



**THE CITY OF NEW YORK
BOROUGH OF THE BRONX
COMMUNITY BOARD 7**



RUBEN DIAZ, JR., BOROUGH PRESIDENT EMMANUEL MARTINEZ, CHAIRPERSON ISCHIA BRAVO, DISTRICT MANAGER

HOUSING, LAND USE & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Chair:	Erick Ascencio
Meeting Date:	Tuesday, September 14, 2021
Meeting Time:	6:30pm
Meeting Location:	Zoom Teleconference
Members (Check Those In Attendance)	✓ Erick Ascencio ✓ Mirna Calderon ✓ Sandra Erickson ✓ Edgar Ramos ✓ Barbara Stronczer
Minutes Prepared By:	Erick Ascencio

Minutes:

- I. Meeting was started at 6:35 pm by reading the Meeting Guidelines as establish by the Governor’s executive order.**
- II. Introductions of Committee members.**
- III. Previous Minutes from June 8th, 2021 were reviewed and approved.**
- IV. New Business**
 - a. Assembly Member Nathalia Fernandez provided updates on legislations being review by the NYS Assembly. She also informed the committee and attendees about available funding from FEMA for any damages suffered from Hurricane Ida. Applications can be filed in person at Hostos Community College. Additional information can be found at the following link [IDA relief information](#). The Assemblywoman will host a Food Pantry on East 204 Street on Friday, September 17, information by reaching out to her office.**
 - b. Assembly Member Jeffrey Dinowitz updated the committee that applications are still being accepted for the Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP). Funding for this program has been budgeted into the NYS 2021-22 budget. Those in need can reach out for follow up questions to Assembly Member office or at the following link [ERAP information](#).**



THE CITY OF NEW YORK BOROUGH OF THE BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD 7



RUBEN DIAZ, JR., BOROUGH PRESIDENT EMMANUEL MARTINEZ, CHAIRPERSON ISCHIA BRAVO, DISTRICT MANAGER

- c. **Urban Builders Collaborative LLC a subsidiary of Lettire Construction Group provide an update on the development of [3118 Webster Avenue](#). The developer is in the process of applying for [HPD's 9% tax credit program](#). The project has received Reso A Funds front the Bronx BP's office and is currently design with 21 studios, 26 one-bedroom, 41 two-bedroom unit (including a super's unit) and 10 three-bedroom units for a total of 99 residential units. The developer intents to maintain units for the 80% and 100% AMI rental brackets while reducing those in 40% to 50% AMI in order to meet the HPD application funding guidelines and keep the project feasible. The committee mentioned that this is the third Supportive Housing development in this vicinity of Webster Avenue and East 204 Street. Another update about the project timeline will be provide by the developer once further funding is received.**
- d. **Sidewalk Café and Open Restaurant Zoning Text Amendment by Departments of City Planning (DCP) and Transportation (DOT).**
- i. **Link to City planning website with detailed information and related links on [Permanent Open Restaurants Text Amendment](#), including the recording of [City Planning Commission Presentation and Video](#).**
 - ii. **Here is additional link to [interactive tool](#) which gives context for every CB, including CB 7**
 - iii. **City Planning presented a text amendment to remove the geographical limitations of sidewalks cafés through out the city. Presently, sidewalk cafes for restaurants are only allowed in certain parts of the city. Restaurants must obtain a permit to operate sidewalk cafes from the Department of Consumers and Worker Protection (DCWP) formerly known as Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA). The current program has limitations on size, location, and clearances from existing street infrastructure**



THE CITY OF NEW YORK BOROUGH OF THE BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD 7



RUBEN DIAZ, JR., BOROUGH PRESIDENT EMMANUEL MARTINEZ, CHAIRPERSON ISCHIA BRAVO, DISTRICT MANAGER

for all sidewalk cafes. However, during the Covid-19 Pandemic the City via a special filling process under the Department of Transportation (DOT) allowed restaurants to establish and operate sidewalk cafes in all areas (neighborhoods) of the city. Under the proposed zoning regulation text amendment, sidewalk cafes can continue to operate and be established without any geographical restriction even after the health emergency.

iv. DOT and DCP stated that this is the first steps to revamping the sidewalk café program and permitting process that will be regulated by DOT. They presented a timeline for the implementation of the new regulations for sidewalk cafes under the Open Restaurants Program by the end of 2022 to early 2023. The Open Restaurant Program will be presented to the Community Boards at a later time.

V. Next Meeting Date

a. Tuesday, October 12th, 2021 at 6:30pm via zoom

VI. Discussion on Next Agenda

a. CB 7 Capital and Expense Request

b. UPDATE: on local construction projects

VII. Adjournment