

NEW PERMANENT HOMELESS SHELTER SLATED FOR MURRAY HILL

December 1, 2020

KNOW THE FACTS

Coming to 118 East 40th Street near Lexington Avenue.

Secret deal struck between the Department of Homeless Services and the owners of The Renwick Hotel.

DPS plans to move 350 homeless clients and staff to Murray Hill December 15th.

OUR CONCERNS

The Murray Hill neighborhood is fully saturated with homeless shelters, many added in just the last few months. The city did nothing to notify or consult residents or businesses about its plan to convert the historic Renwick Hotel. (Formerly the Bedford, it was the home of John Steinbeck and F. Scott Fitzgerald.) A Community Board Six member admitted that there was no advance notice because “sometimes what happens when you give people time, they use time and money to fight these decisions.”

We are not heartless; Hotels are not a Home

All of us are aware, concerned, and compassionate about the homelessness crisis in NYC, and many of us volunteer to care for our homeless neighbors. But we are vehemently opposed to another large, permanent shelter in an area already heavily congested with homeless. These “unhoused” individuals have already overwhelmed the social services. Our civil servants deal with serious crime, drug use, loitering and other safety issues daily.

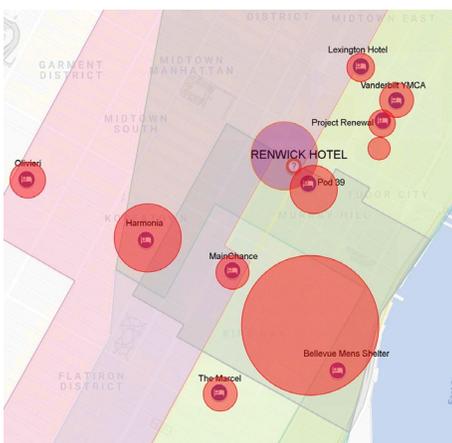
We have no information about whether the hotel’s plumbing, electric, elevators, fire exits, fire suppression systems, sewage and refuse disposal are up to code. The company contracted to manage the shelter, CORE, currently runs a smaller shelter in Far Rockaway—no info was provided on the relevant experience in a neighborhood in midtown Manhattan like Murray Hill.

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Map of Homeless Shelter Locations

Map showing current locations of homeless shelters in Murray Hill area. The size of the red circle around each location is proportionate to size of shelter population.

NOTE: Map does NOT show all the additional locations of hotels converted to homeless shelters due to Covid-19.



Existing Homeless Shelters

How NYC moves the homeless: No data. No info.
Just movin' the pieces.



Contact Us

Coalition to Save Murray Hill

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HOW YOU CAN HELP

1. Today, go to www.SaveMurrayHillNYC.org. On the “Learn More” page, you’ll find a list of public officials and others that you should contact with your questions and concerns. Please cc us at SaveMurrayHillNYC@gmail.com.

2. Please **share this information widely** with your neighbors and the boards and managing agents of your buildings. To be effective, please personalize your messages, but the important points are:

- The density of homeless shelters and public sites in the Murray Hill has already overwhelmed the area with serious crime, including felonies, and other safety issues.
- No current Fair Share information (a city requirement that shows the percentage of shelters, and other public facilities, in NYC neighborhoods) was provided to residents and businesses.
- There was no notification of the city's plans to open a new permanent shelter for over 170 families.

3. We are interviewing for **legal representation** to help us protect our neighborhood. Please let us know of any lawyer who might be willing to join the team.

4. For more information, we are posting regularly on [Twitter](#) at [@safe_hill](#).

COALITION TO SAVE MURRAY HILL

New York, NY 10016

Resident

New York, NY