



THE REAL ESTATE BOARD OF NEW YORK

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COMMUNITY BOARDS 101

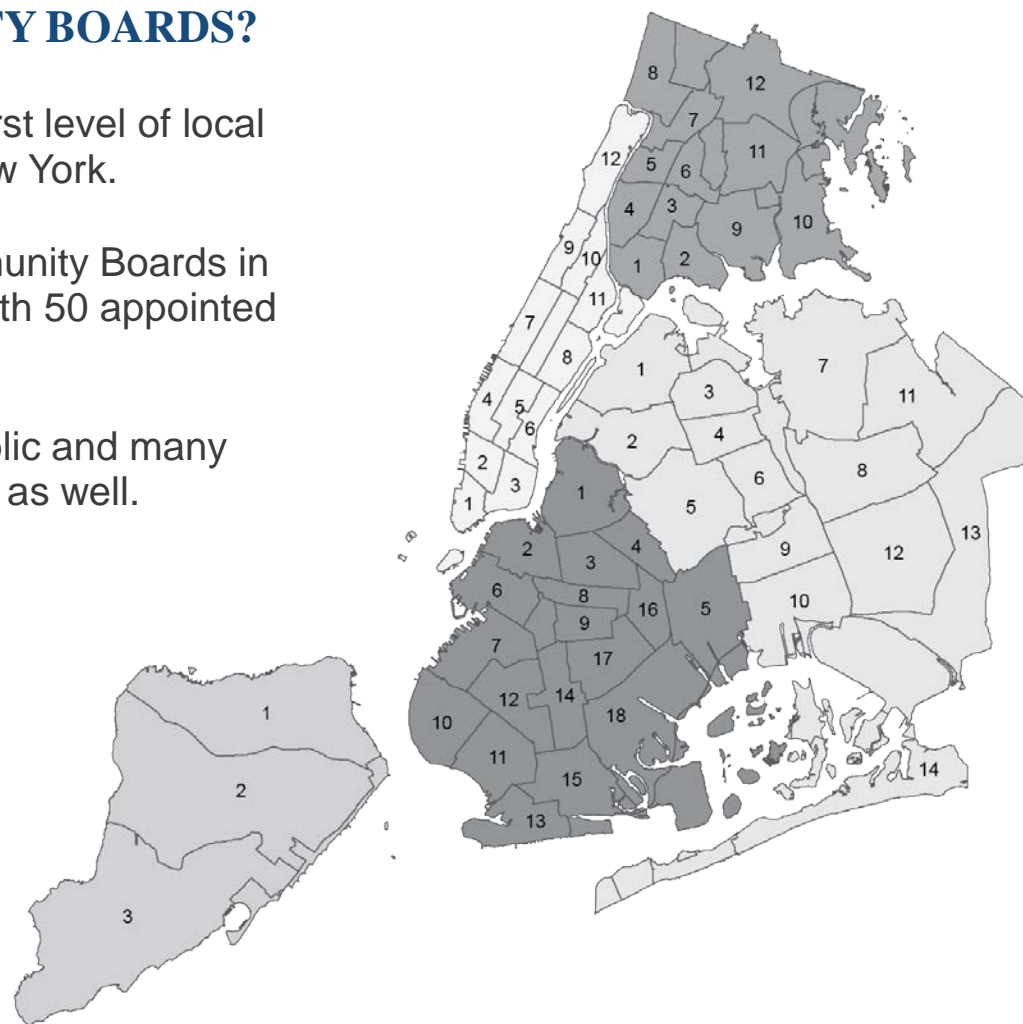
**REBNY**<sup>®</sup>  
REAL ESTATE BOARD OF NEW YORK

## WHAT ARE COMMUNITY BOARDS?

Community Boards are the first level of local government in the City of New York.

There are a total of 59 Community Boards in the City of New York, each with 50 appointed members.

Meetings are open to the public and many boards have public members as well.



## WHY SHOULD I GET INVOLVED?

If you:

CARE ABOUT NEIGHBORHOOD ISSUES

WANT TO UNDERSTAND HOW GOVERNMENT WORKS

WANT TO BE PART OF THE CONVERSATION

WANT TO SHARE YOUR PROFESSIONAL EXPERTISE

Then you should get involved!

## **MEMBERSHIP AND BOARD STRUCTURE**

Members serve voluntary, unpaid two year terms and are appointed by the Borough President.

### **GENERAL MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION**

Members must have a significant interest in the district and live in the five boroughs.

The Borough President determines the application process.

Council members recommend ½ the appointees, but the BP has the final say.

Members are subject to the City's Conflict of Interest rules and EEO policies

### **BOARD STRUCTURE**

Each board must have a district manager and a chair.

Boards meet at least once monthly.

Every board has its own by-laws and committee structure.

Typical committees include: Land Use, Schools, Parks, Landmarks, Liquor License

## **COMMUNITY BOARD ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

Community Boards have an advisory role in city's public review processes.

### **PUBLIC REVIEW PROCESSES**

- Uniform Land Use Review Procedure (ULURP)
- City Environmental Quality Review (CEQR)
- Board of Standards and Appeals (BSA)
- Landmarks Preservation Commission (LPC)
- State Liquor Authority (SLA)
- Processing of permits for block parties and street fairs



## COMMUNITY BOARD ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Community Boards have a responsibility to address resident concerns and participate in the annual budget process.

### DISTRICT SERVICES

Hold monthly update meetings with FDNY, NYPD, ConEdison, Sanitation and other city agencies as needed;

Distribute emergency information and coordinate services or joint programs; and

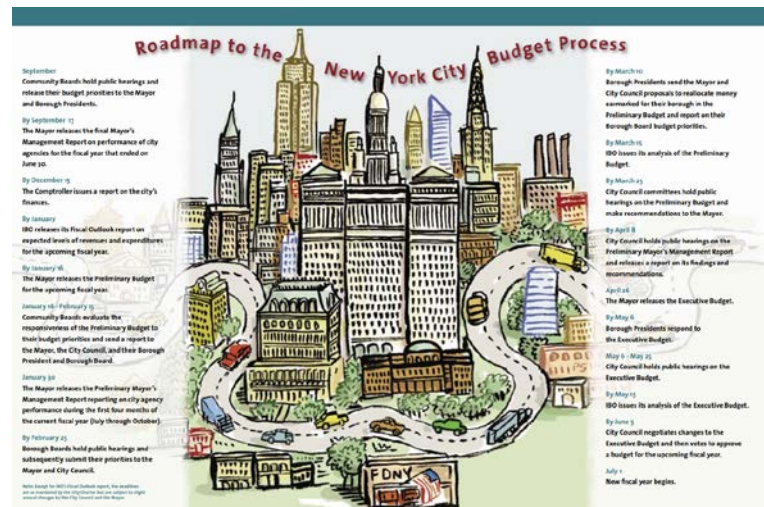
Respond to constituent calls or concerns.

Road map to the New York City Budget Process,  
<http://www.ibo.nyc.ny.us/IBORoadmap.pdf>

### BUDGET

Annually issue a District Statement of Needs; and

Submit budget priorities to the City Council and Mayor.



## HOW TO GET INVOLVED

Show up and introduce yourself!

### ATTEND YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING

Local is based on home or work address – a single project or deal does not constitute a significant interest.

Other than a select few (ie Executive or Personnel), committee meetings are open to the public.

Agendas are typically posted ahead of time online.

Full Board is always open to the public and can provide a good snap shot of issues and priorities.

### BECOME A PUBLIC MEMBER

Many boards allow for public members pursuant to their by-laws.

No voting rights but otherwise allowed to fully participate.

Commit to a committee or committees of interest – attendance counts!

## **HOW TO GET INVOLVED**

### **APPLY TO BECOME A COMMUNITY BOARD MEMBER**

Each borough has its own process and application form.

Applications are typically due in the beginning of the calendar year, with selections made by April 1<sup>st</sup>.

Members are appointed by the Borough President, in consultation with the local councilmember(s).

REBNY does not appoint members to the community board.



## COMMUNITY BOARD RESOURCES

To learn more:

### FIND YOUR COMMUNITY BOARD:

Bronx: <http://www.nyc.gov/html/cau/html/cb/bronx.shtml>

Brooklyn: <http://www.nyc.gov/html/cau/html/cb/brooklyn.shtml>

Manhattan: <http://www.nyc.gov/html/cau/html/cb/manhattan.shtml>

Queens: <http://www.nyc.gov/html/cau/html/cb/queens.shtml>

Staten Island: <http://www.nyc.gov/html/cau/html/cb/si.shtml>

### OFFICES OF THE BOROUGH PRESIDENT

Bronx: <http://bronxboropres.nyc.gov/>

Brooklyn: <http://www.brooklyn-usa.org/>

Manhattan: <http://manhattanbp.nyc.gov/html/home/home.shtml>

Queens: <http://www.queensbp.org/>

Staten Island: <https://www.statenislandusa.com/bp-james-oddo.html>

### OTHER RESOURCES

The DCP Community Portal contains district profiles for every board:

<https://communityprofiles.planning.nyc.gov/>

City Council: <https://council.nyc.gov/>