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MANHATTAN BOROUGH PRESIDENT

MANHATTAN POLICE BARRICADE INSPECTION FINDINGS



The following survey of barricades at police precincts in Manhattan was undertaken by the Office of the Manhattan Borough President between July 27, 2020 and August 8, 2020. For each precinct, a detailed diagram of barricade locations exists.

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SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

At the time of the inspections:

- 19 of the 22 precincts in the Borough of Manhattan have barricades fully or partially blocking pedestrian traffic, vehicular traffic, or both.
- Barricades at precincts include steel “bike rack” barriers, wooden barriers, and strategically parked police vehicles.
- 10 precincts have barricades blocking pedestrian traffic: Precincts 1, 5, 6, 9, 13, 17, Midtown North, 20, 26, 33.
- 11 of the precincts have barricades blocking vehicular traffic: Precincts 1, 5, 6, 13, 17, Midtown South, Midtown North, 20, 26, 30, 33.
- 9 precincts had partial barricades on the street or the sidewalk: Precincts 7, 9, 10, Midtown South, 25, 28, 30, 32, 34.
- 7 of the precincts, at the time of inspection, had police stationed either outside the entrance or surrounding the barricades: Precincts 1, 9, 13, 17, Midtown South, Midtown North, and 25.
- The 1st Precinct is not blocked around the street leading to the Holland Tunnel (Ericsson Place), but there are barricades around the surrounding area.
- The barricades at the 30th Precinct caused a dangerous dead-end intersection.
- Many precincts have barricades around the entrance or have barricades around certain directions of the street but not others. For example, in the 17th Precinct, the east side of the street is heavily guarded while the west side has fewer barricades.
- There are two precincts with no barriers (19th and 23rd) and one in which the barriers do not interfere with or restrict traffic (24th).

1st Precinct - 16 Ericsson Place

Vehicle traffic was not blocked on Ericsson Place, which connects to an offramp of the Holland Tunnel, but there were barricades placed both around the precinct building itself and the surrounding streets. There were also barricades on both ends of Varick Street, between Beach and N. Moore Sts. There were also several police officers standing in front of the precinct itself. Vehicles were parked behind the barricades.



East-facing view of the Hudson & Ericsson Sts. intersection, which also serves as an exit point for traffic leaving the Holland Tunnel.



1st Precinct



South- and east-facing views of the Varick & Ericsson/Beach Sts. intersection, on the corner of which is where the 1st Precinct building is located.



North-facing view of Varick St., taken from the intersection of Varick & N. Moore Sts.

5th Precinct - 19 Elizabeth Street

Only pedestrians were allowed to pass through the section of Elizabeth St., between Canal and Bayard. Police vehicles and other vehicles were parked on both sides of the street behind the barricades.



South-facing view of Elizabeth Street and the 5th Precinct, taken from the northern side of the intersection of Canal and Elizabeth Sts. Note that at the other end of the street, there are nearly-identically placed barricades.

These barricades force pedestrians into the street.

6th Precinct - 233 West 10th Street

Vehicular traffic was allowed to pass through W 10th Street. Charles Street had barricades that effectively blocked traffic. Vehicles were parked behind the barricades.



East-facing view of W. 10th Street, taken from the intersection of W. 10th and Hudson Sts.



A west-facing view of W. 10th Street, taken from the intersection of W. 10th and Bleecker Sts.



A west-facing view of Charles Street, taken from the intersection of Charles and Bleecker Sts. Vehicles unable to pass.



East-facing view of Charles Street, taken from the intersection of Charles and Hudson Sts.

7th Precinct - 19 ½ Pitt Street

Barricades did not limit space on the sidewalk, but they limited street space at several points, including an additional block from the precinct.



Looking North into the entrance of Pitt Street from Grand Street. Barricades are set up a block away from the police station. The street is limited to one vehicle entering at a time. The sidewalk is mostly unaffected.



Barricades on Pitt Street Between Grand and Broome Street. The barricades remain off the sidewalk but limit the number of vehicles that can pass through the street at a time.



Facing the main entrance of the precinct on the corner of Pitt and Broome street. Barricades block off a part of the entrance but there is still adequate room for several people to enter. A few barricades are placed in seemingly random places.



Facing South into the entrance of Pitt Street from Delancey Street. Barricades block off a part of the sidewalk and limit space for vehicles to exit the street.



Looking east into Broome Street towards Pitt Street. A few barricades are lined up parallel to the street.

9th Precinct - 321 East 5th Street

There was a relatively small number of police vehicles in the vicinity. Police officers were only stationed at the precinct entrance.



Looking East into the entrance of 5th Street from 1st Avenue. Barricades are placed at the two corners, slightly blocking off part of the sidewalk, but effectively making no difference for vehicles.



In the distance, the entrance to the precinct is barricaded with one open space for entry. The barricades take up the majority of the sidewalk. Three officers were standing outside the entrance near the barricades.



Looking west into the entrance to 5th Street from 2nd Ave. Barricades are again slightly blocking the sidewalk entrance but have less effect on the vehicle traffic.

10th Precinct - 230 West 20th Street

Barricades semi-blocked the streets on the section of W. 20th Street between 7th to 8th Aves. Vehicle traffic was allowed to pass, and there were vehicles parked in front of the Precinct, with extra barricades placed in front (as represented in the diagram below).



West-facing view of W. 20th Street, taken from the intersection of W. 20th Street and 8th Avenue. Note that there is a nearly identical barricade orientation present on the other end, at the intersection of W. 20th Street and 7th Avenue.

13th Precinct - 230 East 21st Street

Barricades partially blocked off two streets: 20th and 21st, in the sections between 1st and 2nd Avenue. The entrance from 20th St. and 2nd Avenue are physically blocked, while officers are only watching the entrance from 20th Street and 1st Ave. The entrance from 21st Street and 1st Avenue is physically blocked, while officers are only watching the entrance from 21st and 2nd. Through traffic is not allowed, and only building residents may pass through after questioning. Our inspector witnessed a single vehicle occupied by a resident pass through 21st Street to park outside their residence. Pedestrians must first walk in the street to walk across. Police officers were stationed at all four street entrances in varying amounts



Looking East into 20th Street from 1st Avenue. Barricades are blocking the entrance into the sidewalk. Pedestrians must first walk into the street to walk across. Police officers are standing in the shade near the street corner.



Looking west into 20th street from 2nd Avenue. Barricades block the sidewalk entrance and traffic cones block the street entrance. Police officers stand watching.



Looking West towards the intersection of 1st Avenue & 21st Street. Barricades block the sidewalk entrance while a police vehicle blocks the street entrance.



Looking East towards the intersection of 21st Street and 2nd Avenue. Barricades block the sidewalk entrance. A police officer sits in a police vehicle near the corner.



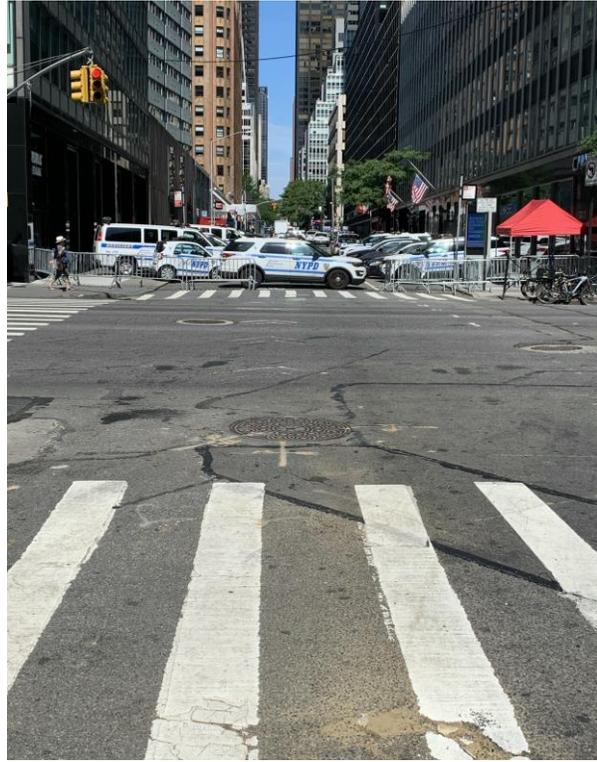
The main entrance to the police precinct on 21st Street. Barricades are placed in a seemingly random manner, not affecting foot or vehicle traffic at the entrance.



The back/vehicle entrance to the police precinct on 20th Street. Barricades are placed, but have no effect and seem to be for leaning. Otherwise, the entrance is clear.

17th Precinct - 167 East 51st Street

Precinct's east side is heavily guarded while the west side has no protection at all and also much less foot traffic.



East end of barricade, located at East 51st St. facing 3rd Avenue.



West end of Barricade, located on East 51st Street, facing Lexington Avenue.

Midtown North - 306 West 54th Street

The Midtown North Precinct was barricaded on the two bordering avenues.



Looking east from 54th and 9th Ave. The road is completely barricaded off by horizontal facing police vehicles and metal barriers.



Looking west from 54th St. and 8th Ave. This side had an array of barricades blocking any exit or entry onto the block or street.

Midtown South - 357 West 35th Street

Barricades and large police vehicles on West 35th Street. Police barricades near the Midtown South Precinct were only placed on the eastern end of the section of West 35th St. between 8th and 9th Avenues. Pedestrians were allowed in, but vehicular traffic was not. A police vehicle was placed in the middle of the street behind the barricades to block any westbound traffic on West 35th St. It is also of note that heavy construction, including the removal of a portion of the street, was taking place on the intersection of 9th Avenue and West 35th Street.



West-facing view of West 35th Street, taken from the eastern side of the intersection of West 35th St. and 8th Avenue.

19th Precinct - 153 East 67th Street

This police precinct had no barricades.



Middle of East 67th Street.



West end of the street, facing Lexington Avenue.

20th Precinct - 120 West 82nd Street

Barricades blocking the street and sidewalk at both ends along with some barricades around the police vehicles.



Looking east from 82nd and Amsterdam. Barricades fully block sidewalk access, forcing pedestrians to walk in the street and block vehicular traffic.



Looking west from 82nd St. and Columbus Ave.. There are some barricades that partially block off access to the sidewalk and street.

23rd Precinct - 164 East 102nd Street

The precinct had no barricades and was situated on the side of a very steep hill.



West end of the street. The photo was taken facing towards the precinct and 3rd Avenue.

24th Precinct - 151 West 100th Street

A few barricades were used around police vehicles on the street. There were no barricades outside of the parking area.



Looking west from 100th St. and Columbus Avenue. The street and sidewalks had no blockades.



Looking west from 100th and Columbus Avenue. The street and sidewalks had no blockades.



Barricades used to block off access to numerous police vehicles on the northeast side of the street.



View from 100th and Amsterdam looking east towards the precinct. As with the other side, the street and sidewalks had no barricades.

25th Precinct - 120 East 119th Street

The sidewalks are barricaded and guarded by officers but vehicles can pass through the streets. As with most others, this East Harlem precinct had most of its frontage protected with a half-sidewalk depth of barricades. Unlike most others, the barricade seemed to have a significant employee presence, with at least 3 officers standing at the barricade at all times. This may have been because of a shift change, or random chance.



Southeast corner of 119th and Park Ave., facing east.

South sidewalk is barricaded along the precinct frontage.



Entrance barricade, south side of 119th Street between Park and Lexington Ave, facing west.

26th Precinct - 520 West 126th Street

This precinct is barricaded on the sidewalks and vehicles are unable to pass through on West 126th Street and Amsterdam.



On the cross street of West 126th and West 129th St., there are barricades on the sidewalks, but an opening on the street to let vehicles through.



The entrance on W. 126th and Amsterdam is barricaded almost completely, making it difficult for pedestrians to walk through. The actual precinct is in the middle of the block. Public vehicles could not enter.



This picture was taken of the precinct building when the inspector walked through on the road and stood on the sidewalk. Nobody was stopping pedestrians from walking past the barricades.

28th Precinct - 2271-89 8th Avenue

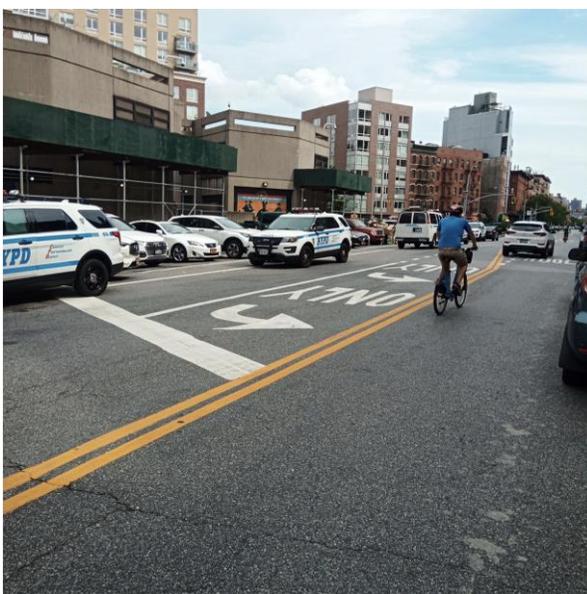
The entrance to the precinct is barricaded and the roads, bike lanes, and vehicle lanes are all blocked by police vehicles and personal police vehicles. This West Harlem precinct sits on a small triangular block all by itself. Much of the block is covered in sidewalk shed.

Both bike lanes on Saint Nicholas Ave. were completely parked full, but there was enough space left on the street for both directions of traffic to squeeze by.

The entrance on Frederick Douglass Blvd. was completely barricaded off, and not very active. The inspector saw no one entering or leaving the precinct during the time they were present.



Entrance barricades on the west side of Frederick Douglass Blvd, facing west.



Southwest corner of 123rd St. and St. Nicholas Ave., facing southeast. Bike lane and half of northbound travel lanes blocked by parked police vehicles.



Northwest corner of 122nd St. and Saint Nicholas Ave., facing north. Bike lane and half of the travel lane blocked in southbound direction by police personal vehicles.



West side of Frederick Douglass Blvd. between 123rd and 122nd Street, facing south. Police personal vehicles and sidewalk shed make for an uninviting precinct entrance, and narrow sidewalk

30th Precinct - 451 West 151st Street

This precinct had a small entrance barricade, but has de-facto closed its section of 151st street to any vehicular traffic. The street (151st) is one-way heading west from Convent to Amsterdam. On the eastern/Convent end, the street is fully closed to all but pedestrian traffic, on the Amsterdam end the barricades are not fully blocking the street, but 151 runs one-way out of the barricade. An interesting note for vehicles - at the intersection of 151 and Convent this creates a "dead end" trap for vehicles headed north on Convent Avenue. Drivers heading north on Convent Ave. end up at 151st St. and find that they can neither go right (one way wrong way) straight (one way wrong way) or left (police barricade). This forces them to do a 3-point u-turn on a narrow street.



Northeast corner of Amsterdam Ave. and 151st St., facing east. Street is halfway barricaded for traffic, but is also "one-way" towards the inspector (west), so a vehicle driving legally cannot enter here.



Entrance barricade. South side of 151st between Amsterdam Ave. and Convent Ave., facing north.



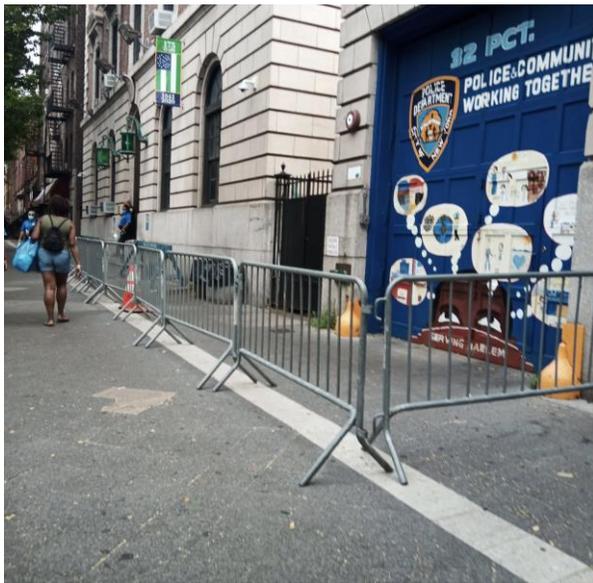
Southwest corner of 151st and Convent, facing northwest. Eastern barricade of 151st St. For vehicles driving north on Convent Ave., this barricade creates the "dead end" situation.

32nd Precinct - 250 West 135th Street

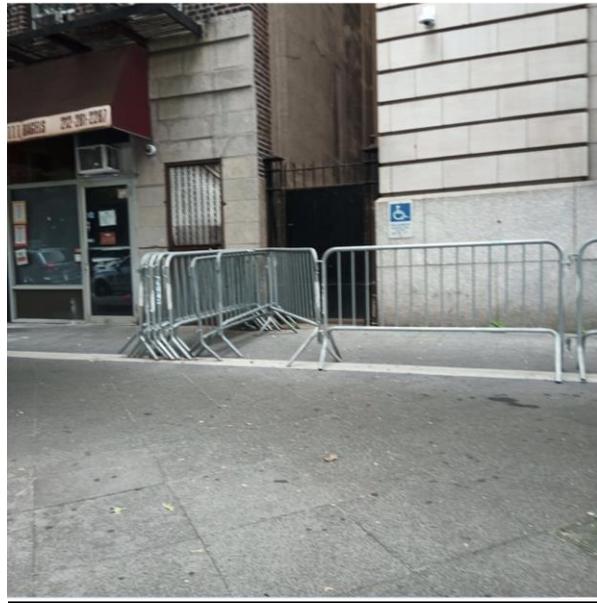
The precinct is almost completely barricaded and police vehicles are partially blocking pedestrian walkways. This Central Harlem precinct has a fairly extensive entrance barrier for its entire frontage, taking up about half of the sidewalk. More pedestrian space is also taken up by police personnel vehicles overlapping the sidewalk.



South Side of 135th St between Frederick Douglass Blvd. and Adam Clayton Powell Blvd., facing east. West end of barricade, police personnel vehicles parked on sidewalk, further restricting pedestrian space.



West end of barricade, second picture. South Side of 135th St between Frederick Douglass Blvd and Adam Clayton Powell Blvd., facing east.



East end of barricade, south side of 135th St. between Frederick Douglass Blvd. and Adam Clayton Powell Blvd., facing west.



Entrance barricade, south side of 135th St. between Frederick Douglass Blvd. and Adam Clayton Powell Blvd., facing south.

33rd Precinct - 2207 Amsterdam Avenue

This precinct has completely blocked vehicular access on 170th St. for most of its frontage. There is fencing to augment the existing bollards in front of its entrance. There is a 2-way bike lane which runs on 170th St. right by the precinct and is not blocked. Though some cars, perhaps police personal vehicles, are using the bike lane as a de-facto travel lane as the street is blocked off.



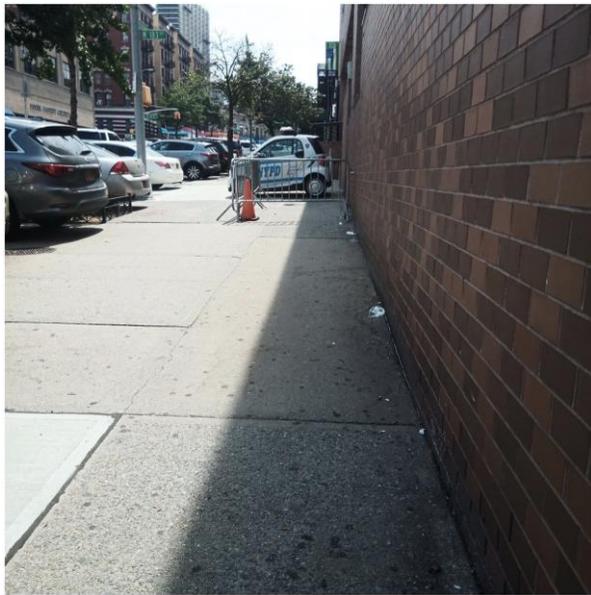
Looking towards the precinct from Amsterdam Ave.



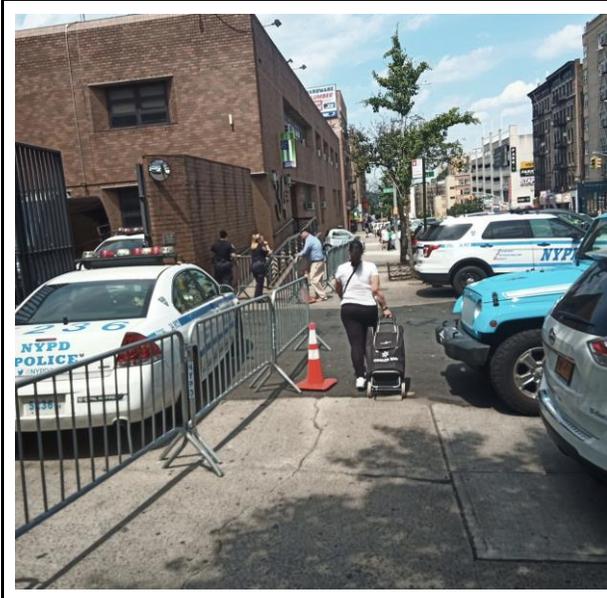
Police vehicles and barricades blocking vehicular traffic.

34th Precinct - 4295 Broadway

Police vehicles, wooden barricades and metal bike rack barricades block the precinct. This precinct is barricaded for nearly all of its sidewalk frontage with strategically-parked vehicles acting as barricades on either end of the fencing.



North end of barricade. West side of Broadway at 183rd St., looking south.



West side of Broadway between 182nd and 183rd, looking north. South end of barricade.