

Valerie S. Mason
Chair

Will Brightbill
District Manager



505 Park Avenue, Suite 620
New York, N.Y. 10022-1106
(212) 758-4340
(212) 758-4616 (Fax)
www.cb8m.com – Website
info@cb8m.com – E-Mail

**The City of New York
Community Board 8 Manhattan
Roosevelt Island Committee
Monday, October 6, 2025 - 6:30 PM
Conducted remotely on Zoom**

Please note: The resolutions contained in the committee minutes are recommendations submitted by the committee co-chairs to the Community Board. At the monthly full board meeting, the resolution is discussed and voted upon by all members of Community Board 8 Manhattan.

MINUTES:

Present: Paul Krikler, Craig Lader, Sharon Pope-Marshall, James Starace (Public Member), and TJ Stein

Approximate Number of Public Attendees: 30

Item 1 – RIOC Update

No RIOC updates were announced.

Item 2 – Library Updates (6:35 PM)

- Banned Books week celebrated at the library this week.
- Poster making workshop Friday, October 10th, at 1pm for adults.
- Escape the Library later in the month for adults.
- After school programming is in full swing.

Item 3 – Community Updates

No Community Updates were announced.

Item 4 – RIOC President BJ Jones (6:40 PM)

A number of questions were raised in the meeting, and also from the many collected ahead of time. Mr. Jones noted that he appreciated the comments by residents and will look into all of the issues raised. As expected, given his brief exposure to Roosevelt Island issues, he did not provide any answers or new information, but he did listen attentively. It was a very pleasant change from previous administrations. Those questions included:

- Repurposing the old tram cabins currently rotting underneath the Motor gate garage.
- Status of the Roosevelt Island Master Lease extension between NYC and NY State.
- Playground for toddlers ages 1-3 years old.
- Any plans for building affordable housing on Roosevelt Island at the decommissioned Steam Plant site.
- Status of repairs for Eleanor's Pier and the Boat Prow on West Promenade.
- Enforcing traffic stops for pedestrian safety.
- Folding Double Wide Strollers on the tram.
- Keep the Z Bricks.
- Priority Boarding Pass for the Roosevelt Island Tram available to anyone as long as it is picked up on Roosevelt Island.

Item 5 – F/M Switch (7:30 PM)

The Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) gave a presentation on the proposed service changes from the F to the M train at [CB8M's September 2025 Transportation Committee](#) meeting as a joint item with the Roosevelt Island Committee.

First off, a straw poll was taken ahead of the discussion which showed overwhelming support for the resolution opposing this switch, among attendees. A brief discussion was had regarding the forthcoming switch of the F/M trains in December. Issues seems to be focused on:

- Hopefully greater ability to get on the M train in the morning rush vs the F vs. some folks believed this would be a degraded service.
- Concern over losing the express F into Queens and replacing it with the local M (although some liked this idea of access to more of Queens).
- Increased difficulty getting to JFK.

WHEREAS Roosevelt Island residents have voiced long-standing complaints about significant overcrowding on the F train, especially during peak hours; and

WHEREAS the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) has announced a plan to swap the routes of the F and M subway lines on weekdays, with the M train serving Roosevelt Island during peak hours only; and

WHEREAS the M train, which is proposed to replace the F train on weekdays, generally operates on a less frequent schedule than the F train, raising concerns about potential longer wait times and reduced service frequency for Roosevelt Island commuters; and

WHEREAS the new service pattern would significantly worsen airport access for Roosevelt Island residents by eliminating express F train connection to the Q70 bus for LaGuardia Airport; and

WHEREAS the MTA's proposal introduces a complex and confusing service pattern where the F train serves Roosevelt Island on nights and weekends, while the M train serves the island during weekdays, which will likely cause rider confusion and inconvenience; and

WHEREAS the MTA's stated rationale for the swap—improving system-wide reliability by eliminating a track merge—prioritizes the convenience of a wider system at the expense of a localized and significant detriment to Roosevelt Island's transportation access and quality of life;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED Manhattan Community Board 8 formally opposes the Metropolitan Transportation Authority's (MTA) proposed weekday F and M subway line swap; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we call upon the MTA to rescind its current plan and develop a revised proposal that equitably addresses the subway needs of Roosevelt Island residents.

ADOPTED by a vote 4-1-0

IN FAVOR: Paul Krikler, Sharon Pope-Marshall, James Starace (Public Member), TJ Stein

OPPOSED: Craig Lader

Item 6 – Old Business

No items of Old Business were discussed.

Item 7 – New Business

No items of New Business were discussed.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:53 PM.

Paul Krikler, Chair, Roosevelt Island Committee