



Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

Meeting Notes

Meeting: MSK Kenneth C. Griffin Pavilion Construction Working Group (CWG) Meeting
Date: January 15, 2026
Location: Zoom and Zuckerman Research Center, Room 136

Attendees:

MSK Project Team

CWG Co-Chair Shakima Grant, Senior Community Programs Manager, Community Engagement and Health Equity (CEHE)
CWG Co-Chair Terron Browne, Project Manager, Design and Construction
Maribel Rodríguez, Senior Project Coordinator, CEHE
Ana García, Senior Director, CEHE
Ryan Kiefer, Associate Director, Design and Construction
Jason Tavarez, Project Executive, Turner Consigli
Thomas Drumm, Project Executive, Turner Consigli
Shelly Friedman, MSK Land Use Counsel, Friedman & Gotbaum
Henry Kearney, Senior Vice President, Air Quality, AKRF
Erin Stolz, Senior Technical Director, Environmental Health and Safety, AKRF
Kenny Mui, Vice President, Construction Analysis, AKRF

Community Representatives

Yasmina Caleo, F.A.C.T.
Julie Clarke, P.S. 183 PTA
Tasha Edmead, NYC Department of Education
Harry Gale, NYC Council Member Julie Menin's Office
Mary Gera, 436 E 66th St
Jack Glass, ALC Environmental
Laura Jackson, 438 E 66th St
Alex Kogan, Rockefeller University
Ian McKnight, Community Board 8
Nicole Munczinski, ALC Environmental
Ethan Nachmani, NY State Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright's Office
James Rogers, Rockefeller University
Judy Schneider, East Sixties Neighborhood Association
Sowabab Shahbaz, Manhattan Borough President's Office
Myishia Taylor-Myke, NYC Department of Education
Jochen Weber, 404 E 66th St
Martin Woodard, P.S. 183

Observers

Jaishree Capoor, 404 E 66th St

Invitees not in Attendance:

Kemi Babagbemi, Community Member
Shean Buissereth, 404 E 66th St
Evan Calero, 435 E 65th St
Rev. Stefan, Chanas, Church of St. John Nepomucene

Rande Coleman, 404 E 66th St
Richard Czaja, Stahl Organization (1213 York Ave)
Andrea Dawes, NYC Department of Education
William Dessoffy, 400 E 67th St (The Laurel)
Marianne Dziuba Fiore, Stahl Organization (1213 York Ave)
Daniel Egers, Community Member
Courtney Ferrissey, NY State Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright's Office
Rachel George, 400 E 67th St (The Laurel)
Sarrah Hale, NY State Senator Liz Krueger's Office
Kyle Kolich, P.S. 183
Valerie Mason, Community Board 8
Julie Menin, NYC Council Member Julie Menin's Office
Anat Rosenberg, F.A.C.T.
Celeste Royo, Manhattan Borough President's Office
Melanie Russo, P.S. 183 PTA
Nate Sherfinski, NYC Mayor's Office
Serge St. Leger, NYC Department of Education
Jonathan Szott, NYC Council Member Julie Menin's Office
Audrey Tannen, NY State Senator Liz Krueger's Office
Mary Thomas, 404 E 66th St
Gregg Wolpert, Stahl Organization (1213 York Ave)

Welcome, Meeting Goals, and Format

Shakima Grant welcomed the Construction Working Group (CWG) members and observers. Jack Glass from ALC Environmental reintroduced himself and reminded attendees that he is available to support the community in understanding environmental issues and communicating their environmental concerns. Nicole Munczinski from ALC Environmental also joined the meeting. Nicole will conduct on-site monitoring of Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs), sound levels, and dust using handheld monitors, a role most recently handled by Leandro Lumapat.

Shakima briefly shared the meetings goals and format. The CWG meetings are designed to give the MSK project team a chance to:

1. Provide timely updates to Upper East Side residents and leaders about MSK Kenneth C. Griffin Pavilion construction activities.
2. Receive information and questions about ways the project construction activities are affecting the community.
3. Report on how MSK is responding to community construction questions and concerns.

The meetings are generally held on the third Thursday of the month from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. Meetings are hybrid with members on Zoom or in person at MSK. CWG members include the MSK project team, representatives from neighboring buildings, and representatives from local agencies and officials. Each building or office may have one representative and a designated alternate. The CWG meetings are open to the public to observe. Comments and questions regarding Griffin Pavilion construction activities should be directed to CWG members to be raised for discussion during the meetings.

The CWG meetings are recorded. Recordings are available in the Construction Working Group Meetings section of MSK's website: <https://www.msk.org/GriffinPavilionConstruction>

Construction Report: Current Status & 6 Week Lookahead

Terron Browne shared the six-week look ahead, which included continued steel and concrete installation between the project site and the Rockefeller Research Labs building, installation of excavation support, and removal of the

existing foundation. Removal of the sidewalk shed is scheduled for Saturday, January 24, pending permit approval. Extension of the site fence on East 66th and 67th Streets is planned for the end of January and will extend into mid-February.

Thomas Drumm shared details on Con Edison activity not included in the six-week look-ahead, since it is not controlled by the construction team. The activity involves utility upgrades on York Avenue, including permanently capping existing utilities that served 1233 York Avenue. It will require opening the street, including the temporary pedestrian walkway. While work is underway, pedestrians will be directed to the east side of the street. Con Edison is currently coordinating permits; more information on dates and hours will be communicated to the CWG once confirmed.

The 6-week Lookahead is available in the 'Current Construction Lookahead' section of MSK's website: <https://www.msk.org/GriffinPavilionConstruction>.

Air Quality Report

Terron shared the air quality readings from 12/17/25 to 1/14/26: the monitor on East 67th Street - proximate to the schoolyard, showed the high point for the month was 51 on the PM10 scale. The monitor on East 66th Street - proximate to the East 66th Street residences, showed the high point for the month was 32 on the PM10 scale.

ALC Environmental Update

Jack Glass from ALC Environmental shared that over the past month he has received some inquiries regarding elevated readings from a personal home monitoring unit and questions about potential health effects. He noted that current readings at the site are approximately half the established threshold and are not approaching 100, which he said is reassuring. Jack emphasized that the thresholds are based on EPA guidance and that while short-term increases are being monitored, they do not indicate an immediate health risk. Jack also circled back on questions about monitoring during the upcoming controlled rock blasting at the project site. He confirmed that Nicole Munczinski will be proactively conducting on-site monitoring on the first day of rock blasting activities, including the PS 183 boiler room and nearby building basements. He stressed that while adverse conditions are not anticipated, this monitoring reflects a proactive approach.

Old Business

Inquiries - MSK fielded 3 inquiries since the December CWG meeting. The following actions were taken in response:

- Reiterated the window upgrade and air purifier reimbursement process, including that landlords or owners may complete work on one or multiple units and that MSK does not perform the work. MSK provides reimbursement only. Tenants were encouraged to stay in touch with their landlord.
- Confirmed that no construction activities took place on site on December 23 that would be expected to generate particulate matter conditions, and outdoor monitor readings did not indicate any spike.
- Shared the website link for notes and recordings of past MSK Griffin Pavilion CWG meetings.

Questions and Answers

The following questions were raised during the meeting and answered as indicated.

- Looking at the six-week look-ahead, it appears there's no blasting scheduled until February 21st. Is that correct?

Rock blasting is currently scheduled to start closer to early March, and as previously communicated, there will not be any rock blasting on Saturdays.

- The sidewalk shed removal can get very loud, can the Saturday removal start after 9:00 AM?

Yes, we've accommodated this request before. We'll plan to start on 67th Street and then make our way toward 66th Street.

- The DEP has adopted amendments to the Citywide Construction Noise Mitigation Rules that will go into effect in April. When will you be looking at the logistics and what will this change mean for the residents?

The team is aware of the April implementation date and is monitoring the DEP website for guidance. MSK will comply with the new DEP requirements once they are available.

- During the last meeting, a third monitor on East 66th Street was mentioned. How does that affect readings?

The additional monitor will help us determine if particulate matter readings are coming from site activities or from external factors like wildfires.

- When will the third monitor on the east side be installed?

Current challenges include finding a stable location with reliable power. After the site fence extensions are complete, we will have an update on this.

- Can buildings install their own monitors?

Yes. Most buildings should already have monitors that detect carbon monoxide and nitrous oxide. Sensitive meters will also be used on site to proactively monitor levels.

- What should residents do if their carbon monoxide monitor goes off?

Residents should evacuate immediately and call 911. Do not assume it's safe; always take the alarm seriously.

- How will the surrounding community including those not participating in the Construction Working Group be informed about potential carbon monoxide and nitrous oxide exposure during rock blasting

Notifications of any on site exceedances are sent to building representatives through the Construction Working Group distribution lists and all meeting notes and recordings are publicly available on the project website.

- Can outdoor school activities such as outdoor recess continue safely during blasting?

Jack Glass from ALC Environmental confirmed that regular activities should be safe to continue.

- From the school's standpoint, there is concern about deliveries of explosive materials during peak arrival and dismissal times. How will these deliveries be coordinated to avoid those periods?

The travel path and unloading of explosive materials is tightly controlled by FDNY and has been part of all planning undertaken with FDNY. Generally, the 67th Street gate has remained closed during arrival and dismissal periods since the start of the project. Delivery timing, pathways, and gate access for all materials will continue to be carefully managed to avoid peak school activity and minimize exposure.

- Can hours of construction during the summer be adjusted to minimize impacts on residents?

Consideration will be given to the hours during the summer months.

Adjournment and Next Meeting

The next meeting is Thursday, February 26, 2026, at 8:30 a.m. For project updates, visit msk.org/GriffinPavilionConstruction, email communityaffairs@mskcc.org, or call the construction hotline at 212-639-4444.