THE CITY OF NEW YORK
COMMUNITY BOARD 9
MANHATTAN

Morningside Heights
Manhattanville
Hamilton Heights
Sugar Hill

CHAIRS REPORT NOVEMBER 2026

COMMITTEE TO REOPEN COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY CAMPUS

Under the direction of the new Columbia University President (Jennifer Mnookin), a committee was formed to examine reopening the campus to the public. Since the encampments and unrest in 2023, the campus gates have remained closed and public access has been limited. The committee will examine various scenarios for reopening the campus to the public. Columbia has asked me to join this committee as a representative of West Harlem.

MANHATTAN BOROUGH PRESIDENT'S LEGIONNAIRES FORUM

MBP, Brad Holyman-Sigel held a forum to discuss the legionnaires outbreaks in the borough. The most recent outbreak on the Upper East Side of Manhattan resulted in 11 deaths. Board Chairs or their representatives shared experiences in dealing with the outbreaks in their districts, as well as practices developed for preventing future incidents

WEST HARLEM ARTS ALLIANCE GRAND OPENING

Several current/past CB9 members and I had the opportunity to attend the opening of the West Harlem Arts Alliances new home on Broadway (@147th St.). This journey by WHAA was led in great part by former CB9 Board Member Michael Palma. The new space will allow the great work of residents within the District, as well as others, to be displayed. We look forward to collaborating with WHAA on future events at this location.

E-BIKE FORUM

The MBPO held a forum to discuss e-bike safety. As the usage of e-bikes continues to grow, there are an increasing number of calls for additional regulations to protect pedestrians and riders. Board Chairs or reps commented on concerns they are seeing in their CB's regarding e-bikes. The Borough President explained that this issue is also scheduled to be discussed within the City Council.

HARLEM HOLIDAY LIGHTS LEGACY AWARD - C VIRGINIA FIELDS

As a part of the Harlem Holiday Lights celebration, C. Virginia Fields was honored with this year's Legacy award. This celebration is a preliminary celebration to the Harlem Holiday Lights parade, which will take place on Tuesday, November 17. Ms. Fields, who is one of only four women to serve as Manhattan Borough President, was honored for her work in the community. Joining me for this great event were Board Members, Monique Hardin-Cordero, Metin Sarci, Chris Johnson, Solomon Prophet, Marquis Bell, and District Manager Eutha Prince.

Respectfully submitted,



Victor Edwards
MCB9 Chair



CB9 Members at the opening of the West Harlem Arts Alliance new facility