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**The City of New York
Community Board 8 Manhattan
Sanitation and Environment Committee
Thursday, September 5, 2024 – 6:30pm
This meeting was conducted via Zoom**

Minutes

CB8 Attendance: Addeson Lehv, Sahar Husein, Barbara Rudder, Juno Chowla-Song.

Approximate Number of Public Attendees: 8

1. Presentation on air quality in NYC and the Upper East Side by Columbia sustainable development student Carmelli Leal.

Carmelli began her presentation by describing her work on air quality in a Columbia course entitled “Building Climate Justice: Co-Creative Coastal Resilience Planning.” The objective of the course is to educate students and support effective coastal resilience planning and climate justice through social and data science learning and data acquisition and analysis, making use of emerging technologies and best practices for collaboration with environmental and climate justice practitioners. Through this course, Carmelli and Columbia students were connected to South Bronx Unite, a group that “brings together neighborhood residents, community organizations, academic institutions, and allies to improve and protect the social, environmental, and economic future of Mott Haven and Port Morris.”

In this work, Carmelli and her classmates found that the air pollution in the Mott Haven area in the morning exceeded the annual limit 100% of the time and exceeded the daily limit 97.1% of the time. In the afternoon, air pollution levels exceeded the annual limit 93.5% of the time and the daily limit 33% of the time.

Carmelli concluded her presentation with statistics about the Upper East Side’s air quality. She explained that while ozone levels in the Upper East Side were better than other neighborhoods in the city, PM2.5, black carbon, and nitrogen dioxide levels were worse compared with other neighborhoods. These pollutants may cause breathing issues and trigger long-term and short-term acute illnesses.

2. **Old Business** - None discussed.
3. **New Business** – None discussed

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:32pm.

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