



The next Queens Civic Congress Meetings:

Sunday, May 17 at 9:30 a.m.

**"The Race for City Hall" with the
Candidates for Mayor (see page 3)**

Monday, May 18, 2009, 3:00 p.m.

**Rally in Support of Queens Libraries
(see page 6)**

State of Queens Parks 2009

**Tuesday, May 19, 2009, 8:30 p.m.
(see page 5)**

Also Inside This Congressional

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Page 4: Citizens Against Graffiti Everywhere, Cease And Desist Law Meeting, QCC Officers

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Queensborough Bridge's 100th

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President's Message

Dear Members,

The City posted a [survey](#) that aims at a “review” of the environmental process. You have only through May 22 so please act soon. Since the administration maintains a *de facto* – by its deed – commitment to gutting community boards Queens Civic Congress strongly urges its members and friends to respond to the [survey](#) (see link paragraph four below).

[CIVIC 2030](#), our platform, not only recognizes the important role of our community board, but recommends the city adequately resource these local boards of citizen-volunteers each staffed by small team of caring pros who know how the city works. City Hall again cut the budgets for the board. I would certainly sacrifice a Deputy Mayor or two before I would let such dumb cuts get done.

In the meantime, please speak out for community boards and the need to staff them adequately as part of any response you make to the planning [questionnaire](#). My personal [experience](#) with community planning now approaching three decades including two of them in city government with the City Council and a borough president (including oversight of the agency's planning functions) found more problems with the process BEFORE projects and proposals came to the community board.

City Hall invites comments: *We are looking for input from all users of the environmental review process--including applicants, developers, community members and groups, consulting firms, agencies, community boards, and elected officials--on your experience with the City's management of the environmental review process. Parties who have participated in environmental review are encouraged to submit their opinions, views and recommendations about how City agencies can better manage the environmental review process.* So please take them up on it at: http://www.nyc.gov/html/misc/html/2009/environmental_questionnaire.html

Thank you to Community Board 13Q Chair and Queens Civic Congress Vice President Rich Hellenbrecht who first brought the issue to my attention. Rich is reaching out to his fellow chairs to urge they respond to the survey.

Queens Civic Congress offers an early opportunity compare the candidates for Mayor this month (see page three) and a forum on Parks two days later in the Rockaways (see page 5). Page seven covers additional meetings and information on our City Council Candidates forum. Thank you to all who are making these events happen. Please continue to watch our website's [Media](#) and [Meetings](#) links for up to date information about our activities and programs.

Sincerely,

Corey

Corey B. Bearak (718-343-6779; Bearak@aol.com)

Queens Civic Congress



Presents

Legislative Forum 2009:

"The Race for City Hall"

Sunday May 17, 2009, 9:30 a.m.

Samuel Field Y, 58-20 Little Neck Parkway

Invited:

Our Mayor & Those (All) Who Would Be Our Mayor

Anthony Avella*, Michael Bloomberg,

William Thompson*, Anthony Weiner

*confirmed

Sponsored by:

New York Post and Community Newspaper Group (CNG)

**◆ Queens Civic Congress ◆ Northeast Queens Jewish
Community Council ◆ Parker Jewish Institute for Health Care
& Rehabilitation ◆ The Samuel Field Y ◆
UJA-Federation of New York ◆ Queens Hadassah ◆
Metropolitan Council on Jewish Poverty ◆ Jewish
Community Relations Council of New York**

[In Formation]

Moderator: New York Post City Hall Bureau Chief David Seifman

****A light FREE breakfast courtesy of Parker Jewish Institute will be served****

Admission FREE * Advance Reservations Recommended

RSVP (718) 225-6750 x247 or email Bearak@aol.com

A Special Message from
the Graffiti Fighting Partner of the Queens Civic Congress,

CAGE (Citizens Against Graffiti Everywhere)

Meeting Notice: Thursday, May 28, 2009, 7:30 to 9:00 p.m., call CAGE for location

Greetings to all fellow graffiti busters:

A meeting of CAGE is scheduled for Thursday, May 28, 2009, from 7:30 p.m. to about 9:00 p.m. Since this public notice is available to all, if you did not receive email notification, direct from CAGE, please contact CAGE for details. For location and details, email herr281761@aol.com or call Fred at (718) 341-1395.

Graffiti is way up and we need to think of new strategies and reactivate some old ones to combat this massive increase. There is a lot of increased activity throughout the country and we are no exception. CAGE will receive funding for the next fiscal year from Council Members David I. Weprin and Peter F. Vallone Jr.

We need more people on the front line with removal and paint over activity as well as people reporting graffiti and talking about it in your newsletters and at your meetings.

CAGE asks that each person please call in at least ONE graffiti hit spot to 311, before they come to the meeting. (please bring the c-1-1 xxxx number with you). Some people claim graffiti is down because it is not as reported as often as some other crimes. We need to make sure people know that truth that graffiti unfortunately continues to plague us and needs our continued vigilance; that includes the three "E.s" - Education, Eradication (removal/paint over) and Enforcement.

As always, this CAGE meeting is NOT OPEN to the PUBLIC. IF you want to invite someone, let CAGE know and CAGE will invite them on behalf of CAGE and your recommendation.

As is our usual custom, light refreshments will be served. Some limited supplies will be available for active graffiti fighters!

Fred, CAGE-USA-NY-Queens

Cease and Desist Rule Needs to be Renewed

[From the office of State Senator Frank Padavan] The cease and desist law in Queens, which allows homeowners to opt out of any contact by real estate salespeople, expires on August 1, 2009. Please advise your friends and neighbors know that they need to attend this meeting on Friday, May 29 at 7:00 p.m., at the Queens High School of Teaching, 74-20 Commonwealth Blvd., in Bellerose. Please share your testify – it could be but a few words – in support of this law. If not, just your presence would help. Four years ago, there was minimal attendance at the last hearing. Questions? Office of Frank Padavan: (718) 343-0255

Queens Civic Congress Officers

President: Corey Bearak **Executive Vice President:** Patricia Dolan **Secretary:** Seymour Schwartz **Treasurer:** James Trent
Vice Presidents: Tyler Cassell, Richard Hellenbrecht, Paul Kerzner, David Kulick, Barbara Larkin, Audrey Lucas, Kathy Masi, Nagassar Ramgarib, Harbachan Singh, Edwin Westley, & Dorothy Woo
Founders: *President Emeritus* Sean Walsh, Albert Greenblatt, Robert Harris

Presents

State of Queens Parks 2009



Tuesday, May 19, 2009, 8:30 p.m.

PS 114, 134-01 Cronston Ave.

bet. Beach 134th & Beach 135th Streets, The Rockaways

Panel in formation:

****First Deputy Parks Commissioner Liam Kavanagh***

****Borough Parks Commissioner Dorothy Lewandowski***

****Christian DiPalermo, New Yorkers for Parks***

****Rockaways Parks Supervisor Jill Weber***

****Carsten W. Glaeser Ph.D, Arborist and chair, QCC
Subcommittee for Tree and Landscape Protection***

Sponsored by:

◆ **Queens Civic Congress**

◆ **Queens Coalition for Parks and Green Spaces**

◆ **the Belle Harbor Property Owners Association**

Program chairs:

Barbara Larkin, Vice President and Parks co-chair, Queens Civic Congress

Kim Ohanian, Parks co-chair, Queens Civic Congress

Fred Kress, Queens Coalition for Parks and Green Spaces

NOTE: The Belle Harbor Property Owners Association meets at 7:15 p.m. and the QCC Parks Forum follows at 8:30 p.m.

Admission FREE * RSVP (718) 343-6779 or email Bearak@aol.com

RALLY IN SUPPORT OF QUEENS LIBRARIES CALLED BY QUEENS CIVIC CONGRESS

WHY WOULD THEY NOT WANT US TO READ?

IS THERE ANY OTHER REASON TO EXPLAIN CITY HALL'S PROPOSED CUTS TO OUR LIBRARIES?

JOIN

QUEENS BOROUGH PRESIDENT HELEN MARSHALL

QUEENS CIVIC CONGRESS

QUEENS BOROUGH PUBLIC LIBRARY

TO

STAND UP AGAINST ANY CITY BUDGET ACTIONS THAT WOULD REDUCE LIBRARY HOURS.

MONDAY, MAY 18, 2009, 3:00 P.M.

AT FLUSHING MAIN LIBRARY, KISSENA AVENUE AND MAIN STREET

PARKS 2009 * LEAGUE OF PRESERVATION VOTERS

Queens Civic Congress plan candidates forums focused on Parks and Preservation issues for Queens City Council Candidates also sponsored by New Yorkers for Parks' *Parks2009* and Historic District Council's *League of Preservation Voters* (LPV) during the month of June. Queens Coalition for Parks and Green Spaces, our parks partner, is also sponsoring. Our goal: a forum in every council district. We have commitments already in districts 19, 20, 21 23, 24, 25 and 32. Watch www.QueensCivicCongress.org/meetings for dates, additional forums and the Parks2009 and LPV Voters Guides.

Civics and Parks coalition members interested in hosting or co-sponsoring a forum should contact Corey Bearak @ (718) 343-6779 or email Bearak@aol.com.

Parks2009 kicks off May 19 at 10 a.m. - 12:00 noon with a program that features (invited) candidates for citywide offices as part of the Seventh Annual Parks Advocacy Day at NYU Law School's Greenberg Lounge, Vanderbilt Hall at 40 Washington Square South. The campaign's goals include: Secure Long-Term Funding for Parks, Expand Planning, Management, and Oversight of Parks Across the City, and Protect Parkland from Alienation. For more information, please contact Juliana Roberts Dubovsky at jroberts@ny4p.org.

Queens Civic Congress will announce all in-place forums at our May 19 Parks Forum (See page three.). It is easy to host; just convert (part of) your June meeting to a forum.

Queens Civic Congress Calendar

All meetings, excluding Legislative Reception, unless otherwise noted take place at: Union Plaza Nursing Home, 33-23 Union Street [five blocks north of Northern Boulevard]

Meetings of the Executive Committee are open to all QCC members and take place at 8:00 p.m. (unless otherwise noted) If you wish to add an agenda item, please call Corey Bearak (343-6779) or email Bearak@aol.com at least 24 hours in advance.

****Updated 2009 Meeting Schedule****

Monday, June 15, 2009, 7:30 p.m.

Queens Civic Congress Regular Meeting: City Transportation Commissioner Janette Sadik-Khan

****Special Events of Interest****

Sunday, May 31, 2009, 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.

Queensboro Bridge Centennial Celebration Parade

sponsored by NYC Bridge Centennial Commission. View events at

<http://www.nycbridges100.org/queensboro-events.php>. The Centennial Ceremonial Parade includes the Manhattan and Queens Borough Presidents and other dignitaries. It also features 1919 Dodge - VIP Auto Body Towing of Maspeth, 1929 Ford Model A Roadster, 1931 Model A Ford Roadster, and the Sunnyside Drum Corp, Francis Lewis High School Marching Band & US Merchant Marine Academy Fanfare Trumpets in mid-span with FDNY Fireboat multi-color salute. Refreshments Tramway Park, 2nd Avenue & 60th Street, Manhattan at 11:00 a.m.

Saturday, June 6, 2009, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY hosted by Alley Pond Environment Center (APEC)

at APEC, 228-06 Northern Blvd., Douglaston, NY 11362-1068

co-sponsors: Queens Civic Congress, New York Solar Energy Society, Community Board 11 and Bayside Historical Society

Featuring Displays and speakers on solar, wind and renewable energy for homeowners, businesses and schools, Environmental displays, Tree plantings, Guided walks to Alley Pond's Urban Forest and Little Neck Bay, Live animals, Action activities to avoid climate change, Children's activities, Music, Free Refreshments. Call (718) 229-4000 for more details.

Download the flyer at http://queensciviccongress.org/meetings/files/2009-06-06_APEC_Env_day.pdf

Civics Fighting for Communities

The Creedmoor Civic newsletter for May includes an excellent account of the Queens Colony Civic-led demonstration against the siting of a hotel where Frozen Cup was recently demolished. View it at <http://www.creedmoorcivic.org/news/CCAMay09.pdf>. View pictures of Station Road Civic's candlelight vigil to protest unsafe traffic conditions at http://queensciviccongress.org/Media/files/2009/2009-04-24_candlelight_vigil.pdf.

2009 Committee Chairs

Audit / Phil Ragusa, CPA
By Laws / Albert Greenblatt
Aviation & Noise / Richard Hellenbrecht
City Infrastructure & Capital Program / Dorothy Woo
Community & Civic Outreach / Robert Harris & Audrey Lucas
Community Facilities / Tyler Cassell
Congress Platform / Seymour Schwartz
Co-ops & Condos / Marc Haken
Creedmoor Task Force / Bernard Aquilino
Economic Development / Chris Collett
Education / Edwin Westley
Health & Human Services / Kevin Forrestal
Historical Preservation & Landmarking / Paul Graziano
Legislation / Paul Kerzner
Newsletter / David Kulick
Nominations/ Helene Zaro
Parks & Cultural Affairs / Barbara Larkin & Kim Ohanian
Planning & Land Use / Patricia Dolan
Public Safety / Nagassar Ramgarib
Tenants & Affordable Housing / Florence Fisher
Transportation / Jim Trent & Kathy Masi
Zoning & Code Enforcement / Joseph Amoroso & Harbachan Singh

Queens Civic Congress Membership

Association of Old Forest Hills ♦ Auburndale Improvement Association ♦ Bayside Civic Database ♦ Bayside Clear-Spring Council ♦ Bayside Hills Civic Association ♦ Bayswater Civic Association ♦ Bay Terrace Community Alliance, Inc. ♦ Bay Terrace Cooperative Section 1 ♦ Bellaire-BellVill Civic Association ♦ Belle Harbor Property Owners Association ♦ Bellerose Commonwealth Civic Association ♦ Bellerose Hillside Civic Association ♦ Bell Park Manor Terrace Community Council ♦ Bowne Park Civic Association ♦ Briarwood Community Association ♦ Cambria Heights Civic Association ♦ Civic Association of Utopia Estates ♦ C.O.M.E.T. (Communities of Maspeth-Elmhurst Together) ♦ Concerned Citizens of Laurelton ♦ Cornucopia Society ♦ Creedmoor Civic Association ♦ Deerfield Area Association ♦ Doug-Bay Manor Civic Association ♦ Douglas Manor Association ♦ Douglaston Civic Association ♦ Dutch Kills Civic Association of Long Island City ♦ East Elmhurst Corona Civic Association ♦ East Flushing Civic Association ♦ Federated Block Associations of Laurelton ♦ Federation of Civic Associations of Southeast Queens ♦ Floral Park Community Council ♦ Flushing Heights Civic Association ♦ Flushing on the Hill Taxpayers Association ♦ Forest Hills Chamber of Commerce ♦ Forest Hills Crescents Association ♦ Forest Hills-Van Court Association ♦ Fresh Meadows Homeowners Association ♦ Georgetown Mews ♦ Glendale Civic Association of Queens ♦ Glen Oaks Village Owners, Inc. ♦ Greater Astoria Historical Society ♦ Greater Whitestone Taxpayers Civic Association ♦ Harding Heights Civic Association ♦ Hillcrest Estates Civic Association ♦ Hilltop Village Co-Op #1 ♦ Hilltop Village Co-Op #2 ♦ Hilltop Village Co-Op #3 ♦ Hilltop Village Co-Op #4 ♦ Hollis 11423 Block Association ♦ Hollis Hills Civic Association ♦ Holliswood Civic Association ♦ Hollis Park Gardens Association ♦ Holly Civic Association ♦ Hyde Park Gardens Cooperative ♦ Jackson Heights Beautification Group ♦ Jamaica Estates Association ♦ Jamaica Hill Community Association ♦ Juniper Park Civic Association ♦ Kew Gardens Civic Association ♦ Kew Gardens Hills Homeowners Association ♦ Kew Gardens Improvement Association ♦ Kissena Park Civic Association ♦ Little Neck Bay Civic Association ♦ Little Neck Pines ♦ Long Island City Alliance ♦ Malba Civic Association ♦ Meadowlark Gardens Owners ♦ Middle Village Property Owners Association ♦ Mitchell Linden Civic Association ♦ Neponsit Property Owners Association ♦ Newtown Civic Association ♦ Newtown Historical Society ♦ North Bellerose Civic Association ♦ North Flushing Civic Association ♦ North Hills Estates Civic Association ♦ Northwest Clearview Homeowners Association ♦ Norwood Neighborhood Association ♦ Oakland Terrace/ Gardens Community Council ♦ Off Broadway Homeowners Association ♦ Our Neighborhood Improvement Association ♦ Our Neighbors Civic Association of Ozone Park, Inc. ♦ Parkway Village Historical Society ♦ Queensboro Hill Neighborhood Association ♦ Queens Colony Civic Association ♦ Queens Community Civic Corp. ♦ Queens Village Civic Association ♦ Ramblersville-Hawtree Civic Association ♦ Richmond Hill Historical Society ♦ Ridgewood Property Owners and Civic Association ♦ Rockaway Park Homeowners/Residents ♦ Rocky Hill Civic Association ♦ Rosedale Civic Association ♦ Royal Ranch Association ♦ Southeast Queens Concerned Neighbors ♦ South Ozone Park West Association Civic ♦ Springfield/Rosedale Community Action Association ♦ Station Road Civic Assoc. of Auburndale ♦ Sunnyside Gardens/Harrison Place Homeowners ♦ Surrey Estates Civic Association ♦ Union Turnpike Merchants Association ♦ United Forties Civic Association ♦ United Mutual Veterans Housing, Inc. ♦ Waldheim Neighborhood Association ♦ Wayanda Civic Association ♦ West Cunningham Park Civic Association ♦ Westmoreland Association ♦ Woodside Community Council