

# Joining Community Board Five



## About Community Boards

Well, first—what is a community board and why should I care? Good question. NYC community boards give voice to the people who live and work in NYC neighborhoods. There are 12 Community Boards in Manhattan, each comprised of 50 members, with half appointed by the Manhattan Borough President and half appointed by City Council members who represent the district. Board Members serve 2-year terms and help craft official opinions on a wide variety of matters that affect the present and future quality of life within their districts.

## Why Join Community Board Five?

**CB5**—in the heart of Manhattan—is one of the most exciting Community Boards in New York City. **CB5** includes such urban gems as Bryant, Union Square and Madison Square Parks, as well as the crossroads of the world, Times Square; historic landmarked districts such as the Ladies' Mile and the Garment and Theatre Districts; and iconic destinations including Grand Central Station, MoMA, Carnegie Hall and the universally recognizable Empire State Building. **CB5** addresses the many needs of this extraordinary district, and we strive to work with and represent all of its various constituencies.

## Can Anyone Apply?

Applicants should be lucky enough to either live or work in **CB5** or have significant, regular business within its boundaries. [Click here](#) to see a map of the district.

## How Can I Apply?

- [Complete an application](#)
- Submit a bio or resume with the application
- Verify that you live in NYC
- Attend an interview with staff of the Manhattan Borough President's Office (for qualified candidates only)

[www.cb5.org](http://www.cb5.org)— 212.465.0907—[office@cb5.org](mailto:office@cb5.org)

Community Board Five (CB5) is an all-volunteer city agency that serves as an advisory panel to city officials and agencies, and advocates for the residents, businesses and visitors in CB5. Members will be required to:

### Participate in the monthly Full Board

**meeting**, which is usually on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month at 6pm. At meetings Board members hear from elected officials representing the district and members of the public, review resolutions crafted in individual committees, and vote on critical issues and applications.

**Serve on two Committees**, which also meet monthly. The seven regular Committees (there are also task forces and special projects as needed) of **CB5** are:

**Consents & Variances** – reviews applications for newsstands, sidewalk cafes, street fairs, street name changes, health clubs and other items requiring variances

**Education, Housing & Human Services** – reviews housing issues, education and youth program needs, and items concerning social services

**Landmarks** – reviews proposals to grant landmark status and alterations to landmark buildings or in historic districts

**Land Use & Zoning** – reviews applications for special permits, variances and changes to the Zoning Resolution

**Parks** – reviews applications for use, restoration and changes in the parks

**Public Safety / Quality of Life** – reviews applications for liquor licenses and cabarets, as well as problems relating to quality of life

**Transportation & Environment** – reviews street and sidewalk applications such as bus shelters, taxi stands, parking and bus route changes and other transportation needs, and monitors environmental policies.

**Learn about CB5** – its unique needs and structure – and be active, involved, committed to and knowledgeable about this amazing area of Manhattan.