



Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

Meeting Notes

Meeting: MSK Kenneth C. Griffin Pavilion Construction Working Group (CWG) Meeting
Date: August 20, 2026
Location: Zoom and Zuckerman Research Center, Room 138

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
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
Erin Stolz, Senior Technical Director, Environmental Health and Safety, AKRF

Community Representatives

Yasmina Caleo, F.A.C.T.
Tasha Edmead, NYC Department of Education
Rachel George, 400 E 67th St (The Laurel)
Mary Gera, 436 E 66th St
Jack Glass, ALC Environmental
Alex Kogan, Rockefeller University
Ian McKnight, Community Board 8
Judy Schneider, East Sixties Neighborhood Association
Myishia Taylor-Myke, NYC Department of Education
Jochen Weber, 404 E 66th St

Observers

Jaishree Capoor, 404 E 66th St
Bridgette Fussman, Community Member
Ali Ryan, Community Member

Invitees not in Attendance:

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

Julie Clarke, P.S. 183 PTA
 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)
 Daniel Egers, Community Member
 Courtney Ferrissey, NY State Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright's Office
 Harry Gale, NYC Council Member Julie Menin's Office
 Sarra Hale, NY State Senator Liz Krueger's Office
 Laura Jackson, 438 E 66th St
 Kyle Kolich, P.S. 183
 Valerie Mason, 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
 James Rogers, Rockefeller University
 Anat Rosenberg, F.A.C.T.
 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
 Mary Thomas, 404 E 66th St
 Gregg Wolpert, Stahl Organization (1213 York Ave)
 Martin Woodard, P.S. 183

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 current status of the site, which includes ongoing excavation and foundation activities. As previously communicated via email to Construction Working Group members, excavation has progressed far enough to determine that blasting would not be needed. Foundation work including waterproofing, rebar, and formwork continues and will extend through Q2 of 2027.

Daquan reviewed the six-week construction lookahead with the following key updates: The site fence modification on 66th Street for material removal has been completed. The week of August 12, one of the three large excavators dedicated to rock chopping was removed from the site. The remaining excavator supports foundation work and chopping out the last bit of rock in the southeast corner. Rock chopping is now sporadic, and excavation is expected to be completed by the end of August.

Traffic light relocation work on York Avenue corners is nearing completion, with the remaining work targeted for the week of August 30th.

Two early morning concrete mat pours have been completed so far. In response to previously expressed concerns regarding the forecasted 13-hour 6:00 pm to 7:00 am overnight pours, Turner Consigli has devised a series of smaller pours wherever possible that will reduce the hours required outside normal work hours from 13-hours to four-hours (3:00 am to 7:00 am). The next forecasted pour, the largest pour to date at nearly 1,000 yards of concrete, is scheduled for the week of August 23. For the first time, pumps will be set up on both 67th and 66th Street. Going forward, the future pours will primarily be set up on 66th Street.

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 7/16/26 to 8/19/26, noting that all monitors showed readings within acceptable thresholds. Monitor 1 on East 67th Street recorded a high of 32 on the PM10 scale. Monitor 2 on East 66th Street recorded a high of 21 on the PM10 scale. Monitor 3 on York Avenue inside the site recorded a high of 77 on the PM10 scale.

ALC Environmental Update

Jack Glass from ALC Environmental participated in the meeting. He reported that he had not received any inquiries from the community that needed to be addressed this month. Jack noted that ALC will be reducing the amount of time spent on site monitoring for VOC levels from two days a week to one day a week. However, ALC will continue to provide the same level of availability for community members to reach out with any questions or concerns.

Old Business

Inquiries - MSK fielded 2 inquiries since the July CWG meeting. The following actions were taken in response:

- **Project Updates** - Shared the anticipated excavation schedule through 8/31/26, with noise mitigation measures in place, and foundation work through Q2 2027. Directed the neighbor to the online construction timeline and 6 week lookahead for ongoing updates and confirmed information for the Construction Working Group meetings.

CWG Questions and Answers

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

- Why can't concrete pours run from 7:00 AM to 10:00 PM instead of 4:00 AM to 5:00 PM?

As previously stated at the May meeting, the need for overnight pours arise primarily from the shorter travel times concrete trucks must travel at night. Once concrete trucks are filled at the batch plant, they have limited time to reach the site and unload. The early start gets trucks to the site before the morning rush hits and provides certainty the pour will finish on schedule. Another factor contributing to the City-wide practice of nighttime pours, especially during summer months, is lower nighttime temperature, which is critical to the structural integrity of the concrete as it cures in place.

- Why are alternative dates included in the 48-hour concrete pour notifications, and what factors determine which date will be used?

Alternative dates are included to account for permitting and weather conditions, which are outside the team's control. The first date listed in the notification is the planned date for the pour, and the backup date will only be used if weather or permit issues require a change.

- Can future notifications confirm which specific date the concrete pour will occur on?

Yes, the team will work on providing more specific information in future notifications to confirm which date the pour will occur on.

- Can the 48-hour notices include more specific details like the number of trucks?

Yes, if the number of trucks is helpful information, the team will include that in future notifications.

- Are the permits covering both potential pour dates?

Yes, the permits cover both dates communicated.

- Does DOB and DEP provide approval for the pours?

Yes, the DOB approves the AHV allowing overnight work, and the DEP approves the Alternative Noise Mitigation Plan requested in the AHV application.

- Is budget the reason MSK is reducing ALC's on-site presence from twice a week to once a week?

A budget was established for the life of the job. The hours were front-loaded at the beginning of the project, knowing that demolition and excavation phases would involve closer monitoring for air, sound, and vibration. The expectation was always to reduce on-site hours at this milestone so that ALC can be involved for the entire five-year life of the project. ALC will still have a recurring site presence and community advisement services will remain unaffected.

- Has there been any progress on plans for plantings around the various buildings?

Not yet. This will be reassessed next year.

- Has there been any development on the plans for gas deliveries to the Pavilion?

Late next year, once measurements can be taken from the actual structure, MSK will work with the vendor to develop a specific logistics plan for the post-2030 condition.

Adjournment and Next Meeting

The next meeting is Thursday, September 17, 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.