



THE CITY OF NEW YORK **COMMUNITY BOARD 9** MANHATTAN

Morningside Heights
Manhattanville
Hamilton Heights
Sugar Hill

CHAIR'S REPORT AUGUST 2026

Columbia University's Breakfast Event

A breakfast was held at Columbias Forum, introducing the new Columbia University President, Jennifer Mnookin, to the community. Several Board members and I were fortunate enough to attend this memorable event, and we look forward to connecting with President Mnookin and her staff in the coming months.

1727 Amsterdam Ave Town Hall Meeting

The West Harlem Community Preservation Organization (WHCPO) organized and hosted a meeting regarding the redevelopment of 1727 Amsterdam Ave at Our Lady of the Lords School gymnasium on 8/6/26. Several speakers, including myself and former CB9 Chair, Barry Weinberg, spoke about the impact this redevelopment would have on the immediate community. The new plan will eliminate the Heritage Health Center; the Ophthalmologist and the Emma Bowen Health Center will only be allotted half the facility space they currently utilize. A lawsuit has been initiated to revise this plan to include more community health services.

RKO Theatre Site Redevelopment

The potential developer for the RKO Theater site (146th St. Broadway) met with several Board members and me, to discuss redevelopment plans for the site. The plan calls for an eleven-story building consisting of 99 apartments along with a "Community Art Space". Rents would be set at 80 % of AMI, with 21 units being permanently affordable. Several variances must be granted before this project can move forward. CB9 expressed their desire for apartment rents to be more reflective of incomes of CB9 residents.

National Night Out Against Crime

The annual National Night Out Against Crime was held this year on August 4th. As is tradition, several CB9 Board members attended both the 30pct and 26pct events. The 30Pct event was hosted by CB9's Joyce Adewumi, where our District Manager Eutha Prince and I were both honored with certificates of appreciation.

Riverside Drive Viaduct Construction

The Riverside Viaduct construction has been delayed since 2024 when the contractor Judalu walked off the job in a dispute with NYC. This stoppage of work has impacted residents along Riverside Drive, particularly between 152nd and 158th Streets. The courts recently ruled in favor of NYC obtaining another company to complete the Viaduct repairs.