



# Community Board 12

## The City of New York

### Borough of Queens

Jamaica, Hollis, St. Albans, South Ozone Park, and Springfield Gardens  
90-28 161st Street, Jamaica, New York 11432 ▪ (718) 658-3308 ▪ Fax (718) 739-6997 ▪ [qn12@cb.nyc.gov](mailto:qn12@cb.nyc.gov)  
[www.nyc.gov/qcb12](http://www.nyc.gov/qcb12)

DONOVAN RICHARDS  
*Borough President*

REV. CARLENE O. THORBS  
*Chairperson*

MARICELA CANO  
*Director of Community Boards*

YVONNE REDDICK  
*District Manager*

March 15, 2023

Matthew C. Fraser  
Chief Technology Officer  
NYC Office of Technology & Innovation  
2 MetroTech Center, P1  
Brooklyn, NY 11201

Nicole Garcia  
Queens Borough Commissioner  
NYC Department of Transportation  
120-55 Queens Boulevard., Room 285  
Queens, NY 11424

#### **RE: Disapproval of New or Additional LinkNYC Kiosks and Towers within Queens Community District 12**

Dear CTO Fraser and Borough Commissioner Garcia:

At the general meeting of Queens Community Board 12 held on March 15, 2023, the board passed the following resolution by a vote of 0 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions:

**WHEREAS**, The City of New York through its Office of Technology and Innovation (OTI) commissioned CityBridge to install and operate a citywide wireless telecommunications network, commonly referred to as LinkNYC; and

**WHEREAS**, The LinkNYC network was designed so that telecommunication kiosks and/or towers would supersede the now defunct public pay phones using the existing telecommunication lines rather than install new infrastructure; and

**WHEREAS**, LinkNYC was intended to provide free wireless internet connectivity (Wi-Fi), mobile device charging, and emergency calls to the public using kiosks and/or towers placed on sidewalks throughout NYC, many of which include electronic display screens; and

**WHEREAS**, as of February 28, 2023, the catchment area of Queens Community District 12 currently has 275 mobile telecommunication reservation pole locations, according to the City of New York's Open Data website, <https://data.cityofnewyork.us/City-Government/Mobile-Telecommunications-Franchise-Pole-Reservati/tbgj-tdd6>; and

**WHEREAS**, Queens Community District 12 constituents/residents have reported adverse impacts resulting from existing the LinkNYC infrastructure; including light pollution, insufficient sidewalk clearances, as well as potential physical health and cyber security risks; and

**WHEREAS**, the light pollution endangers the reproductive processes of the endemic moth population and other nocturnal animals; and

**WHEREAS**, CityBridge is in the midst of upgrading the LinkNYC network from 4G to 5G to accommodate greater broadband capacity and associated features common in current mobile communication devices; and

**WHEREAS**, the LinkNYC 5G infrastructure are primarily 32' tall towers which are installed on sidewalks in the public right-of-way; and

**WHEREAS**, 5G mobile technology has greater signal intensity over shorter distances which require further installation of kiosks and towers to provide similar coverage to its 4G predecessor; and

**WHEREAS**, currently there is insufficient study and information on the potential long-term health impacts continuous exposure to 5G signals/ radiation on humans and animals that reside and/or work adjacent to 5G infrastructures, we the members of Queens Community Board 12 are opposed to the further installation of LinkNYC kiosks and towers; and therefore be it resolved

**RESOLVED**, that Queens Community Board 12 (CB12) disapproves the proposed installation of the 11 LinkNYC kiosks/towers presented at the transportation committee meeting held on March 14, 2023; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that CB12 requests that a moratorium be placed on the addition or installation further mobile telecommunication kiosks, towers, and poll locations, until conclusive data can be found showing little to no adverse health risks to humans, fauna, and flora.