
Rita Kessler - District Manager

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Gregory Faulkner - Chairperson

COMMUNITY DISTRICT NEEDS FISCAL YEAR 2009

Community District 7 is situated in the northwest section of the Bronx with boundaries; (North) southern boundary of Van Cortlandt Park, Bainbridge Avenue-East 211th Street and the prolongation of East 211th Street; (East) NY New Haven Railroad, Webster Avenue to Bedford Park Boulevard; (South) Fordham Road East, Jerome Avenue, West 183rd Street, University Avenue, Hall of Fame Terrace and the western prolongation of hall of Fame Terrace to the Harlem River; (West) Harlem River, Broadway to West 225th Street, West Kingsbridge Road, Reservoir Avenue, Goulden Avenue and Mosholu Parkway.

Please note, that our emphasis on various issues, described later in our "Statement" does not diminish the importance of:

- * Funding for affordable, licensable space for child care services to provide for the children of working parents;*
- * Maintain/increase all Sanitation services including weekly recycling;*
- * Complete rehabilitation of Devoe, St. James, Williamsbridge Oval and the many smaller parks in the district;*
- * Funding to provide the 52nd Pct. with the "tools" they need to maintain a safe environment for the residents in CD7;*
- * Increase funding for Fire Safety Education Programs;*
- * Restoration of daily "Meals-On-Wheels Program" for seniors;*
- * Funding for building maintenance to include additional building inspectors.*

KINGSBRIDGE ARMORY

Less than one year ago the NYC Economic Development Corporation requested proposals for the sale and redevelopment of the approximately 575,000 square foot Kingsbridge Armory building located within the CB7 district at 29 West Kingsbridge Road. Currently this beautiful landmark building stands neglected and decaying. For many years we have anxiously awaited redevelopment of the site. NYCEDC has convened a Task Force consisting of City agencies, local, state and federal officials and community stakeholders, for the purpose of facilitating this RFP. It is imperative that the proposals meet specific goals that include, schools, mixed use that will bring the Kingsbridge community and people throughout the Borough and the City together, retail/commercial space that does not compete with existing businesses in this bustling community, restoration and preservation

of this landmark facade, adequate parking, and jobs for neighboring residents. Hopefully, the sale of the Armory will be complete by 2008 and work can begin.

THE BRONX WATERFRONT

Borough President Adolfo Carrion has created a Bronx Waterfront Task Force to study, and create a comprehensive waterfront plan reaching the many waterfront properties surrounding the borough. The goal is to develop waterfront activities, restore natural habitats, construct a harbor with industry and commerce, a waterfront esplanade, recreation (biking, pathways for walking), housing development, etc.

The Bronx is a beautiful place and the creation of a waterfront will enhance its beauty even more. Community District 7 wholeheartedly supports Borough President Carrion and shares his visions for the future.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Community District 7 has 146.7 acres of parkland. When we forward our budget priorities requesting additional funding for park personnel for maintenance of drinking fountains, sprinklers and comfort stations, bench/playground repair, litter pick-up, etc. and because our parks are widely used for sports and recreation there is a vital need to rehabilitate the grassy lawns, the general agency response is not at this time due to the uncertainty of available funds.

Today there is no excuse. The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has provided the Borough of the Bronx with \$243 million for park improvements for the use of parkland to construct the Croton Water Filtration Plant. As this project is within CD 7 lines we continue to request that we receive a far greater proportionate share of these dollars due to the enormous burdens that this 8-10 year construction project will have upon our district.

Respectfully submitted by,

Rita Kessler

**Rita Kessler
District Manager**