

# The Office of New York City Council Member Julie Menin

## February 2022 Full Board Report to Manhattan Community Board 6

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**Full Newsletter:** **[INSERT LINK]** → If you do not have a newsletter prepared before submission, leave this section blank

**Video Report to CB6:** **[INSERT LINK]** → If you do not have a video report, leave this section blank

### 1. Traffic Safety

The Council Member has made street safety a top priority. In 2021, the 19th Precinct, which serves the Upper East Side, had the most traffic related injuries reported in Manhattan as 435 were documented. In the wake of the devastating death of Udeshi Sundeep on East 76th Street, the Council Member wrote a letter to Department of Transportation Commissioner Ydanis Rodriguez asking for a walkthrough in our neighborhood. The DOT needs to move quickly in redesigning these dangerous intersections to protect our pedestrians. [As Patch reported](#), the Commissioner has agreed to the walkthrough and we will be sure to share an update soon on this.

On the list for the DOT commissioner is 57th and 1st Ave (where I am aware of the horrific collision that occurred)

### 2. Brian Lehrer

On Tuesday, the Council Member had the pleasure of appearing on Brian Lehrer's WNYC show, where she spoke about her goals and priorities for her upcoming term in the Council. They had a great conversation about her plans for supporting small businesses throughout New York City, and she also fielded some questions from constituents who called in as well. You can find a link to the conversation here: <https://www.wnyc.org/story/51-council-members-52-weeks-district-5-julie-menin/>

She also did a "show and tell," where she shared a meaningful part of her District with Brian. She talked about palascinta, a Hungarian crepe, from the Budapest Cafe in Yorkville and how her mother and grandmother came to the neighborhood, formerly known as Little Hungary, with nothing as Holocaust survivors.

### 3. Town Hall on Antisemitism

As we speak, in the wake of a string of incidents in both our neighborhood and around the country, the Council Member is currently convening a Town Hall on Antisemitism. She will be

partnering with law enforcement officials, government agencies, other and elected offices to put on this event. It's happening via Zoom tonight at 7pm. The registration link (if you are interested) is here:

[https://museumoftolerance.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_tHWZ20f3S0iYDly8G24m3Q](https://museumoftolerance.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_tHWZ20f3S0iYDly8G24m3Q)

#### **4. Queensboro Bridge Construction**

The DOT informed us that Queensboro Bridge Upper Deck construction plans originally slated for completion this year would be delayed until at least December 2023. These lane closures will cause devastating traffic, and this also means that the much-needed safety improvement of separating the pedestrian and bike paths on the bridge will not happen until 2024 now. [As AMNY reported](#), the Council Member wrote a joint letter with her colleague, Council Member Julie Won, to express her concerns about this timeline and ask DOT to mitigate these major concerns.

#### **5. COVID Testing Consumer Protection**

In the wake of our cease and desist letter and work with the Attorney General's Office in investigating PacGenomics mobile COVID Testing sites, we received a response.

However, PacGenomics' response was inadequate and did not address grave concerns about test return times of over one week and potential misuse of personal data. [As Patch reported](#), the Council Member wrote another letter to them asking for responses to these points. If you have any more issues with PacGenomics, please report them to our office at [district5@council.nyc.gov](mailto:district5@council.nyc.gov).

#### **6. Constituent Service on Snowstorm**

After the snowstorm last weekend, our office received many concerns about the shoveling of snow on different streets. We received many complaints about access to bus stops along the M15 and M86 routes with snowbanks making it difficult for riders to board the bus. Our team worked with DSNY to get these shoveled quickly and allow people to access mass transit with ease once more.

#### **7. Community Board w/ SBS Commissioner**

On Monday, February 7, the Council Member spoke at the Community Board 8 Small Business Committee Meeting with SBS Commissioner Kevin Kim. Commissioner Kim and Julie discussed plans to work together on critical small businesses issues in the city and their important policy priorities.

## **8. Constituent CUNY Law Clinic**

We're pleased to announce that we are bringing back the constituent clinic with CUNY Law. If you have any sort of issues that require legal assistance, we have two great lawyers who are spending two days a month each with us. To learn more or to book an appointment with one of the lawyers, please email Harry from our team at [hgale@council.nyc.gov](mailto:hgale@council.nyc.gov).