

# Queens Civic Congress

Presents

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Special Workshop/Conference

# Historic Preservation & Landmarking

Learn how the Landmark Preservation Law protects New York City's historic treasures and can help preserve YOUR neighborhood's unique legacy.

Tuesday, February 26, 7:30 p.m.

The Shops at Atlas Park 80-00 Cooper Avenue, Glendale

#### **Queens Civic Congress Officers**

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Kathy Masi (Glendale Civic Association of Queens)

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President Emeritus Sean M. Walsh (Douglaston Civic Association)

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Zoning & Code Enforcement / Joseph Amoroso & Harbachan Singh

## **Historic Preservation & Landmarking**

Learn how the Landmark Preservation Law protects New York City's historic treasures and can help preserve YOUR neighborhood's unique legacy.

## The Program:

#### **Panelists:**

## Hon. Jessica Lappin,

Chair, City Council Subcommittee on Landmarking

#### Simeon Bankoff

Executive Director, Historic Districts Council

#### Frank E. Sanchis III

Senior Vice President, Municipal Arts Society

## Herb Reynolds

Director, Sunnyside Gardens Preservation Alliance

#### **Kevin Wolfe**

Architect & Preservationist, Douglaston & Little Neck Historical Society

#### Moderator

#### **James Trent**

President, Metropolitan Historic Structures Association

Historic Preservation & Landmarking Workshop/Conference Co-Chairs:

#### Patricia Dolan

Queens Civic Congress Executive Vice President Chair, Land Use and Planning Committee and

Kathy Masi

Queens Civic Congress Vice President Chair, Historical Preservation and Landmarking Committee

The Queens Civic Congress wishes to thank Shops at Atlas Park for providing space for this event the Glendale Civic Association for providing refreshments, and Historic Districts Council for supplemental reference materials.

The Queens Civic Foundation provided additional support, including this program.

#### **About the Landmarks Preservation Commission**

The Landmarks Preservation Commission is the New York City agency that is responsible for identifying and designating the City's landmarks and the buildings in the City's historic districts. The Commission also regulates changes to designated buildings.

The agency consists of eleven Commissioners and a full-time staff.

The Landmarks Preservation Commission was established in 1965 when Mayor Robert Wagner signed the local law creating the Commission and giving it its power. The Landmarks Law was enacted in response to New Yorkers' growing concern that important physical elements of the City's history were being lost despite the fact that these buildings could be reused. Events like the demolition of the architecturally distinguished Pennsylvania Station in 1963 increased public awareness of the need to protect the city's architectural, historical, and cultural heritage.

#### Mission of the Landmarks Preservation Commission

The Landmarks Preservation Commission is the New York City agency responsible for identifying and designating the city's landmarks and the buildings in the city's historic districts. The Commission also regulates changes to designated buildings. The agency consists of eleven Commissioners and about fifty full-time staff members, including architects, architectural historians, restoration specialists, planners, and archaeologists, as well as administrative, legal, and clerical personnel. Although it is one of the smallest New York City agencies, the Commission is the largest municipal preservation agency in the United States. The Landmarks Preservation Commission was established by the Landmarks Law in 1965 in order to:

- Safeguard the city's historic, aesthetic, and cultural heritage.
- Help stabilize and improve property values in historic districts.
- Encourage civic pride in the beauty and accomplishments of the past.
- Protect and enhance the city's attractions for tourists.
- Strengthen the city's economy.
- Promote the use of landmarks for the education, pleasure, and welfare of the people of New York City

#### Frequently asked questions about the Landmarks Preservation Commission

What is a landmark?

A landmark is a building, property, or object that has been designated by the Landmarks Preservation Commission because it has a special character or special historical or aesthetic interest or value as part of the development, heritage, or cultural characteristics of the city, state, or nation.

Landmarks are not always buildings. A landmark may be a bridge, a park, a water tower, a pier, a cemetery, a building lobby, a sidewalk clock, a fence, or even a tree. A property or object is eligible for landmark status when at least part of it is thirty years old or older.

As the Landmarks Law states, protection of these resources serves the following purposes:

- 1. Safeguarding the city's historic, aesthetic, and cultural heritage;
- 2. Helping to stabilize and improve property values in historic districts;
- 3. Encouraging civic pride in the beauty and accomplishments of the past;
- 4. Protecting and enhancing the city's attractions for tourists, thereby benefitting business and industry;
- 5. Strengthening the city's economy; and
- 6. Promoting the use of landmarks for the education, pleasure, and welfare of the people of the city.

#### Who are the Landmarks Commissioners?

According to the Landmarks Law, the eleven Commissioners must include at least three architects, one historian, one city planner or landscape architect, and one realtor. There must be at least one resident of each borough on the Commission. Ten Commissioners serve part-time and receive no salary; the Chairman is a full-time, paid Commissioner. The Commissioners are appointed by the Mayor, with the advice and consent of the City Council, for three-year terms. The Chairman and the Vice-Chairman are designated by the Mayor.

#### What are the Commissioners' duties?

The Commissioners meet several times a month for public hearings and public meetings. At these meetings, they address Commission policies; review, discuss, and vote on landmark designations and applications to make changes to designated properties; and establish guidelines for future alterations to designated buildings.

#### Who are the Commission's staff members?

The agency's staff includes architects, architectural historians, restoration specialists, planners, and archaeologists, as well as administrative, legal, and clerical personnel. The Landmarks Preservation Commission has about fifty full-time staff members. Although it is one of the smallest New York City agencies, the Commission is the largest municipal preservation agency in the United States.

#### What does the Commission's staff do?

The Research Department carries out research, makes presentations to the Commissioners on the history and significance of proposed landmark properties, and prepares detailed reports on proposed landmarks and historic districts.

The Preservation Department works with applicants who propose alterations or additions to designated properties or new construction in historic districts, and prepares permits for changes that the Commission has found to be appropriate.

The Commission also includes smaller departments such as the environmental review division which assesses and reports on the impact of development proposals on the city's architectural and archaeological resources. The Commission administers several other programs such as the Historic Preservation Grant Program, which awards grants to low and moderate-income homeowners and not-for-profit organizations.

#### How can I learn more about the Landmarks Preservation Commission?

If you would like more information, call or write the Landmarks Commission at 1 Centre Street, 9th Floor North, New York, NY 10007; telephone: 212-669-7817, TTY: 212-669-7788.

#### **Frequently Asked Questions About the Designation Process**

What types of properties can be designated?

The Landmarks Law requires that, to be designated, a potential landmark must be at least 30 years old and must possess "a special character or special historical or aesthetic interest or value as part of the development, heritage, or cultural characteristics of the city, state, or nation."

What is a landmark?

There are four types of landmarks:

- \* *Individual Landmarks* (individual structures that can range from bridges to rowhouses to skyscrapers; examples include the Woolworth Building, the Langston Hughes House in Harlem, and the Wonder wheel at Coney Island);
- \* *Interior Landmarks* (building interiors that are "customarily open or accessible to the public," such as the Marine Air Terminal at LaGuardia Airport, the RCA Building Lobby, and the Ed Sullivan Theater);
- \* Scenic Landmarks (city-owned parks or other landscape features, such as Prospect Park, Central Park, and Ocean Parkway); and
- \* *Historic Districts* (areas of the city that possess architectural and historical significance and a distinct "sense of place," such as Ladies Mile in Manhattan, Cobble Hill in Brooklyn, and St. George-New Brighton in Staten Island).

What is the LPC's procedure for considering and designating potential landmarks?

1. Requests for Evaluation.

The LPC receives a steady stream of suggestions for designation from interested citizens, property owners, community groups, public officials, and others.

Landmarks Commissioners and staff also may identify potential buildings and areas of interest. The Commission asks members of the public who propose properties for potential designation to fill out a Request for Evaluation (RFE) form. This form requests the individual to provide as much information about the property as possible, including photographs and/or slides.

#### 2. Evaluation.

Once the LPC receives a request, an RFE Committee, consisting of the Chairman, the Executive Director, the Chief of Staff, the Director of Research, and other agency staff members, review the materials submitted and discuss whether the property meets the criteria for designation. The Director of Research then sends a letter to the person who submitted the request, informing him or her of the committee's determination.

#### 3. Calendaring and Commission Review.

If the RFE Committee determines that a proposed historic property merits further consideration a photograph, statement of significance and the committee's recommendation is sent to each individual commissioner for their comment. Ultimately the decision whether to bring the property forward to the full Commission for review is made by the Chair.

The full Commission reviews such potential landmarks at public meetings. At these meetings the Commission can vote to schedule a public hearing on the properties they believe merit further review.

For structures being considered as individual landmarks, the LPC staff usually contacts the owner after the Chair decides to send the item to the full Commission to discuss the meaning of landmark designation and the designation process. One or more meetings and/or site visits are scheduled with the owner or owner's representative to discuss potential regulatory issues.

#### 4. Public Hearing.

The LPC holds a public hearing for each property that the full Commission has voted to consider for designation. Notice of the hearing is published in the City Record and sent to the property owner, the City Planning Commission, and the affected community boards and elected officials.

At the hearing a member of the Research Department makes a brief presentation about the property under consideration. The Chairman then asks whether the owner or a representative of the owner would like to speak. All other interested parties are then encouraged to present their opinions on the proposed designation. Interested parties can also submit written statements about the proposed designation at the hearing or after the hearing, up to the time that the Commission votes on the proposed designation.

#### 5. Discussion and Designation Report.

While a historic district is under consideration by the Landmarks Preservation Commission, the Research Department writes a detailed report, describing the architectural, historical, and/or cultural significance of the historic district and a detailed description of each building within the proposed district. Building owners are mailed a draft copy of their building's description for review and comment. The Commissioners also review the draft report and use this report, along with public testimony, as the basis for their decision-making.

#### 6. Commission Vote.

The Commission then votes on the designation at a public meeting. Six votes are needed to approve or deny a designation. By law, landmark designation is effective upon the Commission's vote, and all rules and regulations of the Landmarks Law are applicable. Within ten days, the LPC files copies of the final designation report with the City Council, the City Planning Commission, and other city agencies. The LPC also sends a Notice of Designation to the property owner and registers the Notice at the City Register's or County Clerk's Office.

#### 7. City Planning Commission Report.

For all designations, the City Planning Commission has 60 days in which to submit their report to the City Council on the effects of the designation as it relates to zoning, projected public improvements, and any other city plans for the development or improvement of the area involved. For historic districts, the City Planning Commission must hold a public hearing prior to issuing their report.

#### 8. City Council Vote.

The City Council has 120 days from the time of the LPC filing to modify or disapprove the designation. A majority vote is required. The Mayor can veto the City Council vote within five days; the City Council can override a Mayoral veto by two-thirds vote within 10 days.

#### **Working With Landmarks: Document a Landmark**

People seeking a letter confirming the landmark status of a building may fax the address, borough, and block & lot of the building to 212-669-3844, or they may mail a letter containing that information to the Commission's office. A Landmark Status letter will be issued within two to three weeks of receipt of the request.

These letters state whether or not a particular address is designated a New York City Landmark.

If the address is designated, the letter states whether the structure is an Individual Landmark or designated as part of a Historic District

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# Get the original of this form at http://www.nyc.gov/html/lpc/downloads/pdf/forms/request\_for\_evaluation.pdf



#### THE CITY OF NEW YORK LANDMARKS PRESERVATION COMMISSION

1 CENTRE STREET, 9TH FLOOR, NEW YORK, NEW YORK, 10007 TEL: (212) 669-7700 FAX: (212) 669-7960

# REQUEST FOR EVALUATION

The Landmarks Preservation Commission is responsible for safeguarding the architectural, historical and cultural heritage of New York City.

The Commission's Research Department is pleased to accept requests from the public for the evaluation of the architectural, historical or cultural significance of properties throughout the five boroughs. If a property appears to meet the criteria for designation as a Landmark, the staff may recommend it for consideration by the Commission.

To request an evaluation, please fill out this form and return it to the address below. Please provide as much information about the property as you can and, if possible, include a photograph.

Thank you for your interest in the work of the Commission.

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| Your Name   |   |  | Daytime Telephone No.              |
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|   | Architect (if known)  |  |                                    |
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PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO:

Mary Beth Betts, Director of Research Landmarks Preservation Commission 3 Centre Street, 9th Floor, New York, N.Y. 10007

# Queens Civic Congress

# Upcoming Events and Meetings:

All meetings, excluding Legislative Reception, unless otherwise noted take place at: Union Plaza Nursing Home, 33-23 Union Street, [five blocks north of Northern Boulevard]. Meetings of the Executive Committee are open to all QCC members and take place at 8:00 p.m. (unless otherwise noted) If you wish to add an agenda item, please call Corey Bearak (343-6779) or email <a href="mailto:Bearak@aol.com">Bearak@aol.com</a> at least 24 hours in advance.

Saturday, March 8, 2008, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

#### The First Annual GOING GREEN IN QUEENS

sponsored by Queens Civic Congress, Queens Coalition for Parks & Green Spaces, Partnerships for Parks, the NYC Department of Parks and Recreation, others at the New York Hall of Science, 47-01 111th Street, Queens, NY 11368 A free environmental, educational and networking event for green, environmental, parks, volunteer and civic minded individuals and groups.

Monday, March 31, 2008

#### A Special Forum on Zoning & Land Use; Unfinished Business

Kew Gardens Community Center, Suite 202, 80-02 Kew Gardens Road at Union Turnpike & Queens Blvd., Kew Gardens, NY 11415 [More details next page for]

*Sunday, April 6, 2008, 1:00 − 3:00 p.m.* 

## **Queens Civic Congress Biannual Luncheon,**

[watch for more details and honoree]

at Antun's, 96-43 Springfield Blvd., Queens Village, NY 11429

Sunday, May 18, 2008, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.

## **Legislative Forum: Real Estate Tax Reform**

sponsored by Queens Civic Congress, Northeast Queens Jewish Community Council and Metropolitan Council on Jewish Poverty at the Samuel Field Y, 58-20 Little Neck Parkway, Little Neck, NY. Includes Free *light* breakfast courtesy of Parker Jewish Institute

Monday, May 19, 2008, 6:30 p.m.

## **Queens Civic Congress Executive Committee**

Location to be announced

Monday, June 16, 2008, 8:00 p.m.

## **Queens Civic Congress Executive Committee**

Guest Speaker: Council Member Peter F. Vallone, Jr, chair, Committee on Public Safety. Topics: "The lack of Police Officers in our Precincts and its affect on Queens" and "An Update on the Graffiti Wars".

<u>All</u> Queens Civic Congress meetings are public and we welcome members of our member organizations and community-minded residents to attend.



# The Queens Civic Congress

# **Presents**

# A Special Forum on Zoning & Land Use

# Unfinished Business

Neighborhoods waiting for re-zoning ♦ New zones to protect the R1 zone ("R1A") ♦ One-family row houses and single-family occupancy houses on narrow lots ♦ Queens Civic Congress responds to the American Institute of Architecture (AIA) zoning proposals ♦ Neighborhoods that don't get the zoning plan they need ♦ Getting ready for the City Planning Commission ♦ More.

# Monday, March 31, 2008, 7:30 p.m

The Queens Community House/ Kew Gardens Community Center 80-02 Kew Gardens Road, Suite 202 at Union Turnpike & Queens Boulevard, Kew Gardens, NY 11415

#### *The Panel (in formation):*

Hon. Tony Avella, Chair, City Council Zoning & Franchises Committee Christopher Collins, Esq., Vice Chair, NYC Board of Standards & Appeals John Young, Queens Director, Department of City Planning Sandra Atwell, President, Hollis 11423 Block Association Paul DiBenedetto, President, Bayside Civic Database; Henry Euler, Zoning & Housing Chair, Auburndale Improvement Association

Henry Euler, Zoning & Housing Chair, Auburndale Improvement Association Paul Graziano, Independent Urban Planner & President, Historic Districts Council

#### *Moderated by*

Sean M. Walsh, Esq., QCC Founder/ President Emeritus; Douglaston Civic Association

## Chaired by

Patricia Dolan, QCC Executive Vice President & President, Kew Gardens Hills Civic Assoc.

## Doors open at 7:15 p.m.

To reserve and for info call (718) 343-6779 or (718) 263-1760 or e-mail <a href="mailto:bearak@aol.com">bearak@aol.com</a>

Photo I.D. required to access building ♦ free parking available on the street & behind Borough Hall ♦ paid parking available in building garage (enter on 80th Road)

#### www.queensciviccongress.org

Read the Queens Civic Congress Land Use and Zoning recommendations in our CIVIC 2030 <u>platform</u>. (<u>http://queensciviccongress.org/platform/CIVIC2030.pdf</u>) See pages 5 through 8.

#### Join Queens Civic Congress

Is your civic, condo co-op, tenant or other community organization a Queens Civic Congress member (see list on the back page)? If not, or if you know a group which is not and should be, please use or share this application:

# The Queens Civic Congress Post Office Box 238, Douglaston, New York 11363 (718) 343-6779 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

From the Queens Civic Congress By-laws (as last amended October 20, 2003) ARTICLE III *MEMBERSHIP* 

- Section 1 Any Queens civic association or neighborhood organization that accepts and desires to further the purposes of the Congress as expressed in Article II hereof is eligible to join as a Regular Member.
- Section 2 Each Regular Member in good standing at the Congress may cast one (1) vote on all matters.
- Section 3 Regular Members shall pay dues as set by the Congress every year, payable no later than January 31 of each calendar year. The Congress may change the amount or frequency of dues.
- Section 4 Each Regular Member shall send one delegate to General Meetings of the Congress.
- Section 5 At the discretion of the Congress, Associate Membership may be conferred on an organization. While Associate Members are invited to send delegates to general meetings of the Congress, neither Associate Members or their delegates may vote or hold office in the Congress. The Congress may choose whether or not to levy dues on Associate Members and the frequency and amount thereof

| Name of Organization:            |                          |  |
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| Organization Mailing Address (if | any):                    |  |
| President:                       |                          |  |
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| E-Mail Address:                  | Web Page:_               |  |
|                                  | • ,                      | w) to receive mail and communications:                             |
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| Phone(s):                        | Fax:                     | E-Mail:  |
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| (Name of organization:)          | . We approve its mission | has received a copy of the statement and shall abide by all member |

Please submit with this application the following: A copy of your organization's by-laws; list of officers

# and board members; your latest newsletter number of current paid membership; and a check in the amount of \$35 payable to the Queens Civic Congress. Thank you.

#### **Queens Civic Congress Membership**

Association of Old Forest Hills ♦ Auburndale Improvement Association ♦ Bayside Civic Database ♦ Bayside Clear-Spring Council ♦ Bayside Hills Civic Association ♦ Bayswater Civic Association ♦ Bay Terrace Community Alliance, Inc. ♦ Bellaire-BellVill Civic Association ♦ Belle Harbor Property Owners Association ♦ Bellerose Commonwealth Civic Association ♦ Bellerose Hillside Civic Association ♦ Bell Park Manor Terrace Community Council ♦ Bowne Park Civic Association ♦ Briarwood Community Association ♦ Cambria Heights Civic Association ♦ Civic Association of Utopia Estates ♦ C.O.M.E.T. (Communities of Maspeth-Elmhurst Together) ♦ Concerned Citizens of Laurelton ♦ Cornucopia Society ♦ Creedmoor Civic Association ♦ Deerfield Area Association ♦ Doug-Bay Manor Civic Association ♦ Douglas Manor Association ♦ Douglaston Civic Association ♦ Dutch Kills Civic Association of Long Island City ♦ East Flushing Civic Association ♦ Federated Block Associations of Laurelton ♦ Federation of Civic Associations of Southeast Queens ♦ Floral Park Community Council ♦ Flushing Heights Civic Association ♦ Flushing on the Hill Taxpayers Association ♦ Forest Hills Chamber of Commerce ♦ Forest Hills Crescents Association ♦ Forest Hills-Van Court Association ♦ Fresh Meadows Homeowners Association ♦ Georgetown Mews ♦ Glendale Civic Association of Queens ♦ Glen Oaks Village Owners, Inc. ♦ Greater Astoria Historical Society ♦ Greater Whitestone Taxpayers Civic Association ♦ Harding Heights Civic Association ♦ Hillcrest Estates Civic Association ♦ Hilltop Village Co-Op #1 ♦ Hilltop Village Co-Op #2 ♦ Hilltop Village Co-Op #3 ♦ Hilltop Village Co-Op #4 ♦ Hollis 11423 Block Association ♦ Hollis Hills Civic Association ♦ Holliswood Civic Association ♦ Hollis Park Gardens Association ♦ Holly Civic Association ♦ Hyde Park Gardens Cooperative ♦ Jackson Heights Beautification Group ♦ Jamaica Estates Association ♦ Jamaica Hill Community Association ♦ Juniper Park Civic Association ♦ Kew Gardens Civic Association ♦ Kew Gardens Hills Homeowners Association ♦ Kew Gardens Improvement Association ♦ Kissena Park Civic Association ♦ Little Neck Bay Civic Association ♦ Little Neck Pines ♦ Long Island City Alliance ♦ Malba Civic Association ♦ Meadowlark Gardens Owners ♦ Middle Village Property Owners Association ♦ Mitchell Linden Civic Association ♦ Neponsit Property Owners Association ♦ Newtown Civic Association ♦ North Bellerose Civic Association ♦ North Flushing Civic Association ♦ North Hills Estates Civic Association ♦ Northwest Clearview Homeowners Association ♦ Norwood Neighborhood Association ♦ Oakland Terrace/ Gardens Community Council ♦ Off Broadway Homeowners Association ♦ Our Neighborhood Improvement Association ♦ Our Neighbors Civic Association of Ozone Park, Inc. ♦ Parkway Village Historical Society ♦ Queensboro Hill Neighborhood Association ♦ Queens Colony Civic Association ♦ Queens Community Civic Corp. ♦ Queens Village Civic Association ♦ Ramblersville-Hawtree Civic Association ♦ Richmond Hill Historical Society ◆ Ridgewood Property Owners and Civic Association ◆ Rockaway Park Homeowners/Residents ♦ Rocky Hill Civic Association ♦ Rosedale Civic Association ♦ Royal Ranch Association. ♦ Southeast Queens Concerned Neighbors ♦ South Ozone Park West Association Civic ♦ Springfield/Rosedale Community Action Association ♦ Station Road Civic Assoc. of Auburndale ♦ Sunnyside Gardens/Harrison Place Homeowners ♦ Surrey Estates Civic Association ♦ Union Turnpike Merchants Association ♦ United Forties Civic Association ♦ United Mutual Veterans Housing, Inc. ♦ Waldheim Neighborhood Association ♦ Wayanda Civic

Association ◆ West Cunningham Park Civic Association ◆ Westmoreland Association ◆ Woodside Community Council