



Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

Meeting Notes

Meeting: MSK Kenneth C. Griffin Pavilion Construction Working Group (CWG) Meeting
Date: September 17, 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
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.
Yania Campbell, NYC Council Member Julie Menin's Office
Julie Clarke, P.S. 183 PTA
Tasha Edmead, NYC Department of Education
Rachel George, 400 E 67th St (The Laurel)
Mary Gera, 436 E 66th St
Jack Glass, ALC Environmental
Laura Jackson, 438 E 66th St
Ian McKnight, Community Board 8
Ethan Nachmani, NY State Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright's Office
Judy Schneider, East Sixties Neighborhood Association
Jochen Weber, 404 E 66th St
Gregg Wolpert, Stahl Organization (1213 York Ave)
Martin Woodard, P.S. 183

Observers

Jaishree Capoor, 404 E 66th St
Daniel Egers, 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
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
Bridgette Fussman, Community Member
Harry Gale, NYC Council Member Julie Menin's Office
Sarrah Hale, NY State Senator Liz Krueger's Office
Alex Kogan, Rockefeller University
Kyle Kolich, P.S. 183
Valerie Mason, Community Board 8
Julie Menin, NYC Council Member Julie Menin's Office
Nicole Munczinski, ALC Environnemental
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
Ali Ryan, Community Member
Sowabiah 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

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 foundation activities. Ryan Kiefer noted that rock chopping has been fully completed, and the equipment has been removed from the site, marking a major milestone as this is considered one of the most disruptive activities over the life of the job.

Daquan reviewed the six-week construction lookahead with the following key updates:

Memorial facade probes are scheduled for Saturday, September 19th. This is investigative work needed to support the future bridge connection to the building. In addition, a mobile crane will be set up on 67th Street during the weeks of October 4 and October 11 to support foundation wall construction. The crane will remain inside the site fence and will not affect sidewalks or street traffic.

Foundation work including waterproofing, rebar, and formwork continues. The team has finished excavation and is close to completing the bottom mat slabs. The next phase will involve working north to south across the site to install foundation walls and basement floor slabs up to street level.

Three early morning concrete mat pours remain scheduled for September 18, and the weeks of September 27 and October 5. These represent the last three scheduled early morning foundation mat slab pours. The team is working to complete any additional foundation pours without requiring early start or overnight pours if possible.

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 8/20/26 to 9/16/26, noting that all monitors showed readings within acceptable thresholds. Monitor 1 on East 67th Street recorded a high of 36 on the PM10 scale. Monitor 2 on East 66th Street recorded a high of 33 on the PM10 scale. Monitor 3 on York Avenue inside the site recorded a high of 32 on the PM10 scale.

ALC Environmental Update

Jack Glass from ALC Environmental reported that he had received two inquiries since the August meeting. The first inquiry concerned concrete pours. Jack requested to review the Safety Data Sheet for the concrete materials as soon as practical.

The second inquiry related to potential health impacts from welding and metal cutting work. Jack explained that metal fumes from welding are not likely to produce adverse exposure outside the immediate work area. However, particles may produce unpleasant odors that could reach neighboring properties. Jack emphasized that while the odors may be unpleasant, they do not constitute an unhealthy exposure. Jack confirmed that ALC will continue to monitor air quality and encouraged community members to email him with any concerns.

Old Business

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

- **Project Updates:** Shared that major rock excavation was completed on September 9, and no further full-day efforts are anticipated, although minor, intermittent work may be required through the week of September 14.

- Noise Mitigation: Reiterated that all remedies to mitigate noise during construction are being exercised in addition to following all protocols while operating within the limits of city regulations.
- Crossing Guards: Confirmed that crossing guards will be in place during arrival and dismissal to assist families throughout the school year.

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 communicated during the May CWG meeting, concrete pours begin at 4:00 AM because, once loaded at the Brooklyn batch plant, trucks have a limited window to reach the site and unload. The early start allows trucks to arrive before the morning rush and helps ensure that no trucks enter or exit the site during P.S.183's morning drop-off periods. While extending work later into the evening would overlap with rush-hour conditions. The 4:00 AM start provides the best opportunity to complete these time-sensitive pours safely and on schedule.

- Why can't the early morning concrete pours be scheduled on Saturdays instead of weekday mornings?

The construction team has assessed all potential timing options for these pours. Given the logistical challenges associated with an effort of this scale, they have recommended the dates noted to help ensure the work can be completed successfully.

- Are the decibel levels from the concrete pours exceeding the 70-decibel threshold listed on the after-hours permit?

Required noise monitoring is in place, and the team is providing live data to DEP.

- When will welding activities begin, and how will they impact the community?

Welding occurs throughout the project and is typically a localized activity with a welder and fire watchman overseeing work for fire safety purposes. The odor from welding dissipates within approximately a 10-foot radius of the activity. As the work progresses from below street level to above street level, the team will highlight when work is in that zone and monitor for any impacts.

- What is the status of gas deliveries to Rockefeller?

The team has been working with the gas vendor to address timing concerns. The current target window for deliveries is 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM, with ongoing efforts to make deliveries as early as possible within that window. The team has also addressed issues where delivery trucks with surplus from other locations were making opportunistic drop-offs at Rockefeller and has instructed the vendor that only scheduled Rockefeller deliveries should occur.

Adjournment and Next Meeting

The next meeting is Thursday, October 15, 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.