

District Manager's Report June/July 2008

Meetings Attended and Upcoming Events:

Manhattan Borough Service Cabinet Meeting on Friday June 27, 2008

- City Council has voted to restore the Community Board cuts in the FY2009 budget. However, as with all restorations that were given during adoption, the funds have only been restored in Fiscal Year 2009. The \$10,000.00 cut is still reflected in the Boards' financial plan for 2010, 2011, and 2012. (see attachment)
- Proposed construction safety legislation was discussed:
- General Contractors and Demolition and Concrete Subcontractors are required to register for a Safety Control Number before obtaining Building Permits
- Concrete Site Safety Managers required on Job Sites – This legislation would require a licensed individual to continually monitor concrete operations for compliance with safe practices and building regulations.
- Workers performing Crane Operations will be required to undergo more Safety Training – The Buildings Dept. is continuing its analysis of Cranes and other high-risk construction operations under a \$4million emergency contract announced in April. This contract will require the following:
 1. Mandate a Safety Meeting prior to the Erecting, Jumping or Dismantling a Crane
 2. Mandate more Training for Workers Performing Rigging Operations
 3. Restrict the use of Nylon Slings except where a manufacturer manual specifically states or recommends that nylon slings be used; when the use of nylon slings is permitted they can only be used if “softening mechanisms have been applied to all sharp edges.”
 4. Require Owners of Vacant and Structurally Compromised Buildings to Report Unsafe conditions.

NYC Plaza Program

The New York City Department of Transportation (DOT) is proud to launch the NYC Plaza Program (Plaza Program). The new initiative will create or enhance an existing neighborhood plaza in every community within the City by transforming underused streets into compelling, accessible public spaces and walkable destinations. The Program is a key element of the City's effort to ensure that all New Yorkers live within a 10-minute walk to quality open space. Proposals due August 19th. (see attachment)

NYCHA- Recently celebrated their 70th Celebration as the oldest Public Housing Project. It was also stated that they are in a \$195 million dollar deficit currently receiving 81cents on the dollar from government. Currently there are no funds for Senior and Community Centers.

Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer and Manhattan District Managers asked NYCHA to develop a Citywide process for Community Boards to follow to access Community Centers for Meetings. Currently NYCHA is asking District Managers to

make at least a two week reservation for all meetings. **The Community Center Fee will be waived only one time per year for each Community Board.** Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer asked that NYCHA re-evaluate its decision and report to BSC at a later date (See attachment)

Announcements/Events:

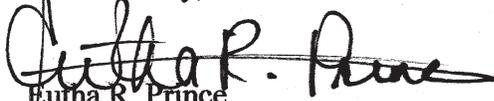
LOLA- Latino Organization for Liver Awareness - Complimentary "Liver Transplant" information sheet is attached to share with anyone who may be in need or of interest. Spanish version are available please call (718) 892-8697 for further information.

NYC Department of Youth and Community Development – Announced they will no longer operate the Summer Bus Transportation Program. The Free Group Subway Transportation Program will continue and all applicants who submitted bus requests for trips July 1, 2008 and there after are encouraged to apply for the subway program.

Hamilton Heights is City noisiest neighborhood in the City with some 5,686 complaints to 311 since July 2007. (see attachment)

August Meeting Calendars – Please submit dates for August Committee meeting to the District Office.

Submitted by,



Eutha R. Prince

Community Coordinator

July 10, 2008



The City of New York
Office of Management and Budget
Community Board Relations Unit
75 Park Place 7th Floor
New York, N.Y. 10007 – 2146
212-788-5947 / 212-788-6000 (fax)
Panetta@omb.nyc.gov

Randolph Panetta
Unit Head

July 1, 2008

Dear Community Board,

During the adoption of the 2009 budget, the City Council voted to restore the Community Board PEG cuts in FY 2009. However, as with all of the other PEG restorations that were given during adoption, the funds have only been restored in fiscal year 2009. The \$10,000 cut is still reflected in the boards' financial plan for 2010, 2011, and 2012. Because the restoration will not be carried into the out years, it is strongly recommended that the boards allocate the additional funds to the OTPS budget unless all or some of the \$10,000 is needed to fund current payroll costs. Also, please be advised that the personal service cuts that were previously proposed by the board can no longer be justified as a PEG related action.

The \$10,000 has been restored to each community board's 001 (Full Year Positions) object in the 2009 personal services budget. If you would like to modify the budget and transfer all or part of the \$10,000 to OTPS, OMB will process a budget modification for your community board as soon as FMS is ready to accept 2009 modifications.

Please do not hesitate to call me if you have any questions.

Sincerely yours,

Randolph Panetta
Unit Head

Cc: Borough Presidents

NYC Plaza Program Proposal Guidelines



Introduction

The New York City Department of Transportation (DOT) is proud to launch the NYC Plaza Program (Plaza Program). The new initiative will create or enhance an existing neighborhood plaza in every community in the City by transforming underused streets into compelling, accessible public spaces and walkable destinations. The Plaza Program is a key element of the City's effort to ensure that all New Yorkers live within a 10-minute walk of quality open space.

Through this innovative, new program, eligible nonprofit groups will apply to DOT to request a new public plaza. DOT will select the best proposals and will design and construct new plazas each year.

Partnerships will be essential to the Plaza Program. In collaboration with the Department of Small Business Services (SBS), DOT will work with appropriate community-based organizations to establish long-term, formal partnerships for each plaza. These Management Partners (Partners) will eventually take on daily operation and management of the permanent public plazas, once they are built.

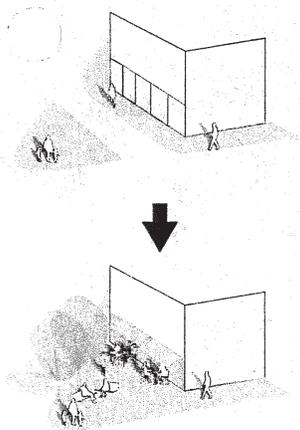
After sites have been selected, DOT and its Partner will hold a public visioning workshop to develop a conceptual design that is appropriate to the scale and character of the neighborhood. A professional team of landscape architects will then base their plans on the conceptual design. The Partners will be involved throughout the design process. Once plazas are built, Partners will be responsible for regular maintenance, management, and programming of the plazas so they remain not only clean, safe, and attractive but also successful, active and well-used public spaces.

By applying to the Plaza Program, the applicant is requesting 1) to have City capital funds invested in their community, 2) to be involved in the design process, and 3) to take on the maintenance, management, and programming of the plaza once construction is complete.

By applying to the Plaza Program, the applicant is requesting

- 1** to have City capital funds invested in their community,
- 2** to be involved in the design process, and
- 3** to take on the maintenance, management, and programming of the plaza once construction is complete.

DOT will consider only one application per organization.



Requirements

ORGANIZATIONAL CRITERIA

Applicants must be:

- Nonprofit organizations operating in any of the five boroughs of New York City;
- Incorporated in New York State and compliant with annual State and Federal filing requirements for nonprofit organizations;
- Certified tax exempt under Internal Revenue Service Code Section 501(c)(3); and
- Located near the geographical target area of the proposed plaza

Should the applicant not have 501(c)(3) status, the organization may partner with another sponsor that complies with the eligibility and legal requirements mentioned above.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Based on its Fiscal Year 2007 budget, the organization must provide the following financial documentation:

- Under \$25,000: most current Financial Statement (signed by Treasurer)
- \$25,000 or over: most current IRS 990
- \$100,000 or over but less than \$250,000: most current IRS 990 and Independent Accountant's Review Report
- \$250,000 or over: most current IRS 990 and Audited Financial Statements.

In some instances, DOT may request audited financial statements from organizations with lesser budgets. Any organization that can claim exemption from the required financial documentation must submit written proof of such with their proposal.

SUPPORT

The applicant must demonstrate local support for the proposed plazas. Applicants must provide letters of support from key community stakeholders, which may include nearby institutions, elected officials, property and business owners, other nonprofit groups, neighborhood or block associations, and so forth. Community Board involvement is strongly encouraged. Applicants who cannot obtain Community Board support due to the Community Boards' July/August summer recess yet are chosen by DOT to be Partners will be provisionally awarded contingent upon Community Board support in the fall. DOT expects at least five (5) letters of support.

Application Process

Any organization interested in applying to the Plaza Program must submit an application to DOT. **All proposals must be received BY EMAIL ONLY to plazas@dot.nyc by 6 p.m. no later than Tuesday, August 19, 2008.** Fax or post mail submissions will not be accepted. All applications will be subject to a completeness review and organizations will be sent confirmation of receipt of their proposals as soon as the application has been processed. Organizations may be required to provide additional information after the original proposal has been submitted.

Applicants are encouraged to contact DOT with any questions well in advance of the deadline. For questions, please contact Vaidila Kungys by email at plazas@dot.nyc or by phone (212) 442-7154.

APPLICATION REVIEW & RANKING SYSTEM

Applications will be reviewed by a committee comprised of representatives from DOT and SBS. The panel will be charged with judging each application according to the following criteria: Open Space, Community Initiative, Site Context, Organizational & Maintenance Capacity, and Income Eligibility.

Open Space | 30 points

To ensure that all New Yorkers live within a 10-minute walk of quality open space, the Plaza Program will prioritize proposed sites that are in neighborhoods that currently lack open space. An open space to population ratio of less than 1.5 acres/thousand persons is considered to lack sufficient open space. To determine whether or not your proposed plaza is in an area that lacks open space (see Appendix A: Priority Map).

Community Initiative | 30 points

Organizations that have demonstrated community initiative will be considered to be stronger partners for the program. To demonstrate previous initiative, the organization should show existing plans that have been developed, such as 197a Plan. If the applicant has worked with another organization that has developed a community plan itself, this information should also be submitted. If such plans have not been developed, the applicant should demonstrate results or outcomes from a community workshop that focused on public space, open space, or neighborhood planning. If no visioning workshops have been conducted, the applicant's rating for Community Initiative will be determined solely on the strength of the required letters of support.

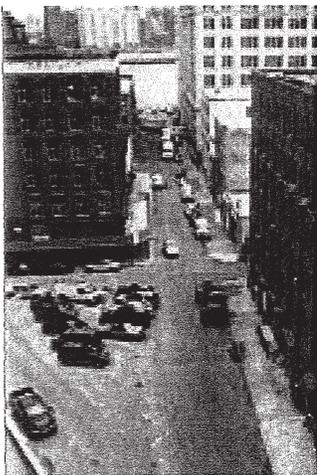
Application Process continued

APPLICATION REVIEW & RANKING SYSTEM

Organizations that have secured other funding sources should state the source and amount that is already secured for the project.

Site Context | 20 points

Proposals will be rated against the surrounding neighborhood context to ensure that nearby uses and the environment is compatible with the proposed plaza. This criterion will rate the appropriateness of the adjacent land uses, population density, and proximity to transit, historic sites, significant view corridors, and other, nearby open space. Proposed sites located near a large number of positive elements are more likely to be successful plazas than are sites without such positive assets. For example, a proposed site located near a dense retail center with transit hub and significant views will be rated higher than a proposed site in a low-density residential area with no nearby commercial activity. In addition, sites located in Community Districts that do not have a recently constructed plaza or a plaza currently in design will be ranked higher than proposals from Community Districts that already have a new or recently enhanced plaza. Community Districts with recently completed plazas or plazas in design include the following: Manhattan 1, 2, 4, 5, 7; Bronx 1, 4, 5, 6, 7; Brooklyn 1, 2; and Queens 4, 14. To see a map of Community Districts that have recently-completed plazas, or plazas that are in design or construction, so-called "Pipeline Plazas", view Attachment A: Priority Map.



BEFORE



AFTER

If a proposed site has not yet been determined, we encourage applicants to contact DOT to discuss possible sites before submitting an application.

Organizational & Maintenance Capacity | 10 points

Organizations that demonstrate that they have the capacity to keep the plazas clean, safe and to bring programming activities or events to the sites will be judged favorably. Programming may include art/craft fairs, regular food vendors, sponsorship events, holiday celebrations, temporary art installations, music events, and so on. Organizations that currently do not have this capacity but would like to develop it are encouraged to apply.

Application Process continued

APPLICATION REVIEW & RANKING SYSTEM continued

Income Eligibility (CDBG Eligibility) | 10 points

Proposals for plazas in low- or moderate-income neighborhoods, designated by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, will receive additional points. Designation prescribes that at least 51% of the residents in the census tract must be low- and moderate-income persons living in households with incomes below 80 percent of the median household income (\$47,100 for a 4-person household in 2000). To determine your census tract, visit the New York City Census FactFinder: HYPERLINK "<http://gis.nyc.gov/dcp/pa/address.jsp>" <http://gis.nyc.gov/dcp/pa/address.jsp>.

To learn more about CDBG eligibility and to view NYC Census Tracts that are CDBG eligible, visit the Department of City Planning's (DCP) online Census Report: HYPERLINK "<http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcp/html/resource/censustractreport.shtml>" <http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcp/html/resource/censustractreport.shtml>.

CAPACITY BUILDING SUPPORT

Proposals located in low- or moderate-income neighborhoods, as outlined above, are considered Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) eligible and may apply to participate in a capacity building initiative. **To be eligible for capacity building support, the proposed site must be located in a low- or Moderate-income neighborhood.** Qualifying applicants will be eligible for funding support through the New York City Department of Small Business Services (SBS) Avenue NYC Program. Awards will provide organizations up to \$50,000 per year for a period of up to three years. Funds will be used to strengthen organizational capacity and to develop a maintenance and programming plan for the plazas.

To learn more about capacity building support (see Appendix B: Capacity Building Support).



Responsibilities and Expectations

PARTNER RESPONSIBILITIES

Partners will be responsible for the following elements:

1. Outreach

Outreach to the public to gather relevant data and to ensure active participation in the public workshops, which may include promotion, surveying, and coordination of participants during visioning workshops.

2. Design

A team of professional designers that have a contract with DOT will be responsible for the design process. Partners will be expected to participate in regular design meetings with DOT and the professional designers to ensure that the design is appropriate to the neighborhood context, that it meets local needs, and that plazas are designed with acceptable maintenance requirements.

Responsibilities and Expectations continued

PARTNER RESPONSIBILITIES continued

3. Maintenance

Maintenance. Before construction is complete, the Partner will enter a maintenance agreement with DOT to name the Partner as the party responsible for maintenance and provision of daily services to the plaza so that the site is kept clean and in a state of good repair. The specific maintenance services to be provided will be outlined in the maintenance agreement. Services may be subcontracted. To become the formal partner for the plazas, Partners would apply to the Franchise and Concession Review Committee (FCRC) for a Master Concession Agreement. The agreement would give the Partner the potential to generate revenue from food vendors, sponsorship events, and other programming activities. The revenue generated would then be used to maintain and operate the plaza. Maintenance may include daily sweeping and bagging of rubbish, watering of plants, removal of stickers and graffiti from street furniture and property, shoveling snow from pathways, and so forth, as outlined in the agreement.

Responsibilities and Expectations continued



PARTNER RESPONSIBILITIES continued

4. Programming & Events

To ensure that plazas become vibrant centers of activity and neighborhood destinations, the Partner will be responsible for programming regular activities and events at the site, which may include holiday events, food or craft markets, temporary public art installations or exhibits, music events, and so forth. It would be expected that programmed activities take place at least four times per year.

5. Liability & Insurance

In addition to keeping the site clean, safe, and in good repair, the Partner will also be required to maintain insurance on the plaza, as outlined in the maintenance agreement.

6. Sustainability Plan

Partners will develop a sustainability plan that outlines how the organization will fund and manage the plaza for the long term. To show progress on the plan to demonstrate steps taken to achieve the end result, the Partner will provide DOT quarterly progress reports.

Responsibilities and Expectations continued

DOT RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Design & Construction

DOT will fund the design and construction of the plaza. Design will strive to create environmentally friendly public plazas that are appropriate to neighborhood context. Possible amenities may include tables and seating, trees and plants, lighting, public art, water features, and drinking fountains. To reduce liability, materials with low maintenance requirements will be prioritized.

2. Capacity Building Support

In collaboration with SBS, DOT has developed an arrangement that will provide eligible Partners up to \$50,000 per year for a period of three (3) years. Funds will support personnel and training to help the Partners develop outreach campaigns, surveys, public workshops, programming and long-term funding plans, concessionary agreements, and organization development. To learn more, see Appendix B: Capacity Building Support.

3. Monitoring

DOT will monitor the plazas.

Funding Levels

For the first round of the Plaza Program, DOT will provide funds for design and construction for up to eight (8) new plazas. Organizations that have secured other, private or public, sources of funding are strongly encouraged to apply.

TIMELINE	2008						2009						2010												
	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	
Application	■	■																							
Awardees Announced			■																						
Preliminary Review			■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■														
Design												■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Construction																					■	■	■	■	■

*This timeline is for estimation purposes only. The actual length of time required for each phase may differ from this plan.

Payment

Awardees will not receive funds from DOT for design and construction. Capital funds will remain within DOT and the City of New York. Partners who are eligible for capacity building support through SBS's Avenue NYC Program can receive up to \$50,000 per year for three years, contingent upon the availability of funds. To learn more about Capacity Building Support, view **Attachment B: Capacity Building Support**.

FAQs

Q. Will reclaiming streets cause traffic congestion?

A. In some parts of the city, there is excess road space. In such places, a portion of the road can be reclaimed for pedestrian use without significantly affecting traffic. In other areas, reclaiming street space can have potential impacts on traffic, in which case a traffic analysis would be required to ensure that there are no significant adverse impacts. As a general rule, the Plaza Program will not pursue proposals that would produce major adverse impacts on traffic.

Q. What's the minimum size of a plaza?

A. Sites less than 2000 square feet are not encouraged.

Q. What will the plazas look like?

A. Each plaza will be designed to reflect the character and context of the neighborhood. The potential number of elements and activities is limited only by the Partner's capacity and resources. Plazas may include seating (movable and fixed); trees and plants; lighting; paving; information and wayfinding signage; concessions; shelter from the elements; public art (temporary and permanent); bicycle parking; water features, and drinking water fountains.

Q. Will advertising be permitted?

A. No. Advertising will not be permitted in the plazas. Banners on light poles, however, may be installed in accordance with the NYC DOT Banner Permit Program. In general, the banners must promote a public event, cultural exhibit, or promote the area. Please contact NYC DOT Banner Unit for more information: <http://www.nyc.gov/html/dot/html/permits/banners.shtml>.

Q. Are vendors allowed on the plaza?

A. The Partner will be the sole master concessionaire for the plaza who will be allowed to sub-concession to others via a publicly bid process as outlined in the concession agreement.

Q. Can events and fairs be held in the plaza?

A. Yes. The Partner may hold events and fairs as outlined in the concessionary agreement. Nevertheless, a Street Activity Permit would still be required and would be applied for through the Community Board's Community Assistance Unit (CAU).

Q. Can public art be incorporated into the plaza?

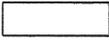
A. Yes, public art can be part of the plazas on a temporary (under 11 months) basis, in accordance with NYC DOT's Temporary Art Program, or through a permanent installation. If permanent, the public art would be coordinated through the NYC Department of Cultural Affairs Percent for Art Program; the art could be completely integrated into the plaza design and functional (e.g. benches, tables, etc.), or it could be stand alone art (i.e. a sculpture). Temporary art can be installed as a one-time project or cycled through on a temporary basis at a designated space in the plaza, such as on a foundation block that would allow different temporary sculptures. The Temporary Art Program is still in development. To learn more, contact Emily Colasacco, Director of the Temporary Art Program at 212-442-7649 or ecolasacco@dot.nyc.gov.

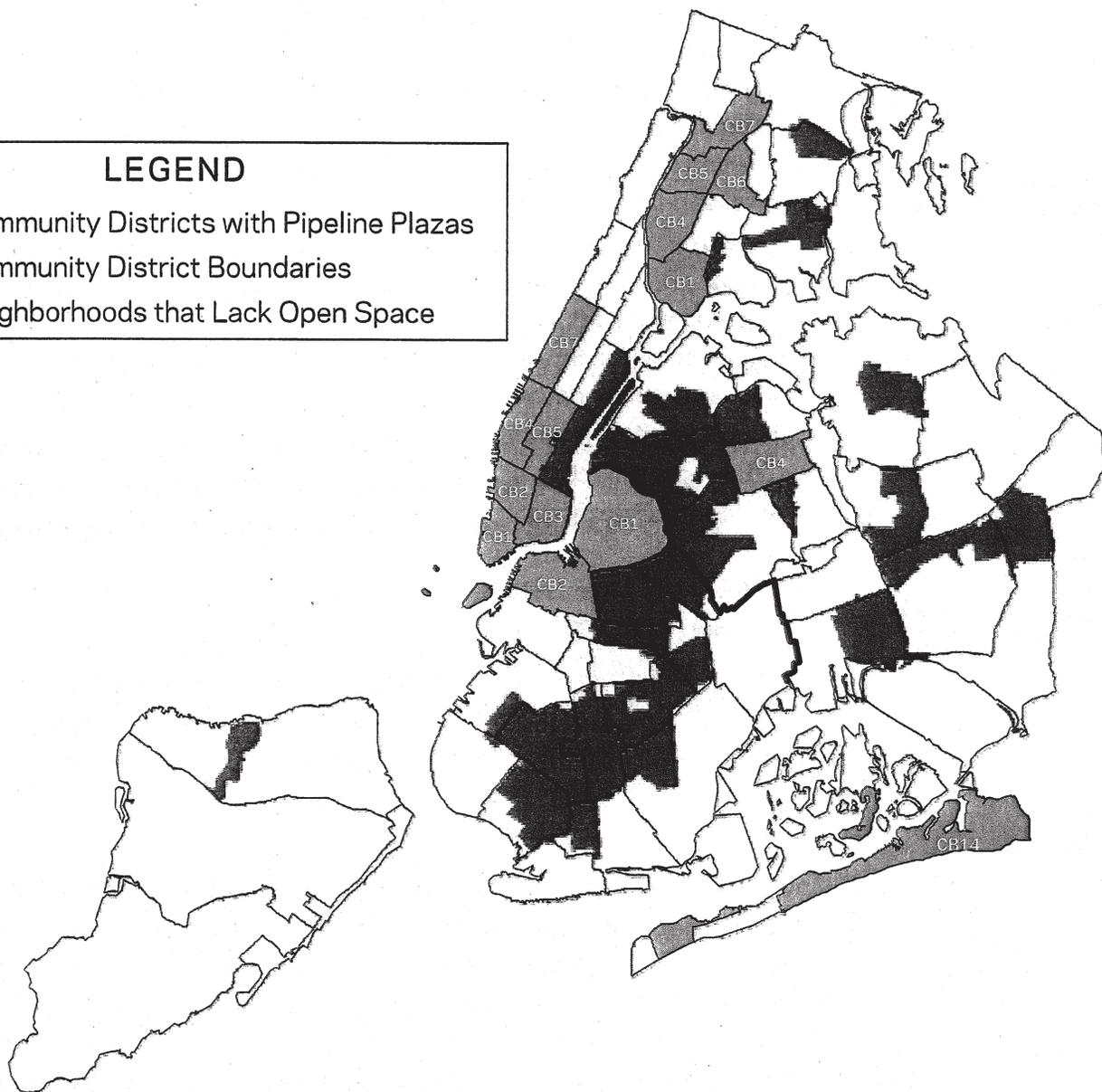
Q. Must the organization be registered with the Vendor Information Exchange System (VENDEX) with New York City in order to apply to the Plaza Program?

A. No. The VENDEX submittal is only required for vendors that are awarded contracts with New York City in excess of \$100,000. To learn more about VENDEX, visit www.nyc.gov/vendex. Nevertheless, VENDEX submittal will be required if the Partner decides to have a concession on the site.

Appendix A: Priority Map

LEGEND

-  Community Districts with Pipeline Plazas
-  Community District Boundaries
-  Neighborhoods that Lack Open Space



Appendix B: Capacity Building Support

PROCESS

Partners with sites located in neighborhoods that are CDBG eligible may qualify for capacity building support through SBS's Avenue NYC Program. In Round I, SBS will fund up to three (3) eligible organizations. In addition to completing the NYC Plaza Program Application and having been selected for a plaza, the organization will need to complete a separate application in order to receive funding through the Avenue NYC Program. Partners selected to receive Avenue NYC funding will enter into a contract with SBS.

TIMELINE

Upon notification of selection into the NYC Plaza Program, eligible organizations will be contacted by SBS to initiate the application process for capacity building support. Funds will be awarded to selected organizations on a fiscal year basis, beginning in Fiscal Year 2010 (July 1, 2009).

SBS will support each Partner for a period of up to three (3) fiscal years, contingent upon the availability of funds. During this time, the organization will develop the necessary skills to develop a long-term strategy to effectively manage, operate, and program the plaza.

PAYMENT

SBS will provide no more than \$50,000 per organization per year for three years, contingent upon the availability of funds. Funds may be used for personnel and programmatic costs related to the NYC Plaza Program.

USE OF FUNDS

A major component of the capacity building support provided to Partners in Year 1 will help the organizations to effectively engage the community in visioning sessions, work with consultants to organize charrettes and translate the information gathered into a format that would be useful for the professional design team.

Capacity building support in Years 2 and 3 will focus on organizational development and planning for the implementation of supplemental maintenance services. Additionally, capacity building support over Years 2 and 3 will focus on plaza-specific issues such as public space programming and development of potential strategies for generating additional revenue from the plazas.

Appendix B: Capacity Building Support continued

REPORTING & DELIVERABLES

Year 1: Planning/Design

At the completion of Year 1, Partners will have completed the following:

- ▣ Outreach campaigns to local merchants, property owners, residents and other community stakeholders
- ▣ Administration of survey(s) to solicit input and feedback on design from local stakeholders
- ▣ Organization of community charrette(s) on plaza design and use
- ▣ Submission of report summarizing input, feedback and ideas gathered over the course of above three deliverables
- ▣ Hosting of community meetings to 'unveil' plaza conceptual design and to get feedback

Year 2: Construction

At the completion of Year 2, Partners will have completed the following:

- ▣ Ongoing outreach campaigns to local merchants, property owners, and residents over the course of construction updating them on progress
- ▣ Plan for providing ongoing maintenance and sanitation services to the plaza
- ▣ Identification of sustainable funding source(s) for the implementation of maintenance and sanitation services and programming of plaza

Year 3: Programming/Ongoing Maintenance

At the completion of Year 3, Partners will have completed the following:

- ▣ Plan for programming and activating the plaza
- ▣ Engagement of supplemental maintenance and sanitation service provider
- ▣ If applicable, the Partner will have a Master Concession Agreement in place for the concession

Partners will be required to submit quarterly reports to SBS and DOT, providing updates on progress toward completing these deliverables.

Appendix B: Capacity Building Support continued

FAQS

Q. For reporting that relates to Capacity Building Support, does the Partner report to SBS or DOT?

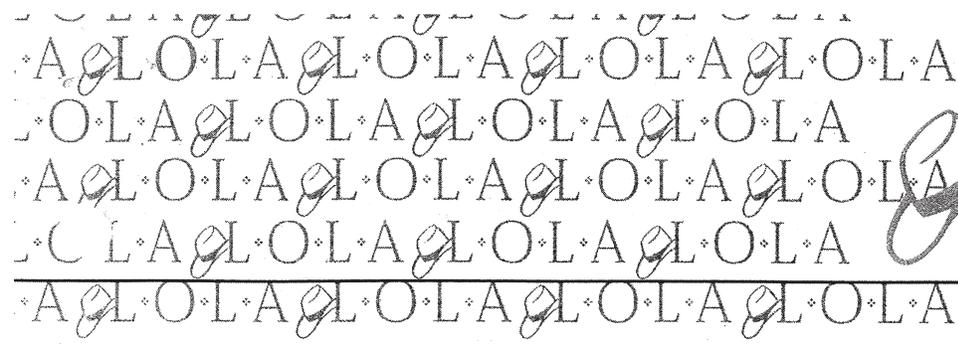
A. The Partner will submit the same quarterly reports to both SBS and DOT. In order to receive Capacity Building support, however, the Partner will have to enter into a contract with SBS and follow the contracting rules and regulations set forth by that Agency.

Q. Can Capacity Building Support be used to pay for plaza maintenance?

A. No. Capacity Building Support will only be used for personnel and programmatic expenses related to the completion of the deliverables outlined above.

Q. Can organizations apply for Capacity Building Support as well as to other Avenue NYC programs?

A. Yes. Organizations selected to receive Capacity Building support may apply for other Avenue NYC programs.



Latino Organization for Liver Awareness

1560 Mayflower Avenue
Bronx, New York 10461
718-892-8697 Fax 718-918-0527
www.lola-national.org

Debbie Delgado-Vega
Founder
Chief Executive Officer

June, 2008

Gladys G. Moreira
Director of Operations

BOARD MEMBERS

Miriam Perez
Chairperson

Jose Nicot
Treasurer

Catherine Paykin
Secretary

Dr. Lewis Teperman
Trustee

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Dr. Marelo Facciuto

Dr. Juan Del Rio Martin

Dr. Melissa Palmer

Dr. Manuel Rodriguez

Dr. Thomas Schiano

Dr. Myron Schwartz

Dr. Andrew Talal

Dr. Lewis Teperman

Dear Friends & Colleagues:

Enclosed you will find a complimentary "Liver Transplant" informational sheet for your review. Please feel free to make copies and/or share with anyone who may be in need or of interest.

If you would like the Spanish version of this informational sheet and/or need other liver disease bilingual information, please call our LOLA headquarters at 718-892-8697.

We hope you find this information helpful!

Sincerely,

The Latino Organization
for Liver Awareness
(L.O.L.A.)

LIVER TRANSPLANTATION

Written by Diane LaPointe Rudow ANP-BC, DNP, CCTC and
Roberts. Brown Jr, MD, MPH

THE TRANSPLANT EVALUATION

The Initial Consultation

During the consultation you will meet with members of the transplant team to review your past medical and social history to ascertain appropriate medical treatment. You may meet various members of the Transplant Team.

HEPATOBIILIARY SURGEONS: Trained in the field of transplantation.

HEPATOLOGISTS: Liver specialist that will take care of your medical needs during the transplant period.

TRANSPLANT COORDINATORS: Registered nurses who assist in the evaluation, education and post-operative follow-up.

TRANSPLANT SOCIAL WORKER: Provides support for you and your family in dealing with stress and issues associated with chronic illness and transplantation

BLOOD TESTS

You may be asked to have your blood drawn to confirm your blood type, evaluate serum chemistries, hematology, coagulation, hepatitis screens, and viral studies. If you are being evaluated for a liver transplant, you must sign consent to be tested for HIV "(AIDS)". All transplant centers are required to test all potential transplant recipients. The results of these tests are confidential and will not be released without your permission

RADIOLOGY

You may be required to have one or more of the following tests:

- **Chest X-ray** - Determines If your lungs and lower respiratory tract are healthy..
- **Ultrasound** - Examines your liver and other abdominal organs and blood vessels.
- **CAT Scan (Computerized Tomography)** - makes a computer image which shows the size and shape of your liver and major blood vessels. A contrast material may be injected into a vein to enhance the quality of the image.

Your physician may recommend a liver transplant when all other treatment options fail. The purpose is to replace your diseased liver with a healthy liver. Ideally, after a transplant, you will be free from disease and lead a fairly normal life as long as the transplant functions. Indications for liver transplant include:

- Hepatitis B
- Hepatitis C
- Urea Cycle defects
- Familial hypercholesterolemia
- Alcohol induced cirrhosis
- Glycogen Storage Disease
- Primary Hyperoxaluria type I
- Cryptogenic cirrhosis
- Crigler-Najjar syndrome type I
- Congenital Hepatic Fibrosis
- Neimann-Pick Disease
- Primary Biliary Cirrhosis
- Familial Amyloidosis
- Biliary Atresia
- Hepatocellular Carcinoma
- Primary Sclerosing Cholangitis
- Hepatoblastoma
- Alagille Syndrome
- Hemangioendothelioma
- Familial Cholestasis
- Non-Carcinoid Neuron-endocrine
- Drug induced liver failure
- Liver tumors
- Acute/fulminant liver failure
- Budd-Chiari syndrome
- Alpha-1-antitrypsin deficiency
- Wilson Disease
- Hemochromatosis
- Tyrosinemia
- Protoporphyrria
- Cystic Fibrosis

There are two options for liver transplantation: deceased donor transplantation, and living donor transplantation.

DECEASED DONOR: The donor liver is obtained from a person who is diagnosed as brain dead whose family volunteers to donate the organ for transplantation. People who receive deceased donors wait on the national computer list (UNOS waiting list) until a suitable donor becomes available. The waiting times vary.

LIVING DONOR: A healthy family member, usually a parent, sibling, or child, or someone emotionally close to you, such as a spouse, volunteers to donate part of their liver for transplantation. The donor is carefully evaluated by the team to make sure no harm will come to the donor or recipient.

The average success rate of a liver transplant at one year is 87 percent. Once a Transplant Center determines that you are an appropriate candidate for transplantation, a suitable donor becomes available and you have successfully completed the surgery, you have a good chance to lead a normal, healthy, active life. However, to help insure successful outcomes, it is vital that you closely follow your physician's recommendations. This will include taking immunosuppressive medications and monitoring your blood tests regularly,

- **MRI (Magnetic Resonance Imaging)** - makes a more detailed picture of your abdominal organs and their blood vessels.
- **Endoscopy** - A scope used to look at the esophagus and stomach and assess for ulcers, inflammation or varices. You will be sedated for this procedure.
- **ERCP** - A scope similar to the endoscopy to take a closer look at your bile ducts. You will be sedated for this procedure.
- **Liver Angiogram** - Uses intravenous dye to take pictures of the liver and its anatomy.
- **Liver Biopsy** - Diagnoses the type of liver disease you have or evaluates the extent of damage it has caused.

Cardiac Evaluation - The Transplant Team may require you to undergo a cardiac workup to make sure your heart is strong enough to withstand treatment

- **EKG** - examines how well your heart is beating.
- **Echocardiogram** - uses sound waves to look at your heart and the pressure in its vessels.
- **Stress Test** - examines your heart's response to exercise. There are a few different types of stress tests, some of which require you to walk on a treadmill and some of which give you medicine to make your heart think it's exercising. The team will assess which one is appropriate for you.
- **Cardiac Angiogram** - may be necessary if your stress test is abnormal. Dye is injected into your arteries to help identify any abnormalities or blockages in your heart vessels.

PULMONARY EVALUATION

If you were a smoker or have a lung disease you may need some of the following tests

- **PFTs (pulmonary function tests)**, assess your lung capacity and function to determine your blood's ability to carry oxygen.
 - **ABG (arterial blood gas)**, tests your carbon dioxide and oxygen level. For this test blood must be drawn from an artery.
- In addition to the medical tests used to determine the extent of your liver disease, a transplant evaluation requires additional assessments. These may include the following:

Social Work/Psychiatry: A social work/psychiatry consultation may be necessary to help you and your family with the many psychological and social issues involved with transplantation. It is vital that all potential transplant recipients have adequate support systems to help them through the process.

Alcohol/ Drug Screening: All potential transplant recipients may be randomly tested for alcohol and illicit drugs throughout the transplant process. Use of these substances will forfeit a patient's eligibility to be transplanted at our institution. You may be asked to sign a contract with our social worker regarding this matter.

Financing Transplantation: At the time of your initial consultation, financial counselors may meet with you to verify your insurance coverage for transplantation. Many insurance companies require a letter from a Transplant Center confirming the medical necessity for you to undergo a transplant as well as the results of your transplant evaluation before they will approve a transplant. It is very important that your pharmacy plan covers the transplant medications. As a potential candidate, you will be required to sign a pharmacy agreement stating that you will be responsible for all pharmacy expenses not covered by your insurance company. Since the medications are very expensive, it is not uncommon for patients to have difficulty in affording them. If you do not have sufficient coverage, a finance counselor or transplant social worker will do their best to assist you in this matter.

Upon Completion of Your Evaluation: When your evaluation is completed, the transplant team will determine, based on the results, whether a transplant is necessary and if you are physically able to undergo the procedure.

Hamilton Heights is city's most earsplitting neighborhood

BY CAITLIN MILLAT AND KATHLEEN LUCADAMO
DAILY NEWS WRITERS

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Hamilton Heights wins again.

The Manhattan neighborhood remains the noisiest neighborhood in the city with 5,686 complaints to 311 since last July 1, when the city introduced a hard-knuckled new noise code.

But a year after the code promised to hush noisemakers, residents in notoriously loud communities say the volume is as high as ever.

"I can't sleep. I can't talk on the telephone. I can't hear my TV. It's so noisy, I can't hear my own voice," griped Marsha James, 79.

Mesiyah McGinnis, 38, agreed. "It's always noisy here," he said. "I can hear sirens at all hours nonstop, but the noise is the pulse of the city."

The overhauled code cracked down on a host of noise culprits including jackhammers, bars and clubs, lawnmowers, barking dogs and even ice cream trucks. Fines can hit \$175.

Noise complaints to 311 jumped 8% this year to 294,953 and the chief woe was loud neighbors.

Emily Lloyd, commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection, said the spike in complaints is proof New Yorkers are getting the message that noise won't be tolerated.

"Not that you have to do much to get New Yorkers to complain, which is a good thing, but now they know what to do when they see noise is a problem," said Lloyd.

Neighborhoods that produced the most noise complaints were Williamsburg and Flatbush in Brooklyn, Norwood in the Bronx and the East Village.

"Every year, it gets noisier because more and more people are moving here," said Sunny Kang, 53, who owns Sunny's Florist in the East Village. "The more people, the more business."

Danny Thomas, 56, said his East Village block could use some relief. "The horns, the music, the drunk people screaming all night. It hasn't changed a bit down here," he said.

Lloyd estimated it would take three to four years before the number of noise complaints starts to decline and New Yorkers notice a quieter city.

Still, the statistics should be read with caution, advised one expert.

"For the average New Yorker," said Eric Zwerling, director of the Rutgers University Noise Technical Assistance Center, "it's whether or not a specific complaint has been resolved in a reasonable matter."

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