

## **Waterfront & Economic Development Committee Manhattan Community Board Nine**

Savona Bailey-McClain, Committee Co-Chair, Jane Arrendell, Committee Co-Chair  
Eileen Merritt, Vicky Gholson Ph.D., Linda Walton, Ernestine Welch, Board Committee  
Members, Maritta Dunn, Mark Irgang, Caren Irgang, Public Member

### **Committee Meeting Minutes of April 7, 2009**

The meeting opened at 6:30 p.m. with a quorum by Committee Co-Chairs Jane Arrendell and Savona Bailey-McClain.

**Present:** Savona Bailey-McClain, Jane Arrendell, Ernestine Welch, Linda Walton, Mark Irgang,

**Absent:** Vicky Gholson, Ph.D., Eileen Merritt, Maritta Dunn, Caren Irgang

**Board Members:** Elvis Hernandez

**Guests:** Shellie Williams, Anne Trumble, Signe Nielsen, Alejandro Baquero-Cifuentes, Len Greco

Adoption of agenda and the minutes were approved with necessary corrections.

#### **Presentations:**

The entire meeting was devoted to a special presentation by the consultancy team for NYC Economic Development Corporation. Ms. Signe Nielsen conducted the presentation that quickly reviewed elements of the West 125<sup>th</sup> Street streetscaping plan that had been presented before but also showed new improvements to the plan as requested by the Public Design Commission.

Improvements included new benches on the sidewalk that are available through the City's catalog. Also, the consultants decided to use borders (for sidewalk trees and shrubs) that are presently in the West Harlem Piers Park and have a copper bronze look. Illustrations of new trees and future look was share in the Powerpoint presentation.

For the bus turnaround area, the consultants decided to add bronze strips in the pavement to compliment the 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue rail tracks that are exposed to show the various lines that were in the area and offer a historical perspective. Also, provisions will be made for pedestrian crossing nearby in anticipation of an Amtrak outdoor station. Further questions were asked by Committee members about that reality and the consultants shared that Amtrak is still trying to configure the new Penn Station first.

NYCDOT has given the team permission to add clamps onto the Riverside Drive Viaduct at the mouth of 125<sup>th</sup> Street and 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue. This would be uplighting and we have the option of still adding gels to offer holiday or special lighting.

For the 125<sup>th</sup> Street IRT Viaduct, the consultants are offering lighting that would curve into a semi-circle as to not disturb nearby residents. The goal is to still have lighting that would illuminate when trains enter the station in both directions. A large concern from Board members is the painting of the trestle underneath the station.

Smaller elements like bicycle racks and trash receptacles were shared as well. The committee was very pleased with the presentation and then voted in favor of the plan.