



April 10, 2018

Dear Church Ave. BID Business or Property Owner,
Following are highlights and details about the BID to bring you up to date on what we are doing to enhance and improve Church Avenue's businesses and properties and add to its success as a shopping district.

Please take a look at the following pages for important information on:

- Upcoming Events
- Free Programs for Business and Property Owners
- News
- What is the BID?

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lauren Elvers Collins".

Lauren Elvers Collins

Executive Director

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I. Upcoming Events

70th Precinct Community Council (Wed. 4/25/18 at 7:30 p.m. at PS 249 at Caton Ave. and Marlborough Rd.)

Come meet the 70th Precinct's commanding officer, community affairs detectives, and the officers who patrol Church Avenue and adjacent residential areas.

Sidewalk Sales (Fri. 4/27/18, Sat. 4/28/18, and Sun. 4/29/18 from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.):

During this three-day sidewalk sales weekend, BID members can legally set up and sell from tables in front of their businesses. Remember that:

- 5 feet of unobstructed sidewalk must be provided for pedestrians at all times.
- You can only sell items you ordinarily sell in your business.
- You must display the City permit in your window (available for free from the BID).
- Outdoor dining requires the additional display of an existing NYC Dept. of Health - Food Service Establishment Permit - please contact the BID for more information.

Church Avenue Street Fair (Sun. 5/6/18 from noon to 6:00 p.m. on Church Ave. from Coney Island Ave. to Rugby Rd.)

Join us at the fair for great food and outdoor seating, live performances, a family activity area including pony rides, free raffle of prizes from BID businesses, carnival rides, and lots of shopping! The B35 bus will be rerouted on this section of Church Ave. for the day. To register for one of ten free spaces, contact us today.

Co-presented by the 70th Precinct Community Council with **sponsorship** by Con Edison, ModernMD, CAMBA, Flatbush Optical, Ideal Supermarket, and Prospect Gymnastics. Check www.Facebook.com/ChurchAveBID for updated details.

Church Avenue Neighborhood Beautification Day (Sat. 6/2/18 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.)

Volunteers needed for our annual neighborhood beautification day! Additional businesses are needed to Adopt-A-Block to beautify your block and have the biggest impact on your business. Please contact us to Adopt-A-Block or to register to have graffiti painted over.

Sponsored by Councilmember Mathieu Eugene and Con Edison.

II. Free Programs for Business and Property Owners

(If you don't have internet access, please contact the BID for help signing up for any of these programs.)

1. New Skills, New Jobs:

What is it? This on-the job training grant for eligible small businesses reimburses you for 70% of your new hires training wages up to 280 hours. The NYC Dept. of Small Business Services will guide you through the whole process. Note that you must be accepted in this grant program before your new employees start training but once you're in the program, your ability to hire and be reimbursed for much of your training costs for up to 3 new hires lasts for 6-9 months (with reimbursement within 30-45 days).

Contact: David Cuevas, Program Manager, NYC Dept. of Small Business Services at 212-513-9206 or DCuevas@sbs.nyc.gov

2. Commercial Lease Assistance

What is it? If your business needs help with a commercial lease issue in New York City, you may be eligible for free legal services.

Website with details and application form:

<https://www1.nyc.gov/nycbusiness/article/commercial-lease-assistance-program>

3. Compliance Consultation (compliance with regulations from Sanitation, Consumer Affairs, Fire Dept., etc.)

What is it? The NYC Department of Small Business Services offers no-cost compliance consultations to help you understand how to comply with key City rules and regulations to avoid receiving common violations. Their on-site consultation walkthroughs will help you understand common compliance challenges faced by new or operating business owners in New York City. They will **not** issue violations or fines - they are here to help you understand the rules.

Website form to sign up: <https://nycgov.tfaforms.net/277734>

4. NYC Building Operator Training:

What is it? Free training on energy efficiency for multifamily operations and maintenance employees:

- Is a 30-hour training for supers, operators, and maintenance staff of small to mid-sized multifamily buildings (5-50 apartment units or between 5,000 to 50,000 gross sq ft).
- Offers courses at locations throughout the city.
- Provides course curriculum materials in Spanish and English.
- Is offered at NO COST to all eligible participants!

Website with spring/summer enrollment calendar: <http://www.cunybpl.org/opstraining/>

Contact: Jessica Vicuna, CUNY Building Performance Lab Training Services at 917-318-8570 or opstraining@cunybpl.org.

III. News

Sidewalk Reconstruction: We are waiting for street improvements to resume (including resurfacing the roadway on Church Ave. from Coney Island Ave. to Flatbush Ave., repaving several remaining sidewalks, and repair a few trouble spots left after last year's half of this reconstruction). This project is scheduled to be completed by June 2018. If it runs longer, we will request that the City stop the construction from mid-Nov. 2018 to early Jan. 2019 so it doesn't interfere with holiday shopping.

Film Shoots on and Near Church Avenue: Film and tv shoots were not allowed in the BID while sidewalk reconstruction was underway but until that work resumes, film crews are now being allowed to apply for City permits. While the BID isn't part of this permitting process, we are often able to advocate for BID businesses in terms of parking and other concerns so please let us know if you have any concerns about a shoot, preferably when you first see signs that a shoot is coming or even while it's underway.

How to get help: For fastest attention, please include your business's or property's address as well as a photo of the film notification sign with your email (sent to laurenc@churchavenue.org). Once sidewalk reconstruction restarts, filming on Church Ave. is expected to be prohibited for the duration of the construction.

Staff:

Our Deputy Executive Director Scott Grimm-Lyon has moved on to another organization but we are thrilled to introduce **Hope Moriki as our new Project Coordinator**. A former manager of a small business coffee shop, event coordinator, and volunteer treasurer for two school programs, Hope will be assisting with all aspects of the BID's programs and events so expect to meet her soon. She can be reached at 718-282-2500, x66350 or HopeM@churchavenue.org.

We will also be gaining a planning professional from the NYC Dept. of Small Business Services' Neighborhood 360 Fellows program. This individual will be fully paid by the City and will be working full time for ten months creating a banner program for our lamp posts, enhancing and upgrading our social media use to better promote BID businesses, and creating two networking events for members. More information to follow...



IV. What is the BID?

Overview: The BID is supported through a tax assessment on the properties on Church Ave. from Coney Island Ave. to Flatbush Ave. on the north side of Church Ave. and from Buckingham Rd. to E. 21st Street on the south side. Funds go towards daily supplemental sanitation, small business assistance, marketing and promotion, events, advocacy, salaries, insurance, and office expenses. The assessment is being raised this year from \$188,500 to \$203,000 to cover our rising sanitation costs and add quarterly graffiti clean-up.

Apply to Join the Board of Directors: Our board of directors consists of property and business owners representing Bobby's Dept. Store, H.J. Edwards & Associates, Shirley's Heavenly Touch, HoneyDew Drop Playhouse, Gentleman's Quarters Salon, United American Land, and Wheated, as well as representatives from the offices of the Mayor de Blasio, Brooklyn Borough President Adams, Councilmember Eugene, NYC Comptroller Stringer, and Community Board 14. We have one opening for a Church Ave. property owner, one for a Church Ave. resident, and one for a non-voting member. Time commitment is minimal and you have the opportunity to shape the future of Church Ave.

- **Contact us if you're interested in learning more about joining the board!**

Sign Up for the BID's Email List: Join the BID's email list so you are among the first to know when there are important BID updates like special events, street work, changes to business regulations, etc.

Staff: Contact us at any time with questions, suggestions, complaints, or to get assistance:

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