

# MORNINGSIDE HEIGHTS COMMUNITY COALITION

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## **ELECTED OFFICIALS JOIN MORNINGSIDE HEIGHTS ADVOCATES VOWING TO HOLD DEVELOPERS TO ACCOUNT FOR CONSTRUCTION ABUSES**

### ***TOWN HALL MEETING CALLS FOR TOUGH ENFORCEMENT, MORE LEGAL PROTECTIONS FOR COMMUNITIES AS OUT-OF-CONTEXT TOWERS RISE***

**Wednesday, October 24, 7pm**  
**Corpus Christi Church, 529 West 121<sup>st</sup> Street, east of Broadway**  
**For Immediate Release:**  
**Town Hall Meeting – Safe or Sorry**

Concerned Morningside Heights residents and stakeholders will gather on **Wednesday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, at 7 pm**, for a Town Hall Meeting to develop strategies for holding developers accountable to our community. With two height-breaking towers currently under construction on the same street, and more to be built, Morningside Heights residents are concerned about construction violations. With heavy construction vehicles speeding past our public schools and early childhood centers, along with air-borne debris and diesel fumes and cement spills, our most vulnerable citizens are at a highly increased risk for tragic accidents.

Members of the **MHCC Health and Safety Committee** have documented many of these violations and will be making a presentation to community members. While our local institutions are making huge profits by selling property and “air rights,” and enabling outsized luxury apartment towers, community residents are demanding that developers ensure our safety -- until Morningside Heights can be rezoned to protect itself from luxury overdevelopment and increased stress on existing city systems.

Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer, Councilmember Mark Levine, State Assembly Member Daniel O’Donnell, and State Senator Brian Benjamin have all been invited and are expected to speak at the event.

“There is no excuse for dangerous construction practices. We are coming together this evening to make sure that our community is safe and that the workers who work on the various sites are safe. We are all responsible for one another,” said Laura Friedman, President of MHCC.

Ms. Friedman went on to say, “Because of what we are experiencing and witnessing at these worksites we are asking our local city officials to convene a citywide hearing on Zero Risk Tolerance on the violation of regulations and laws which govern how work must be done at a construction site and in the communities which surround them. Where there are missing regulations, we seek to create new law, so that all communities are safe.”

The Morningside Heights Community Coalition is a group of Morningside Heights tenants, co-ops, organizations, business owners, and other residents who have come together to ensure that future development in Morningside Heights is sustainable, contextual, and does not displace existing residents and businesses.

**For more information:** <https://morningsideheightscommunitycoalition.com>