



Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

Meeting Notes

Meeting: MSK Kenneth C. Griffin Pavilion Construction Working Group (CWG) Meeting
Date: July 16, 2026
Location: Zoom and Zuckerman Research Center, Room 136

Attendees: **MSK Project Team**
CWG Co-Chair Shakima Grant, Senior Community Programs Manager, Community Engagement & Health Equity (CEHE)
CWG Co-Chair Daquan Sisco, Senior 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
Charles Maggio, Project Executive, Turner & Townsend
Shelly Friedman, MSK Land Use Counsel, Friedman & Gotbaum
Henry Kearney, Senior Vice President, Air Quality, AKRF
Kenny Mui, Vice President, Construction Analysis, AKRF

Community Representatives
Tasha Edmead, NYC Department of Education
Mary Gera, 436 E 66th St
Jack Glass, ALC Environmental
Laura Jackson, 438 E 66th St
Alex Kogan, Rockefeller University
James Rogers, Rockefeller University
Anat Rosenberg, F.A.C.T.
Judy Schneider, East Sixties Neighborhood Association
Gregg Wolpert, Stahl Organization (1213 York Ave)
Martin Woodard, P.S. 183

Observers
Daniel Egers, Community Member

Invitees not in Attendance: Kemi Babagbemi, Community Member
Lisa Barnhart, Community Member
Shean Buissereth, 404 E 66th St
Yasmina Caleo, F.A.C.T.
Evan Calero, 435 E 65th St
Rev. Stefan, Chanas, Church of St. John Nepomucene
Julie Clarke, P.S. 183 PTA
Jaishree Capoor, 404 E 66th St
Rande Coleman, 404 E 66th St
Richard Czaja, Stahl Organization (1213 York Ave)

Andrea Dawes, NYC Department of Education
William Dessoify, 400 E 67th St (The Laurel)
Marianne Dziuba Fiore, Stahl Organization (1213 York Ave)
Courtney Ferrissey, NY State Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright's Office
Harry Gale, NYC Council Member Julie Menin'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
Ian McKnight, Community Board 8
Julie Menin, NYC Council Member Julie Menin's Office
Nicole Munczinski, ALC Environnemental
Ethan Nachmani, NY State Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright's Office
Celeste Royo, Manhattan Borough President's Office
Melanie Russo, P.S. 183 PTA
Carolyn Ruvkun, NYC Council Member Julie Menin's Office
Sowaibah Shahbaz, Manhattan Borough President's Office
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
Myishia Taylor-Myke, NYC Department of Education
Mary Thomas, 404 E 66th St
Jochen Weber, 404 E 66th St

Welcome, Meeting Goals, and Format

Shakima Grant welcomed the Construction Working Group (CWG) members and observers, then briefly shared the meeting 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

Daquan Sisco provided an overview of the six-week construction lookahead with the following key updates: Excavation and chopping are ongoing activities. The team anticipates excavation to conclude by the end of August. The team has not yet encountered any rock hard enough to require blasting.

Site fence modifications for 66th Street material removal will begin the week of July 20. Thomas Drumm explained that a larger footprint is needed to excavate the last area in the southeast corner of the site. The site fence on the corner of 66th and York will be modified daily during working shifts, moving it out into the temporary pedestrian walkway from York Avenue to approximately where the fire hydrant is located. The north side pedestrian walkway on 66th Street will be closed during working shifts, with flag personnel directing pedestrians. At the end of each working shift, the fence will be restored to reopen the pedestrian walkway. This will continue every working day until excavation is finished.

Foundation work including waterproofing, rebar, and formwork is happening concurrently with chopping. Work to relocate the traffic lights on York Avenue was confirmed for the week of July 13, with additional weekend work scheduled for forthcoming weeks.

Three mat pours have been completed so far, all from the 67th Street side of the site. Pouring will continue from the 67th Street side until they reach approximately halfway across. Some smaller pours will continue during the day, but the larger Pavilion floor pours are harder to break up and will require longer pour times.

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

Air Quality Report

Daquan shared air quality readings from 6/18/26 through 7/15/26. Monitor 1 on East 67th Street recorded a high reading of 46 on the PM10 scale. Monitor 2 recorded an isolated high reading of 145 on the PM10 scale on July 9, lasting approximately 12 minutes, while masonry work was taking place in close proximity to the monitor. He noted that the reading dropped quickly afterward, and data collected before and after the event was consistent with normal site activity. Monitor 1 showed low readings during the same timeframe, confirming the event was isolated. Monitor 3, located on York Avenue within the site, experienced a few data interruptions that have since been resolved. Most of the data was successfully captured, with a high reading of 48.3 on the PM10 scale.

The team noted that within the last 24 hours, all three monitors showed increasing readings due to smoke from the Canadian wildfires impacting air quality throughout New York City.

ALC Environmental Update

Jack Glass from ALC Environmental reported that he did not receive any inquiries from the community. Jack noted that air quality monitors are expected to show increased activity over the coming days due to smoke from the Canadian wildfires.

Old Business

Inquiries - MSK fielded 5 inquiries since the June CWG meeting. The following actions were taken in response:

- Concrete Pours - Shared the anticipated mid-July start for overnight concrete pours and reiterated that 48-hour advance notices will be provided. Confirmed that there are no planned traffic impacts or closures on 67th Street related to the pours. Noted that the concrete pour

logistics presentation is available on the website within the CWG May meeting notes and recording.

- Current Phase of Construction - Confirmed that active below-grade excavation is underway with noise mitigation measures in place. Shared the anticipated schedule for excavation through August 31, 2026, and foundation work through Q2 2027, and directed the neighbor to the online construction timeline and six-week lookahead for ongoing updates.

CWG Questions and Answers

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

- When was chopping supposed to end?

The team had forecasted mechanical excavation (chopping) to go through the end of August. At the last CWG meeting there was a discussion about blasting potentially concluding in July, but thus far rock conditions have not required blasting. The team is approximately one to two weeks away from making an official determination on whether blasting will be required.

- Why have mat pours been occurring during the day instead of at night?

The team has been trying to complete as many pours as possible during daytime hours.

- What is the loudest noise during concrete pours?

The loudest noise during concrete pours is typically from cement trucks, particularly the OSHA-mandated beeping sound when they back up.

- Will there be 48-hour notice before evening concrete pours?

Yes, residents will receive notice 48 hours in advance of each concrete pour with specific information about the date.

- What is the status of the building's exterior glass selection regarding reflectivity?

The final exterior skin has not been finalized yet. Reflectivity is an important factor in the selection process, with the goal of minimizing reflection as much as possible.

Adjournment and Next Meeting

The next meeting is Thursday, August 20, 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.