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THE CITY OF NEW YORK
MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD SIX
211 EAST 43RD STREET, SUITE 1404
NEW YORK, NY 10017

**Manhattan Community Board Six
Land Use & Waterfront Committee
November 8th, 2018, 7:00 PM
NYU School of Dentistry, 433 1st Avenue, Room 220**

Meeting Minutes

Present: Sandro Sherrod (Chair), Adam Hartke (Vice Chair), Kathleen Kelly, Sandra McKee, Lawrence Scheyer, Ann Seligman, Lou Sepersky, Letty Simon, Kathy Thompson

Excused: Elaine Tai, Jim Collins, Terrance O'Neal, David Tsin

Guests: Claude L. Winfield (CB6), Molly Hollister (CB6), Gene Santoro (CB6); Further attendees included below.

Name	Affiliation
How Sheen Pau	Representative of New York City Department of Design and Construction
Eric Ilijevich	Representative of New York City Department of Design and Construction
Jeff Margolies	Representative of New York City Department of Design and Construction
Ian Michaels	Representative of New York City Department of Design and Construction
Fay Lee	Representative of New York City Department of Design and Construction
Mary Zilg	Resident of Community District 6
Robert Zilg	Resident of Community District 6
Mathew Staudt	Design Consultant, One Architecture
Roni Deitz	Consultant, Arcadis
Amy Chester	Director- Rebuild by Design
Stephen Holley	Environmental consultant to DDC on ESCR Project
Deborah Van Dermark	Representative of New York City Department of Design and Construction
Melissa Haldeman	Representative of New York City Department of Parks and Recreation

Lacy Shelby	Representative of a New York City Department of Transportation
Carrie Grassi	Representative of the Mayor's Office of Recovery & Resiliency
Andrew Hollweck	Representative of New York City Department of Design and Construction
Jeremy Siegel	Representative of a City/State agency (please specify in "Other" box);BIG
Douglas Friend	Representative of the ESCR design team
Zainab Kazmi	Representative of a City/State agency (please specify in "Other" box);ESCR
Gabrielle Dann-Allel	Representative of the Mayor's Office
Drew pecker	Resident of Community District 6
Tephany He	Work in the neighborhood
Christine Spatz Romero	Resident of Community District 3
Naomi Schiller	Resident of Community District 3
Jackson Fischer-Ward	Representative of Assembly Member Harvey Epstein
Courtney Loiacono	Representative of a City/State agency (please specify in "Other" box);OMB
Bailey	Representative of a City/State agency (please specify in "Other" box)
Ankita Nalavade	Work at a landscape design firm in Community District 3
Billie Cohen	Member of CB 3
Ben Jacobs	Representative of Council Member Keith Powers
Katherine Bonilla	Cardozo School of Law
Chelsea Gallay	Resident of Community District 6 (below)
Scott Williamson	Representative of a New York City Department of City Planning
Wendy byrne	Resident of Community District 6
Wendy Ho	Resident of Community District 6
Humberto Galarza	Representative of New York City Department of Environmental Protection
Bill Kenworthy	Urban Designer
Asher Baumrin	Representative of State Senator Brad Hoylman
Karen Imas	Waterfront Alliance
Autumn Visconti	BIG

Chair Sandro Sherrod called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. The meeting agenda and the minutes from the last meeting were adopted.

Committee Business

Agenda Item 1: Update on the [East Side Coastal Resiliency \(ESCR\)](#) Project
Jamie Springer of NYC DDC presented on East Coast Resiliency Project. See their presentation [here](#).

The changes presented are all in Community District 3, so this is just to keep us posted. There will be an early December meeting with more opportunity for input on what's affecting Community District 6, and the presentation will be available online. Should protect against 100-year flood plus three feet, and HUD requirements. Also aims to fulfill the community goals of protection of and access to waterfront.

Design changes, all in Project Area 1 in East River Park, are due to constructability issues around the FDR (nightly closures would be disruptive and cause the schedule to go on forever). Instead, the flood protection bulkhead will be at the water's edge (rather than at the FDR) and will essentially require reconstructing the Park to raise it eight feet. Gave examples at Delancey St. and East 10th St. Whole project completion by September 2023; 3.5 years of construction, a year earlier than previous design and with less disruption to FDR traffic.

Pinch point will also be addressed and is now part of this project. Flyover bridge is a likely possibility.

Project Area 2:

How Sheen Pau (project area 2), also assistant commissioner. Three affected areas in Community District Six: Murphy Bros. Playground, Stuyvesant Cove Park & Asser Levy Playground. (See presentation for details.)

Murphy Bros.: Will be behind floodwall, new entrances for both maintenance & users; stadium seating, and water/electric hookups so potential for comfort station.

Stuyvesant Cove Park: Managed by Solar One, who provided input in this plan. Flood protection provided by a series of gates & walls. Amphitheater seating, current ferry service also accommodated, bike path next to flood wall.

Asser Levy: Flood wall connects to VA flood protection, but a newly reconstructed Asser Levy playground is actually outside the wall (rec center is inside).

Timeline: Still in preliminary design. Next is draft EIS, which will trigger ULURP timeline, hopefully in spring 2019. Complete design in October 2019, start construction March 2020 and have flood protection in place by hurricane season of 2023.

Lots of community engagement; more interactive than this one. Next round of feedback & design to be completed by next spring (again, details in the presentation). Next steps will be working with Solar One & ferry operators for Stuyvesant Cove and incorporating feedback from last several years for all the locations, and working on flyover bridge design.

Questions/Comments:

- The committee felt strongly that the Stuyvesant Cove Ferry should be open throughout the ESCR construction. DDC recognized this as a concern but could not commit to that as a priority.
- A committee member asked why Project Area 2 differs from Project Area 1, specifically why project area 2 will utilize walls and gates while project area 1 is being raised. DDC replied that because of the coastal depth raising project area 2 would remove waterfront access and activities like those around SolarOne need to be at the water level.
- A committee member commented that Stuyvesant Town and Peter Cooper Village already have poor drainage and then asked if this project would worsen this issue. DDC replied that upland drainage improvements are a part of this project and that they would be working closely with utilities also.
- A committee member commented that there are some negative elements to this plan for bike path users: loss of view and bad air quality. DDC replied that they will consider both and are obligated to consider air quality.
- Ramp for flyover for pinch point? We'd prefer gradual increase to switchbacks. A: still early in process, but comments are welcome.
- Don't take anything out of service until you have the money to put it back. A: Yes, we're required to do that by law.
- A board member commented that a floodwall along the river obviates the point of a waterfront park. DDC commented that they're trying their best to balance flood protection and user experience in waterfront parks. The said that 21 of the gates in the floodwall will be open all the time—the wall design is more porous.
- A board member suggested that the design of the project should accommodate larger rises in sea level. DDC commented that the project is adaptable for the future.
- A board member commented that the ESCR floodwall should connect at 25th Street to the VA's existing flood wall. The current plan to connect at 24th Street will flood the park and funnel water directly to 1st Ave. Initially CB6 was told that connecting the ESCR flood wall at 25th Street was too expensive, but this new plan will cost orders of magnitude more, so that can't be the real reason.

- A board member commented that the construction timing overlaps with the L train shutdown. DDC replied that work near Stuyvesant Cove will not begin until the L Train work is complete
- A board member asked about the upcoming ESCR public meeting. DDC is still designing the meeting, have incorporated both general and specific feedback from previous meetings. There will be models, a rollout and several stations where we'll demonstrate how we've incorporated feedback so far.

Agenda Item 2:

Discussion of [NYS Assembly Bill A08779](#) on deterring bird collisions on construction sites.

This is a follow up to a previous discussion in April. Then it went to PSE, but now back to LU, since PSE has been disbanded. Just to clarify, this does not mandate specific techniques for developers/architects/contractors, etc. It only requires Dept. of Buildings to develop rules that would be implemented to reduce bird strikes. Cost was another consideration that was mentioned previously; in fact many of the design elements are cost-neutral or really inexpensive. Javits Center has gone from being a terrible offender in this case to being a safe space for birds.

Motion by Ann Seligman to adopt the reso, seconded by Kathy Thompson.

VOTE: 9 In favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstain 0 Not entitled

Chair's Report

Next month's meeting is on 12/10. EDC has tentatively scheduled a presentation on the East Midtown Greenway. There's also a public hearing because a ULURP application is likely to be certified by then for 245 East 53rd St., possibly to allow more retail. Our land use consultant is writing a memo and we'll get all the info in advance. There's a MBPO Land Use training on 12/4; if you're interested in attending sign up in advance.

Old/New Business

EDC made some changes in the number of operations at the heliport, or at least there were discrepancies between presentations, and there were some other issues as well, which Sandro will be following up on and hopefully they will be attending the December meeting.

Adjournment

Sandro Sherrod made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Letty Simon. Sandro Sherrod declared the meeting adjourned at 8pm.
Minutes submitted by: Ann Seligman