



TURTLE BAY ASSOCIATION

Neighborhood Association for Manhattan's

Turtle Bay, East Midtown, Home of the United Nations

Turtle Bay News, October 2023

NEWS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

17th Precinct Community Council Meeting

The last 17th Precinct Community Council Meeting was held on September 5, 2023. Below are key highlights from the meeting:

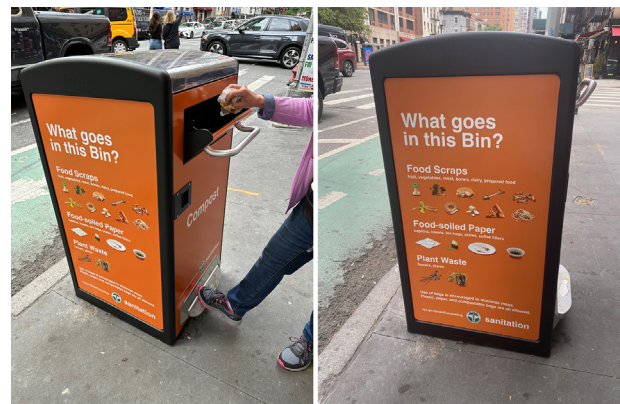
- There has been significant enforcement of illegal e-bikes that are not registered or are being driven recklessly. Over the summer, over 100 of these vehicles were confiscated.
- The four member police unit on bikes is also working very hard and handing out summonses to offenders.
- There has been a recent rise in thefts from USPS mailboxes. If possible, take your mail to a post office.
- As a reminder, please continue to remain alert for any calls, emails, texts, etc. that may be scams. Hang up on anyone who asks for gift cards or requests personal information. Instead, call your bank or whichever company allegedly called and verify directly if there is a problem with your account.
- Local businesses who experience any type of "troublemakers" coming into their stores or businesses are encouraged to report these incidents to the 17th Precinct. If it's possible to do so safely, take a video or photo of the conduct and provide it to the Precinct. If not, contact the 17th Precinct to provide any details of the incident.
- The next Community Council meeting is on Monday, October 30 at 6:30 pm at the Sutton Place Synagogue. We encourage you to attend so that you can meet our Commanding Officer Captain Maggie Clamp and her fellow officers, along with Community Board 6 Public Safety Chair Matt Roberts, as well as hearing the latest updates on our community and asking any questions you may have.

New "NYC Smart Compost Bins" in Turtle Bay Available 24x7

The New York City Department of Sanitation continues to expand their environmentally focused activities. Approximately 200 new bright orange "Smart Compost Bins" have been installed so far this year around the city. We have several in Turtle Bay, including one on the Southeast corner of 49th Street and Second Avenue.

It's simple to drop off your compost items. Just download the "NYC Smart Compost Bins" app on your phone. When you arrive at the bin, click on the location and a green light will appear on the bin. Step on the foot pedal to open the chute and deposit your food waste and close the chute door. It's that easy!

The compost bins can accept ALL food scraps, plant waste, and food-soiled paper. This includes meat, bones, dairy, prepared foods, and greasy uncoated paper plates and pizza boxes. Just imagine how much waste could be diverted from our landfills if we all deposited our food waste into the compost bins instead of including the food waste with our regular trash! The bins are available 24x7, so there is no need to "store" your food waste at home.



Picture on the right:
NYC Smart Compost Bin at 49th Street and Second Avenue (Southeast Corner)

TBA Neighbor Depositing their Food Waste in the NYC Smart Compost Bin

Driving to New York below 60th Street? Do you know about **CONGESTION PRICING**

If you do not know much about congestion pricing, here are a few facts garnered from various sources, the New York papers, including amNY and NY1:

(1) What is it? Congestion pricing would charge cars and trucks a fee for entering the designated zone south of 60th Street from Central Park South, except for the highways, including the FDR Drive, the Westside Highway and the Battery Park underpass.

(2) How much? As yet undetermined by the “Traffic Mobility Review Board,” tasked with deciding exemptions, the prices imposed on cars via a system such as E-Z Pass would range from \$9 to \$23 and \$82 on trucks, during the hours of 8 am to 6 pm.

(3) Any Breaks? Although 122 formal exemption requests have been made, the following are being considered: Exemptions for emergency vehicles carrying people with disabilities, commuter buses and specialized government vehicles; a tax credit for drivers earning less than \$60,000 per year and a 10-25% discount for low-income drivers after the first 10 trips in a month; a credit of \$4-7 for drivers entering the city via its four tunnels; a 50% nighttime discount, 25% for drivers entering the city between the hours of 8 pm to 10 pm and 25% for the hours from 5 am to 6 am.

(4) Where does the Dough go? By law, the plan would generate \$1 billion for the MTA to put toward its capital improvement plan for the infrastructure, including transportation.

(5) Any Environmental Impact? Any opposed? Assessments

project that vehicular traffic would decline by 15-20% and truck traffic by 21-81%, lowering carbon emissions. Opponents argue that areas outside of the congestion zone would see traffic and pollution increase —along the Queens Bronx Expressway and Staten Island Expressway, the Williamsburg and George Washington Bridges— as many drivers will seek detours around the tolls. Further, such charges, if passed along, would adversely affect New York City businesses and consumers.

If you already know all about the mid-Manhattan congestion pricing plan below 60th Street slated to go into effect Spring 2024, you may not know that two lawsuits pend attempting to bar its implementation. Briefly, the plan intends to impose a yet to be determined charge of \$9-23 on cars and \$82 on trucks entering the area. This is all uncharted territory since no congestion pricing plan currently exists in any major US city. Stopgap measures include 122 formal exemption requests.

Although New York Governor Kathy Hochul says congestion pricing is going to happen, New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy has filed a lawsuit claiming that the US Department of Transportation (DOT) and Federal Highway Authority (FHWA) failed to consider the additional environmental burdens and costs that would be imposed on Jersey residents. If that lawsuit is unsuccessful, similarly, Staten Island Borough President, Vito Fossella, would file a suit claiming that the previous environmental assessment failed to see that parts of New Jersey, the Bronx and Staten Island would see more vehicular traffic as well as congestion as drivers try to avert the tolls.

STAY TUNED FOR UPDATES

SAVE THE DATES

TBA ANNUAL MEETING

Monday, November 13, 6-8pm
Republic Bank, 830 Third Avenue at 51st Street
All members are invited. Refreshments will be served

TBA ANNUAL HOLIDAY TOY DRIVE

Sunday, December 3, 3-5pm.
Parnell's Pub, 350 East 53rd Street at First Avenue
Admission: New Toy or Clothing Donation for Children and Teens

COVID-19 NEWS & UPDATES

The Federal Government is resuming its free at-home COVID test program and will mail four test kits to any U.S. household that requests them. You may sign up at [Covid.gov/tests](https://www.covid.gov/tests)

Additionally, updated COVID vaccines are now available. To find a location for a pharmacy, visit nycvac-cinefinder.com or call 212-COVID19 (212-268-4319) for vaccination assistance.

WELCOME NEW TBA BUSINESS MEMBERS



REMI FLOWER & COFFEE
www.reminyc.com
906 Second Avenue
646-559-1233



GALLERIA ON THIRD
www.galleriaonthird.com
907 Second Avenue
212-683-2886



MADMAN ESPRESSO
www.madmanespresso.com
141 East 44th Street
646-267-1332



LUXLUF EVENT FLORIST
www.luxluf.com
890 First Avenue
212-5405683

EAST MIDTOWN GREENWAY & ANDREW HASWELL GREEN PARK

What's in an Esplanade?

The East Midtown Waterfront esplanade consists of three sections:

01 - East 38th-41st Streets/Waterside Pier: An existing city-owned structure formerly used by Con Edison. Construction completed in 2016.

02 - East 41st-53rd Streets/the UN Esplanade: This middle section of the esplanade would pass by the UN campus.

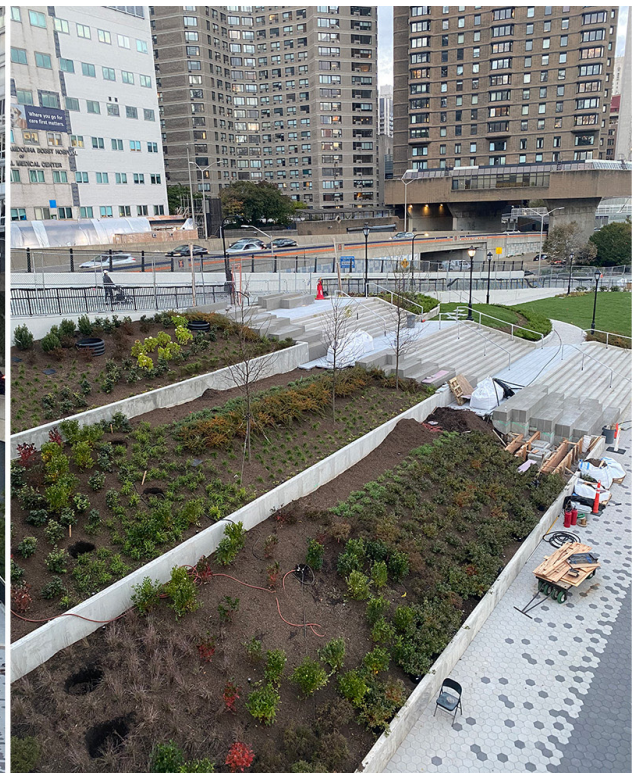
03 - East 53rd-61st Streets/the FDR Esplanade: Now known as East Midtown Greenway, this northern section connects to Andrew Haswell Green Park at 62nd Street and will include a pedestrian bridge to East 54th Street - In progress

The East Midtown Greenway is transforming under-utilized waterfront into public open space for both recreational and commuting use. The Greenway connects over 1,000 acres of open space for the East Midtown community and the public at large. Its goal is to improve access to the East River, create new, connected spaces for pedestrians and bicyclists, and provide waterfront amenities.

Despite progress in the development of new waterfront public open space in New York City, a major gap exists in Midtown East, which is cut off from the water by the FDR Drive. The East Midtown Waterfront Project addresses the gap between 38th and 61st Streets along the East River, the segment now under construction, called East Midtown Greenway, also includes the construction of Andrew Haswell Green Park.

A new 40 foot wide esplanade extends over the water from 53rd to 60th Streets, parallel to the FDR Drive, allowing pedestrians to experience water on both sides. An ADA-accessible bridge crosses from the Greenway over the FDR Drive to East 54th Street. Andrew Haswell Green Park is a 1.1 acre site between 60th and 62nd Streets and includes a new lawn, landscaping, and other park amenities.

The construction of the East Midtown Greenway and Andrew Haswell Green Park is scheduled to be completed by the end of December 2023. The greenway esplanade is not open to the public due to ongoing construction.



NEWS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

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TBA Trash Cans Power Washed

We're pleased to share that our Turtle Bay Association trash cans were power washed in August by ACE. You can see the ACE team in action here.

The Turtle Bay Association's PROFESSIONALS NETWORKING GROUP

The TBA Professionals Networking Group hosted another successful event on July 25th at Eddie's On 2nd, a TBA member located at 975 Second Avenue. About 20 people, comprised of existing members and prospects, attended the cash bar get-together that was held from 6-8pm. Appetizers, compliments of TBA, were enjoyed by all.

We are in the process of planning our next event which will be communicated on our social media accounts, and via email. We will be in touch shortly with the details. If you wish to be placed on the mailing list, contact the TBA office with your request at office@turtlebay-nyc.org.



KEY ELECTION DATES

October 28

Voter Registration Deadline for the General Election. Last day the application must be received by the Board of Elections to be eligible to vote in the General Election.

October 28 - November 5

Early Voting Period. Voters must vote at their assigned Early Voting site which may be different than the Election Day site.

November 6

Absentee Ballot Application. Last day to apply in person for the absentee ballot for the General Election.

November 7

ELECTION DAY. Last chance to cast your vote. Polls are open from 6am-9pm. Voters must vote at their assigned voting site.

NYC Board of Elections

200 Varick Street, 10th Floor,
New York, N.Y 10014,
Phone 212-886-2100
Website www.vote.nyc

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT AGAINST CRIME

Sponsored by the 17th Precinct Community Council

Tuesday, August 1, 2023, 5-8pm

Congratulations NYPD. Another great event.
Thank you for keeping our city safe.



BECOME A TBA VOLUNTEER

The Turtle Bay Association is looking for volunteers to work on our committees, Special Events, Safety, Clean & Green, Membership, Communications. Give as little or as much of your time to improving the quality of life in our community. All ages are welcome to become part of the TBA family.

Join our efforts to keep our neighborhood safe, clean, and beautiful, and to increase our membership base with special events and celebrations.

Please email your contact information to office@turtle-bay-nyc.org, and we will be in touch with you.



HELP KEEP OUR NEIGHBORHOOD
CLEAN AND BEAUTIFUL

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

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