

Chairman Mohammed Mujumder - District Manager: William Rivera

# Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting Summary September 10, 2025

**Board Members Present:** Abunoman Rahman, Sadie Marie Davis, Lena Johnson, Shantel Castro, Helen Foreman-Hines, Roshawn Pettaway

### I. Introduction

**A. Committee Description:** The Parks and Recreation Committee represents the community's interests with regard to parks, park services and all park related matters and acts as a liaison between parks users and the New York City Parks Department.

## II. Speakers

# A. Victoria Toro - Outreach Manager at Bronx River Alliance, Cross Bronx Project Updates

It took decades for the Bronx to recover from the Cross Bronx Expressway and with years of repairs on the horizon residents worry about new trauma.

https://www.nytimes.com/2025/08/22/nyregion/south-bronx-park-expressway.html

The proposed structures would worsen air pollution, water pollution, and extreme urban heat (removal of trees) without providing meaningful improvements to east/west connectivity.

This project will cover 3 different community boards: 3, 6 and 9.

The duration of this project will take 5 years to be built.

### The project includes 4 Options:

- Option 1- Ramp from Southbound Bronx River Parkway to westbound CBE.
   Traffic diversion structure Post- construction use. Temporary connection from traffic diversion structure to CBE during construction. And no direct connection to CBE post construction.
- ii. Option 2- Ramp from Southbound Bronx river parkway to westbound CBE. No traffic diversion structure uses a path along CBE.
- iii. Option 1C- Ped/Bike only, Proposed connection to Bronx River Avenue in front of Bronx River Houses.
- iv. Option 1D- Includes a shared use path on the cross Bronx Expressway to increase connectivity within the project limits.

After public feedback, the NYSDOT dismissed the Build Alternatives 1A & 1B. Project Timeline

- i. 9.2024 Initiate Environmental Assessment
- ii. Early Fall 25 Release Draft Environmental Assessment
- iii. Fall 25 Public Hearings
- iv. Early 2026 Release Final Environmental Assessment Determination

- v. 2026 Construction Begins
- vi. 2030 Construction Completes (option 1)
- vii. 2032 Construction Completes (option 2)

For more information and resources visit: bit.ly/no-cbe

Request for CB9 Letter of opposition to prevent the building of additional roadway for the Cross Bronx 5 Bridges Project. This will be a voting matter at the General Board's Meeting on 9.18.25.

### B. BM Questions/Concerns

Concerns about health related factors were raised and safety concerns around the construction on the Bronx River area.

How much money out of the 900 million will be used for this project?

• \$150 Million will be allocated to this specific project.

The community isn't widely aware of this project. Who will conduct outreach of this project to the community?

- There is a consultant currently sharing this information out in the community.
- The Bronx River Alliance and partners hold monthly Coalition/Advocacy Meetings; one is coming up on 9.23.25

CB9 Board members will share this information amongst their networks to help get the word out.

#### C. New Business

- A. Space Time Playground Synthetic Turf Field and Basketball Courts Construction project began on Monday, August 25, 2025
- B. CB9 submitted a letter of support for the Soundview Park Skatepark Stormwater Resilience Project
- C. Soundview Park Representative will come to the next meeting to discuss Soundview Park updates.