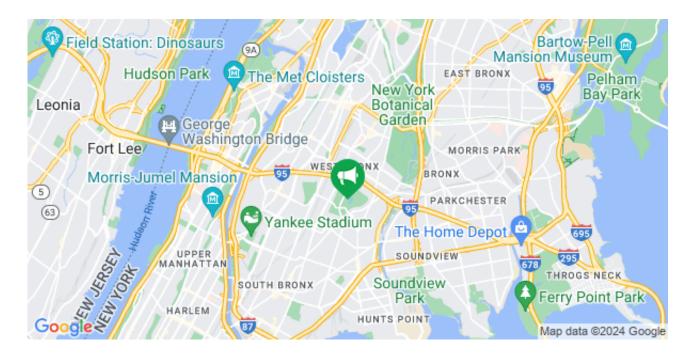


Protest





USA Tactical: Former President Trump to hold campaign rally at Crotona Park in New York City, NY on May 23, counter-protest slated by Democrat leaders, civil society activists; allot for disruptions

Current Situation

- Former President and presumptive Republican nominee for the 2024 presidential elections, Donald Trump, is slated to hold a campaign rally at Crotona Park in the Bronx, New York City, NY, from 18:00 (local time) on May 23.
- Trump's campaign has estimated around 3,500 people to participate in the rally, his first in the state since 2016.
- In response, local Democratic party members, including New York
 State Assemblymember Amanda Septimo, and activists associated with pro-immigration groups,
 civil rights organizations, and trade unions are slated to hold a counter protest, parallel to the
 Trump rally, at the intersection of Crotona Park East and Southern Boulevard outside the park from
 18:00 on May 23.
- The rally comes amid an ongoing criminal trial against Trump in the New York Supreme Court, in relation to alleged falsified business records to cover-up hush money payments ahead of the 2016 election. Final arguments in the ongoing trial are slated on May 28.



Assessments & Forecast

- 1. Based on the organizers' estimates and social media traction, Trump's rally is likely to witness a turnout in the low-to-mid thousands. Meanwhile, the counter-protest could likely draw a turnout between the high dozens to low hundreds, judging by social media traction.
- 2. Sentiments among the counter-protesters around the Trump rally are likely to be heightened, particularly over the ongoing criminal trial, Trump's stance on immigration perceived hardline, coupled with the fact that Hispanics constitute a 64 percent majority in the Bronx, which is a Democratic stronghold. Nevertheless, the gatherings are likely to transpire without major unrest given that the participation of mainstream political and activist groups is expected in both gatherings as opposed to fringe groups. However, verbal altercations between opposing groups and provocative sloganeering remains plausible, which could potentially lead to low-risk isolated scuffles.
- 3. A bolstered security presence can be expected near Crotona Park to monitor proceedings and divert traffic.
- 4. Moreover, disruptions to pedestrian and vehicular traffic can be anticipated in the vicinity of Crotona Park from evening hours onwards.

Recommendations

Those operating or residing in New York City, NY on May 23 are advised to allot for disruptions to vehicular and pedestrian traffic near Crotona Park due to the slated campaign rally and counter-protest from the evening hours.