

Contact us!

New to CASA?

Call our office at
718-716-8000 ext 217

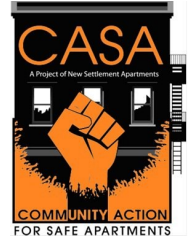
Our Offices

35 Marcy Place (on the
corner of Walton)

Mailing Address

1512 Townsend Ave
Bronx, NY 10452

CASA News



www.casapower.org

July-December 2017

Upcoming dates

JAN 4 6-8PM	Rezoning Meeting @ 1501 Jerome Ave
JAN 16 6-8PM	Housing Court Meeting @ 35 Marcy Place
JAN 18 6-8PM	CASA General Meeting @ 1501 Jerome Ave
JAN 25 6-8PM	No More MCI Coalition @ 35 Marcy Place
JAN 27 11AM-2PM	Workshop Section 8 @ 35 Marcy Place
FEB 1 6-8PM	Rezoning Meeting @ 1501 Jerome Ave
FEB 15 6-8PM	CASA General Meeting @ 1501 Jerome Ave
FEB 20 6-8PM	Housing Court Meeting @ 35 Marcy Place
FEB 22 6-8PM	No More MCI Coalition @ 35 Marcy Place
FEB 24 11AM-2PM	Workshop Housing Court @ 35 Marcy Place
MAR 1 6-8PM	Rezoning Meeting @ 1501 Jerome Ave
MAR 15 6-8PM	CASA General Meeting @ 1501 Jerome Ave

Tenants Fill Hearings, Dozens Testify to Stop Jerome Ave Plan



Rezoning March on Jerome Ave

City Moves Plan Ahead

On August 21st, the City certified and expanded the Jerome Avenue plan ULURP process while also increasing the rezoning area to 92 blocks. Only days prior, hundreds of tenants and workers marched down Jerome Ave to say NO to the plan because it does not benefit the people of the Bronx!

Tenants Pack Hearings

Hundreds of tenants and workers marched from the Bronx Supreme Court to the Com-

munity Board 4 & 5 hearing on October 4th and testified for hours demanding real affordability and local hire. On November 2, over 70 tenants and workers testified at the Bronx Borough President's Hearing warning of how rezonings in other boroughs caused massive displacement. Community members packed the City Planning Commission on November 29th testified for hours.

No Harassment and Workers Safety Wins

As part of our demands, City Council passed a Certificate of No Harassment requiring landlords to get a certificate proving they have not harassed tenants in 5 years before being allowed to do construction. We also won legislation helping create a safer work sites and RTC! We've won a lot!

Contact Sheila 718-716-8000 ext 125 or s.garcia@newsettlement.org to get involved!

The Fight Ahead

The City is moving forward with the same plan which will be voted on early next year. At our November meeting, members voted on new priorities to help us win real affordable housing, anti-displacement policies, good jobs and local hire, and real community participation. This year is an incredibly important year for us to fight even harder to make sure the plan works for us!



Bronx Borough President's Hearing

Right to Counsel is Now NYC Law!

After thousands of tenants fought for years for Right to Counsel to fight eviction and get justice in Housing Court, we won!



City Council vote on RTC Contact Pablo 718-716-8000 ext 243 or p.estupinan@newsettlement.org to get involved!

Tenants and advocates from the Right to Counsel Coalition joined CASA at City Council on July 27th to witness history as City Council voted nearly unanimously for Right to Counsel. On August 11th, Mayor de Blasio signed Right to Counsel into NYC law here in the Bronx to commemorate the hard work of Bronx tenants to make this moment possible.



RTC Bill Signing in the Bronx

Now that we won this important and ground-breaking new right for tenants, we need to make sure is implemented well to create real justice!

Building Highlights

Tenants at 215 E 165th St Take the Lead

After attending CASA's annual Tenants Rights Night in August, tenants from 215 E 164 Street formed a Tenants' Association. They're building their power by sending letters to their landlord and applying for a building-wide Rent Reduction. Tenant leaders have built their skills and are leading efforts to do outreach to their neighbors, facilitating at TA meetings, and testifying at Rezoning Hearings and meetings with HPD.



923 Walton Ave TA Ramps Up Pressure

Tenants at 923 Walton Ave increased their participation and built their power through organizing a Tenants Association. Over past few month they have completed a opposition to an MCI, wrote two letters to management demanding repairs, and began the process of an HP case.

911 Walton Ave TA Featured in El Diario

Since March 2017, 911 Walton Ave tenants wrote a letter demanding repairs, opposed an MCI, and responded to the management's responses. Recently, almost half the building signed onto an HP case and they held a press conference which got coverage in El Diario and the Bronx Times. Tenants are now planning a strategy with their neighbors from 923 Walton Ave to add pressure on their mutual landlord.



Predatory Landlords Beware

CASA and other members of the Stabilizing NYC Coalition helped pass legislation to create a watchlist of landlords who use predatory practices to target tenants. The list is part of the campaign to take on landlords who buy up buildings and aggressively push out tenants through harassment for financial motives. To take them on, CASA helped form a Bronx Tenant Union!



Stabilizing NYC Press Conference

Contact Hal 718-716-8000 ext 235 or h.bergold@newsettlement.org to get involved!

MCI Tenant Coalition Takes Demands to DHCR

Tenants from CASA and the Northwest Bronx Community and Clergy Coalition facing permanent monthly rent increases from Major Capital Improvements (MCIs) are joining forces to call for policy reforms at the state level. Landlords exploit the MCI system by harassing tenants, denying basic services and repairs, and then passing the cost of repairs to tenants forever!

The No More MCI's Tenant Coalition is made up of 18 buildings where 1,470 families reside who are collectively fighting over \$13.6 million in rent hikes.

The Coalition demands that DHCR, the New York State Division of Homes and Community Renewal, make immediate changes so initial notices are clear and understandable, documents are available in languages other than English, give more time for tenants to oppose MCIs, and make tenant consent a requirement among other policy reforms. On October 27, The Coalition met face to face with DHCR Executive Officials including Commissioner Ruthanne Visnauskas to share how MCI's are being



No More MCIs Tenant Coalition

used as a tool of displacement and present policy demands. To keep the pressure on, the Coalition is working on forming a city-wide alliance and host workshops to teach tenants how to fight back. Join us to demand real changes!

Contact Pablo 718-716-8000 ext 243 or p.estupinan@newsettlement.org to get involved!

Leadership Spotlight



CASA Leaders Team 2017-2018

The Leaders Team is the group of CASA members committed to building the power of tenants in the Bronx and to the growth and success of CASA. Meet the CASA Leaders Team for this year!

- ◇ Carmen Vega-Rivera
- ◇ Fitzroy Christian
- ◇ Jamiyl Brooks
- ◇ Lourdes de la Cruz
- ◇ Martina Rodriguez
- ◇ Michelle Genross
- ◇ Mildred Johnson
- ◇ Randy Dillard
- ◇ Ramon Catala
- ◇ Yoselyn Gomez

Social Media Corner

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