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**The City of New York
Community Board 8 Manhattan
Environment Committee
Monday, October 30, 2023 – 6:30pm
This meeting was conducted via Zoom**

Minutes

CB8 Attendance: Elizabeth Ashby, Alida Camp, Juno Chowla-Song, Sahar Hussain, Wilma Johnson, Craig Lader, Addeson Lehv, Valerie Mason, Barbara Rudder, Abraham Salcedo, and Marco Tamayo,

1. Discussion of PlaNYC and city other sustainability initiatives and programs with Mayor’s Office of Climate and Environmental Justice (MOCEJ) Policy Advisor, Helen Chananie
 - Helen Chananie, Project Manager at MOCEJ discussed how PlaNYC addresses issues to advance climate impacts for the present and future. PlaNYC was introduced under Mayor Mike Bloomberg’s administration in 2007, and this is the fifth evolution of the plan. The current PlaNYC stresses tangible actions to implement, such as Local Law 97.
 - **PlaNYC’s objectives:** to eliminate threats from extreme heat and flooding, mitigate harmful building and transportation emissions, manage waste, and increase access to greenspace and waterways.
 - **Heat:** Extreme heat is one of the biggest threats New Yorkers face, especially for the most vulnerable populations. There is legislation to grant access to cooling by setting maximum temperatures, requiring cooling equipment for new construction, and providing funding for older buildings.
 - **Green Space:** PlaNYC advocates for 30% tree coverage, increased funding for tree maintenance, and codification in law that these plans will remain in all future iterations. The Plan expresses its commitment to expand access to green space as the city moves forward creating five new greenways.
 - **Transportation:** To decrease carbon emissions, the Plan’s goals are to increase public transportation, increase electrification of vehicles, implement congestion pricing, and revise streetscapes.
 - **Waste Management:** The Plan recognizes that containerization will help combat rat proliferation. Organic waste collection will be expanded to Manhattan in 2024, and the Plan is working to convert waste to biogas to be used to run city busses and other modes of public transportation.
2. Old Business – None discussed
3. New Business – None discussed

Sahar Husain, Addeson Lehv, and Barbara Rudder, Co-Chairs