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

**Land Use & Waterfront Committee**  
**April 22, 2019 – 6:30 PM**  
**433 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue (NYU School of Dentistry), Room 210**

**Meeting Minutes**

Present: Sandro Sherrod (Chair), Adam Hartke (Vice Chair), Lawrence Scheyer, Ann Seligman, Lou Sepersky, Letty Simon, Kathy Thompson, Elaine Tai

Absent: Jim Collins, Sandra McKee, Kathleen Kelly

Guests: See table on pages 4-5

**Call to Order and Adoption of the Agenda/Previous Meeting's Minutes**

Sandro Sherrod called the meeting to order at 6:35pm.

Seeing no objection, the chair adopted the minutes from the March 25<sup>th</sup> meeting.

It was announced that Assemblymember Richard Gottfried would be attending the April 23<sup>rd</sup> CB6 Health and Education Committee meeting to discuss a proposal for a single-payer health system in New York State.

**Committee Business**

**1. Renewal Application for an Enclosed Sidewalk Cafe for PMC Corp doing business as The Abbey Tavern at 354 3rd Avenue with 8 Tables and 18 Chairs**

Management/ownership came to the meeting. No community members spoke for or against the application. The board office has received no complaints about the business. The café has been there since 1980, under the ownership of a relative of the current owner. It's an enclosed café, and meets the NYC requirements about adjacent sidewalk space, etc.

Lou Sepersky is writing a resolution of no objection.

**VOTE: 7 In favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstain 0 Not entitled**

## **2. Presentation on ULURP applications N 190356 ZRM & N 190357 PQM and Draft Environmental Impact Statement by the City of New York for the necessary land acquisitions and zoning changes required for the East Side Coastal Resiliency Project in Community District 6**

This ULURP application was certified on April 22<sup>nd</sup> (the day of the meeting). The NYC Department of City Planning anticipates a decision in November 2019. The likely date for a public hearing on the DEIS is July 31, but it has not been confirmed. The alternative impact analyses include both construction and operational impacts. Air quality both during construction and afterwards is considered, with mitigation alternatives, in the DEIS.

The CB6 Board Office has the presentation, which is hereby incorporated by reference. Most of the information below reflects clarifying Q&A, rather than the contents of the presentation. The emphasis of the discussion was on clarifying questions, and public comments were asked to be held until next month's Land Use & Waterfront Meeting (Tuesday, May 28<sup>th</sup>) which will include a public hearing on this topic. The presentation started with an overview of the project, its goals, geography and some of the infrastructure that is affected, from the bridges and pinch point to sports fields and other facilities.

Slide 35 outlines the key ULURP actions, including easement acquisitions, a zoning text amendment and city map changes.

One clarification about which there was quite a bit of discussion was the flyover bridge which will be built to eliminate the pinch point. It is fully funded, and footings will be constructed during the ESCR work, but is not scheduled to be completed until 2025, and that following an 18-month closure during which time pedestrians and cyclists would be rerouted over the 10<sup>th</sup> St. Bridge to Ave. C, rejoining at Murphy Bros. playground. This is of concern to the committee, at least, given that we have documentation of 1000 people/hour using that area at peak weekend times.

Another concern reiterated at the meeting is that the success of these floodwalls/gates will cause water to flow into and flood areas north and west of the protection, including major residential neighborhoods and both Bellevue and NYU Langone hospitals. The response (including a non-updated map) was that flooding in those areas would be the same as without these protections, i.e. a Sandy-level event would cause the same level of flooding. The models show that flooding would not be worsened by the changes. "This protection will not cause additional damage to non-protected areas."

The Asser Levy playground is not protected by the flood control wall, but will incorporate resilient features such as salt-water resilient plantings and fixture materials. A 70' gate will provide visibility from 23<sup>rd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> Streets.

Bus rerouting is part of the "Maintenance and Protection of Traffic (MPT) Plan.

The dimensions of the interceptor gate house are approximately 10'W X 50'L X 8-10'H. While it will be built on an island between traffic lanes, it is projected that public parking will be lost, both to permit access and to preserve parking for inspections. However, the frequency of those inspections is unknown, and the committee vociferously objected to a full-time loss of parking for inspections that may take only a few hours a month or less.

The wall protecting the Veterans Administration hospital will meet the same flood protection criteria as the rest of the ESCR project; it is a requirement for certification of the project as a whole.

East River dredging was not considered as an alternative because it would not affect water level or storm surge heights.

The materials used to raise parks will be clean fill.

One unanswered question (for CB6) is whether the Board is satisfied that the flood protection gates will actually close when needed.

### **3. Presentation from the New York City Economic Development Corporation on Interpretive Signage for the East Midtown Greenway project**

This presentation, with images & text from the signs, is also incorporated by reference. It described the location, look, and materials of three panels that will be along the Greenway from 53<sup>rd</sup> to 61<sup>st</sup> Streets. The proposal will go to the CB8 and the Public Design Commission shortly, though the latter date is not yet set. The idea is that these panels provide an educational complement to the public art component of the Greenway, providing information about the history (natural & human) of the area. Meeting attendees offered comments and questions about the size & color of the type, sturdiness of the panels and their attachments to the underlying infrastructure, and ability to be cleaned of graffiti. All issues had apparently been taken into account, even for a Sandy-level event.

There was also a question about how the trees along this stretch will be watered; the design promotes slow drainage after rain, with an irrigation system as supplement.

#### **Chair's Report**

Waived

#### **Old/New Business**

There was no old/new business.

#### **Adjournment**

Seeing no objection, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 8pm.

Minutes submitted by: Ann Seligman

<b>Name</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>
Michael Paleudis	Attorney/Representative or Applicant for Application on Tonight's Agenda
Tim Fair	AKRF
Rebecca kriss	Consultant
Eric Ilijevich	Representative of ESCR Project
Claude I. Winfield	Member of Community Board Six (not on this committee)
How Sheen pau	Representative of ESCR Project
Alda Chan	Representative of a NYC Departments of Parks & Recreation
Fay Lee	Representative of ESCR Project
Stephen Holley	Consultant for City Agency (DDC)
Deborah VanDermark	Representative of a City/State agency
Neg Lakew	Representative of a City/State agency
Olivia Parker	Representative of NYC OMB
Matthew pietrus	Representative of a NYC Department of City Planning
Alfred Planco	Representative of ESCR Project
Bob Tuttle	Representative of a NYC Department of City Planning
Gary brandwein	Resident of Community District 6
Colleen Alderson	Representative of a NYC Departments of Parks & Recreation
Asher Baumrin	Representative of a State Senator Hoylman
Emily Humes	Representative of a NYC Departments of Parks & Recreation
Zainab kazmi	Representative of a City/State agency
Flo kelly	Resident of Community District 6
Sarah Neilson	Representative of a NYC Departments of Parks & Recreation
Hollander	Resident of Community District 6 (see map below)
Kathleen Reilly	Attorney/Representative or Applicant for Application on Tonight's Agenda
Roni deitz	Representative of a City/State agency (please specify in "Other" box)
Andrew Hollweck	Representative of ESCR Project

Robert white	Representative of a City/State agency (please specify in "Other" box)
Stephanie chan	Representative of Manhattan Borough President Brewetr
Dreamt Mc Donnell	Business owner
Anne greenberg	Resident of Community District 6
Annie Bergelin	Design team
Ben Jacobs	Representative of a Council Member Powers
Michael R. Murray	Resident of Community District 6
Kathryn prybylski	Representative of a NYC EDC
Gene Santoro	Member of Community Board Six (not on this committee)
Humberto Galarza	Representative of NYC DEP
Dianne Lake	East River Alliance
Cherry mui	Representative of Mayor's Office of Resiliency
Minelly De Coo	Representative of Mayor's Office of Resiliency
Emily cazarez	Resident of Community District 6
Gabrielle Dann-Allel	Representative of Mayor's Office
Jacob seidman	Representative of Office of the deputy mayor for operations
Wendy byrne	Resident of Community District 6
Mathew Staudt	Design consultant to the city (one architecture)
Molly Hollister	Member of Community Board Six (not on this committee)
Morgan	Representative of NYCEDC
Jamie Rogers	Interest in East River waterfront long-term stewardship
Marisa Berry	Representative of a NYC Departments of Parks & Recreation