 6/24; CB6/Gramercy Neighborhood Quality of Life Forum 7/15; summer dates for Parks Dept. Play Mobiles and free kayaking. **Construction updates:** After hours work on Lexington Ave. and at E. 25th St. and 42nd St; East 34th Street Transitway Project; Third Water Tunnel work. **Services:** see our flyers about contacting 311 for quality of life complaints, and frequently asked questions about CB6; our summer interns now surveying streets.

Invite your friends and neighbors to [sign up for this newsletter](#). Like us on [Facebook](#).

## News

### Community Board 6 and other members of Multi-Board Task Force on Midtown East win 2014 Historic Districts Council Preservation Award



The [Historic Districts Council](#), the citywide advocate for New York's historic neighborhoods, will present Lola Finkelstein and the Multi-Board Task Force on

Midtown East with a 2014 Grassroots Preservation Award on June 4. The awards honor and celebrate the activists and groups who work to preserve New York City's historic neighborhoods. The Multi-Board Task Force, consisting of Manhattan Community Boards 1, 4, 5 and 6, and chaired by Ms. Finkelstein, was established in 2012 in order to investigate and evaluate the East Midtown Rezoning proposal put forth by the Bloomberg Administration. These civic leaders and volunteers prioritized and articulated the needs of the public, advocating for considerations to problems of density, transportation and loss of historical fabric. The preservation of East Midtown's historically significant buildings was among the key concerns of the Task Force.

### **New Planning Strategy for East Midtown Announced**

Mayor Bill de Blasio, Council Member Dan Garodnick and Borough President Gale Brewer [announced a multi-part strategy to strengthen East Midtown](#) as a world-class 21st Century commercial district. The framework represents a new consensus to support area business, attract jobs, and deliver vital infrastructure improvements. Department of City Planning (DCP) is proceeding with a two-track process.

First, the department will advance a zoning proposal to allow for larger state-of-the-art buildings along Vanderbilt Avenue near Grand Central Terminal that will provide specific public infrastructure upgrades. Second, CM Garodnick, BP Brewer, and DCP Chairman Weisbrod will begin a planning process for Greater East Midtown which will engage stakeholders to collectively identify long-term needs and goals for the neighborhood. [See a presentation here.](#)

Here's [the NY Times article](#) on the 65-story tower planned near Grand Central.

AMNY [ran an editorial](#) in support of Mayor de Blasio's approach to east midtown.

### **Manhattan Borough President's Community Grant application is now available.**

The Manhattan Community Grant Program provides small discretionary grants (\$3,000 - \$10,000) to nonprofit organizations and public schools for programmatic and operating expenses. The deadline for applications is Friday, June 6. [More information here.](#)

### **Wall Street Journal Covers Community Boards**

The WSJ ran an article on a [a few CB members who have served since community boards were created in 1977](#). They also posted [a brief FAQ about community boards](#).

### **Street safety outreach campaign in East Midtown in June**

NYC Department of Transportation is sending DOT Street Safety Managers (SSM) to key bike and pedestrian corridors and bridge paths in east midtown during peak morning weekday rush hours. To make the locations safer for pedestrians, cyclists and motorists, SSMs will reinforce existing traffic rules, advising bike riders to ride in the

direction of traffic, yield to pedestrians and stop at traffic signals; instructing pedestrians to await traffic signals on the curb and not stand in bike paths; and discouraging cars from parking illegally in bike lanes. From June 2 - 6, they will be on 1st Avenue between 16th and 22nd Streets and 2nd Ave. from 28th to 34th Streets. On June 9-11 they will be at the Queensboro Bridge entrance.

### Repairing Queens Midtown Tunnel after Hurricane Sandy



During the storm, about 40% of the tunnel length was completely submerged, and the entire tunnel was flooded with corrosive salt water. The [CB6 Transportation Committee heard a presentation](#) about long-term post-Sandy repairs. Although the tunnel will remain open at all times, starting in mid-2015, and continuing for about four years, there will be regular nighttime and weekend work.

### Flood water barrier to protect Lower East Side



A [barrier designed to prevent flooding](#) will be built thanks to a \$335 million federal Hurricane Sandy recovery grant. Landscaped berms 10 to 20 feet high will be built along a two mile stretch of Manhattan along the East River. "Hurricane Sandy brought home the reality that we are dealing with an extreme weather pattern that we have not seen before," Gov. Cuomo said.

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### Events

## **June programs at the NY Public Library at Kips Bay**

There are [movies and lots of events](#) for toddlers and young children.

## **Murray Hill Street Festival, Sat. June 7th, 11 AM - 6 PM**

Park Ave., between 34th and 40th Streets. From [Murray Hill Neighborhood Association](#). Here's their [spring newsletter](#).

## **CB6 is sponsor of two street fairs in June**

Fri., June 13 from 11-4, on 41st St. between Third and Lexington Avenues; Fri., June 20 from 11-4 on 43rd St. between Third and Lexington Avenues. Visit our table if you're around.

## **Turtle Bay Fair, Sun. June 15th, 11 AM - 4 PM**

Come celebrate Father's Day with the Turtle Bay Association on Lexington Avenue between 42nd and 54th Streets with arts, crafts, food and entertainment. Call 212-751-5465.

## **Vision Zero Town Hall. Tuesday, June 24th, 6:30 - 8:30 PM**

A presentation and discussion about improving street safety. Lang Recital Hall, Hunter College North Building, E. 69th St. between Lexington and Park Avenues. Presented by Senator Liz Krueger, Council Members Dan Garodnick and Ben Kallos and the NYC Dept. of Transportation. Co-sponsors: Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer, Senator Brad Hoylman, Assembly Members Richard Gottfried & Dan Quart, Council Member Rosie Mendez, and CB6.

## **Free Breast Cancer Screening, Friday, June 27th, 10 AM - 4:30 PM**

The American-Italian Cancer Foundation will conduct free digital mammograms and clinical breast exams at the Immaculate Conception Church on 414 East 14th St. between 1st Ave. and Ave. A. Call 1-877-628-9090 to schedule an appointment. To be eligible a woman must be 40 years of age or older, a current NYC resident and have not had a mammogram in the last year.

## **Gramercy Neighborhood Quality of Life Forum Tuesday, July 15, 6 - 8 PM**

**Co-hosted by Manhattan Community Board Six  
and Gramercy Neighborhood Associates**

Council Member Rosie Mendez will moderate a panel of representatives of city agencies to discuss quality of life issues in the Gramercy neighborhood such as street safety, area greening, and improving communication. School of the Future, 127 E. 22nd St. between Park and Lexington Avenues. Submit questions before the forum to [office@cbsix.org](mailto:office@cbsix.org) or [events@gnaonline.org](mailto:events@gnaonline.org), or in written form during the event. Visit <http://gnaonline.org/> or [cbsix.org](http://cbsix.org).

### **Parks Mobile Units Coming to CB6**

The Mobile Recreation Program [Play Mobiles](#) offer organized sports including basketball, volleyball, and soccer, as well as more traditional activities such as relay races, tug-o-war, and jump rope. They also offer arts & crafts projects, tabletop board games, balloon art and face painting. All events are from 11 AM - 3 PM. 7/09 – Albano Playground. 7/15 – Stuyvesant Square. 7/23 – Bellevue South. 8/12 – Stuyvesant Square. 8/20 – Albano Playground.

### **Free kayaking on the East River on June 28, July 27, and August 10**

[Supervised kayaking](#) from Stuyvesant Cove Park, suitable for all levels.

### **Midday Jazz at St. Peter's Church**

Hear [well regarded artists](#) at Lexington and E. 54th St., on Wednesdays at 1 PM.

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### **Construction Updates**

#### **Con Edison overnight work on E. 25th St. and FDR extended**

Con Edison is continuing to relocate gas infrastructure along E. 25th Street and the FDR Service Road. Due to unforeseen delays, it will take about 3 more weeks to complete, with an estimated completion date of mid-June. The FDR Service Road from E 25th street to E 23rd street will be closed. Crews will be working Monday through Sunday from 10 PM until 6 AM.

#### **Building project at 301 East 50th St.**

A 29-story condo building is now under construction at 301 East 50th St. Since it's only one block away from the Halcyon Project site on the corner of 51st Street, neighbors are very concerned about construction noise and possible impacts. For more about the building and the latest construction update, [click here](#).

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

Evening work continues on the Halcyon project. The building will be fully [enclosed by](#)

[late summer](#).

### **East 34th Street Transitway Project**

Dept. of Design and Construction is reconstructing water mains and installing [bus bulbs](#) for the 34th St. Select Bus Service. The project will continue until summer 2016. More details [here](#).

### **Third Water Tunnel Construction Updates**

As part of the implementation of the Third Water Tunnel, a new water main is being installed on and around East 58th Street. [Check here](#) for the latest construction updates.

### **Water main installation on East 42nd Street and Park Ave.**

As part of its Pershing Square West project, DDC will [install water mains on East 42nd St.](#), Park Avenue, and adjacent streets, on the western edge of CB6. It will continue through summer 2016. Overnight and weekend work will be standard practice.

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## **Services**

### **Download our 311 Flyer**



Post or forward [our flyer](#) that explains how calling 311 can help keep our neighborhood clean and orderly. Complaints entered into the 311 system become part of the City's electronic record, and are routed to agency staff for action. More 311 calls guarantee closer attention to the area. To help police and other City agencies address quality of life problems such as litter, loitering, noise, panhandling, overflowing garbage cans, missing trees, dirty or cracked sidewalks and homelessness, enter them into 311.

Contact [office@cbsix.org](mailto:office@cbsix.org) with the 311 request number you are given to expedite service. You can also enter 311 requests online or from a smartphone at [www.nyc.gov/311](http://www.nyc.gov/311). Call 911 to report emergencies or crimes in progress. [Download the flyer here](#). We'll customize it for community groups.



Monday, 6/09

Housing, Homeless and Human Rights Committee

Tuesday, 6/10

Full Board Meeting

Wednesday, 6/11

Public Safety and Environment Committee

Monday, 6/16

Executive Committee

Wednesday, 6/18

Health and Education Committee

Tuesday, 6/24

Business Affairs and Street Activities Committee

Thursday, 6/26

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