

435 GRAHAM AVENUE - BROOKLYN, NY 11211-8813

PHONE: (718) 389-0009 FAX: (718) 389-0098 Email: bk01@cb.nyc.gov

Website: www.nyc.gov/brooklyncb1

HON. ERIC L. ADAMS BROOKLYN BOROUGH PRESIDENT

DEALICE FULLER
CHAIRPERSON

HON. STEPHEN T. LEVIN COUNCILMEMBER, 33rd CD

greenpoint williamsburg

GERALD A. ESPOSITO DISTRICT MANAGER HON. ANTONIO REYNOSO COUNCILMEMBER, 34th CD

SIMON WEISER FIRST VICE-CHAIRMAN

DEL TEAGUE SECOND VICE-CHAIRPERSON

GINA BARROS THIRD VICE-CHAIRMAN

MARIA VIERA FINANCIAL SECRETARY

SONIA IGLESIAS

RECORDING SECRETARY

PHILIP A. CAPONEGRO MEMBER-AT-LARGE COMBINED PUBLIC HEARING AND BOARD MEETING APRIL 13, 2021 VIA WEBEX

#### **PUBLIC HEARING**

NOTE to All Board Members: You must sign into the meeting using the Email address that you have provided to the office, otherwise you will not be able access the meeting.

NOTE --- All persons who wish to speak during Public Session, please use the link on CB#1's Website: <a href="https://www1.nyc.gov/site/brooklyncb1/meetings/speaker-request-form.page">https://www1.nyc.gov/site/brooklyncb1/meetings/speaker-request-form.page</a>

NOTE --- Elected Officials who wish to speak, please send an email to: Bk01@cb.nyc.gov

#### **ROLL CALL**

Chait Fuller called for a roll call to open the meeting at 6:04 P.M. 26 Members answered the call (see attached)

#### **PRESENTATION:**

Chair Fuller noted that item #4. Briefing on Proposed Project - To create 200 units of senior housing which would be an addition to Jennings Hall (819 Grand Street, Block 2922, Lots: 1 & 2) has been withdrawn by the applicant.

**Item #2-** Department of Design and Construction – Update on the plans for Bushwick Library (Brooklyn Public Library) – HVAC/Roof Replacement Protect – by Mr. Jomo Blackman, Outreach Coordinator, Office of Community Outreach & Notification, Public Buildings, NYC Department of Design and Construction. Was called with, no response.

**Item**#3 Briefing on Greenpoint Hospital – Plans for redevelopment of the former Greenpoint Hospital Campus- by Mr. Frank Lang, Director of Housing, St Nick's Alliance.

Mr. Frank Lang introduced Max Zarin who presented the project overview (see attached) They are seeking a June 21, 2021 certification date from City Planning at which time the formal Community Board review will begin.

Mr. Zarin stated that the proposed zoning change is site specific from an R6 to a R72 with a commercial overlay, the 200 Bed men's shelter will remain and a community giveback of ½

million to improve Cooper Park and 1 million to create a community center at 120 Jackson Street. The senior units will be developed through the Siera Program.

#### **PUBLIC SPEAKERS ON THIS ITEM INCLUDED:**

- 1. Ms. Lydia Cavallo supports the project but has concerns about the 18-story height of the new building.
- 2. Ms. Nilsa Roman- in favor of the project.
- 3. Ms. Teresita Aguilar inaudible.
- 4. Roberto Rodriguez- in favor of the project.
- 5. Elisha Fye- in favor of the project.
- 6. Paul Kelterborn-in favor of the project
- 7. Patricia Dobosz- in favor of the project
- 8. Michael Hofmann- in favor of the project
- 9. Maria Capolongo- in favor of the project
- 10. Anthony Goicolea- in favor of the project
- 11. Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney spoke in favor of the project and advised that funding was also available under the senior housing 202 program. (see attached Statement from Congresswoman Maloney)
- 12. District Leader Samuel Nemir Olivares spoke in favor of the project.

#### **PUBLIC SESSION**

- 1. Robert Johnson- spoke about complaints regarding: Pony Bar.
- 2. Françoise Olivas spoke about the conversion of a coffee shop into a bar overnight regarding 99 Franklin Street Coffee Shop.
- 3. John Ortiz- no answer.
- 4. Lance Hallway- no Answer

#### **ROLL CALL TO APPROVE THE AGENDA (ATTACHED)**

35 "YES"; 0 "NO"; 1 "ABSTENTION"

#### ROLL CALL TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE BOARD FOR 3/9/21)

36 "YES"; 0 "NO"; 1 "ABSTENTION" (Viera)

#### **PUBLIC SESSION**

- 1. Jeff Groner no answer
- 2. Rachel Z- no answer
- 3. Jay Solly- no answer
- 4. Joseph Heany- no answer
- 5. Andy McDowell- no answer
- 6. Steve Williams- representing the Accessible Dispatch program which connects seniors and disabled persons to car service. (See attached Brochure)

- 7. Melissa Morales- no answer
- 8. John Altyn- no answer
- 9. Noah Jemison- no answer
- 10. Salvotore Franchino- no answer
- 11. Shannon Phipps- no answer
- 12. Lesley Melincoff- no Answer
- 13. Leslie Wright, NYS Parks Director- Provided a short presentation "see attached" Ms. Wright will also present at the next Parks Committee Meeting on May 5, 2021 and Full Board Meeting on May 11, 2021.
- 14. Elizabeth Riggle- no answer
- 15. Andreas Szankay-he is opening a plant store on Bedford and Broadway on the triangle Offer's to maintain the flowers/shrubs on the George Washington Monument site.
- 16. Kevin Lacherra- referenced his Make Meeker avenue proposal (see attached)

#### **BOARD MEETING**

#### **PUBLIC SESSION**

(Reserved for the Public's expression. Board Members will not be allowed to speak.) **NOTE** --- All persons who wish to speak during this portion of the meeting **must: Register using the link: https://www1.nyc.gov/site/brooklyncb1/meetings/speaker-request-form.page**. Each scheduled participant for this session will have an allowance of two (2) minutes [time permitting.] (No questions will be entertained. Speakers are requested to submit their testimony in writing) There were a number of people who signed up to speak via the online form. Each

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **SLA Review & DCA Committee**

Sla Review & DCA Committee report is attached.

- 1) <u>Vote on new licenses:</u> 11 to approve, 2 denials, 1 postponed.
  - Mr. Bruzaitis abstained from Item #9 OB Hospitality Inc., 84 Havemeyer Street, (New, liquor, wine/beer, cider, rest.)
  - Motion to approve by Mr. Bachorowski second by Mr. Caponegro with a vote as follow: 35 "YES"; 0 "NO";1 "ABSTENTION" (Bruzaitis)
- 2) <u>Vote on renewals</u>: motion to approve made by Mr. Bachorowski second by Bruzaitis with a vote as follow: 36 "YES"; 0 "NO";0"ABSTENTION"
- 3) Previously postponed items:
  - Elite BK Inc., dba Elite, 128 Metropolitan Avenue, (Change of Operations, liquor, wine/beer, cider, rest)
  - 113 Franklin Dining LLC, TBD, 113 Franklin Street, (New, liquor, wine/beer, cider, rest)

#### Postponed:

620 LOR LLC, dba TBD, 620 Lorimer street, (New, liquor, wine/beer, cider pizzeria) Applicant is scheduled to appear on the next SLA Review & DCA Committee Meeting on April 27, 2021. Motion made Mr. Caponegro second Mr. Vega.

The vote was as follows: 22"YES"; 1 "NO"; 10"ABS"

4. Approval for Letter to be sent to the New York State Liquor Authority regarding Baba Cool LLC, dba Baba Cool, 47 Withers Street, (New, liquor, wine/beer, cider, rest). Motion made by Caponegro second by Mr. Vega.

The vote was as follows: 30 "YES"; 1 "NO"; 0 "ABS"

#### **CAPITAL BUDGET COMMITTEE (See attached report)**

Committee proposed sending the attached letter regarding the Preliminary Budget Motion made by Mr. Brooks second by Mr. Bachorowski The vote was as follows: 31 "YES"; 0 "NO"; 0 "ABS"

#### LAND USE, ULURP, & LANDMARKS [subcommittee] COMMITTEE

<u>114 Kingsland Avenue, Cal# 2020-85-BZ-</u> Motion made by Ms. McKeever second by Mr. Caponegro.

The vote was as follows: 28 "YES"; 3 "NO"; 0 "ABSTENTIONS"

#### 315 Berry Street:

Motion made by Ms. McKeever second by Mr. Vega (see attached letter)

The vote was as follows: 30 "YES"; 1 "NO"; 1 "ABSTENTIONS"

#### Two Trees – River Ring

The committee provided the (attached) recommendations to be sent to the Department of City Planning Scoping meeting.

Motion made by Ms. Nieves second by Mr. Solano.

The vote was as follows: 21 "YES"; 0"NO"; 8"ABSTENTIONS"

#### **LANDMARKS COMMITTEE**

Williamsburg Houses (see attached)

Motion made by Ms. Teague second by Mr. Chesler.

The vote was as follows: 30 "YES"; 0"NO"; 0"ABSTENTIONS"

#### TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

MTA proposal for an elevator installation at the intersection of Lorimer Street and Metropolitan Avenue. Committee proposed to send the attached comments to the MTA (see attached) Motion made by Mr. Chirichella second by Odomirok.

The vote was as follows: 27"YES"; 0"NO";0"ABSTENTIONS"

#### Bike Corral

Recommendation of the committee to approve the Bike Corral improvements being proposed by the Department of Transportation at the Banker/ Calyer/ Franklin intersection:

Motion made by Ms. McKeever second by Ms. Foster.

The vote was as follows: 25 "YES"; 0 "NO"; 2 "ABS"

#### Make Meeker Move

Motion made by Ms. Foster to support the "Make Meeker Move" proposal submitted to the Board by Mr. Kevin LaCherra, second by Mr. Brooks.

The vote was as follows: 22 "YES"; 0 "NO"; 1 "ABS"

Motion Failed due to Lack of a Quorum.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

This meeting cannot be Adjourned due to lack of a quorum and is continued to May 11, 2021 at 6:00PM.

A quorum call was requested on May 11, 2021 at 6:15 PM. 31 members answered the call.

A motion was made to close the April 13, 2021 meeting, 31 in favor, 0 "NO", 0"ABS", meeting was adjourned.

Reviewed by:

Respectfully submitted,

Sonia Iglesias

Recording Secretary



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SONIA IGLESIAS RECORDING SECRETARY

PHILIP A. CAPONEGRO MEMBER-AT-LARGE

March 18, 2021

greenpoint williamsburg

# COMBINED PUBLIC HEARING AND BOARD MEETING NOTICE

**TO:** Community Board Members and Residents

FROM: Dealice Fuller, Chairperson

**RE:** Scheduled Combined Public Hearing and Board Meeting

(26 Members Constitute a Quorum for the Board)

Please be advised that a Combined Public Hearing and Board Meeting of Brooklyn Community Board No. 1 will be held as follows:

**WHEN: TUESDAY --- APRIL 13, 2021** 

TIME: \*\*\* 6:00 PM \*\*\*

WHERE: WEBEX

(While we cannot meet in person, we will be meeting virtually.

Below are options for you to connect)

#### **Event Address for Attendees**

https://nyccb.webex.com/nyccb/onstage/q.php?MTID=ed0c1fe66f2c4a8d5ab1971bbeb6a1d69

**Event number:** 129 530 5244 **Event password:** EPbbAQRa826

**Audio conference:** +1-646-992-2010 [New York City]

**Access code:** 129 530 5244

NOTE to All Board Members: You must sign into the meeting using the Email address that you

have provided to the office, otherwise you will not be able access the meeting.

**NOTE** --- All persons who wish to speak during Public Session, please see form:

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NOTE --- Elected Officials who wish to speak, please send an email to: Bk01@cb.nyc.gov

12) Selamat Pagi LLC, 152 Driggs Avenue, (Corporate Change, Method of Operation Change, Class Change, wine, beer, cider, rest)

#### **RENEWAL**

- 1) 222 Franklin Street LLC, dba Anella, 222 Franklin Street, (Renewal, liquor, wine, beer, cider, rest)
- 2) 54 N11 BK LLC, dba Schimanski & Standing Room Bar, 60 North 11<sup>th</sup> Street, (Renewal, liquor, wine, beer, cider, rest, live music)
- 3) 1073 Manhattan Ave LLV., Lobster Joint, 1073 Manhattan Avenue, (Renewal, liquor, wine/beer, cider, rest)
- 4) Aleyin LLC, dba Cafe Beit, 158 Bedford Avenue, Renewal, wine, beer, cider, bar/tavern)
- 5) Avago Corp, dba Berry Park, 4-6 Berry Street, (Renewal, liquor, wine/beer, cider, bar, tavern)
- 6) Avant Gardner, The Great hall, The Kings Hall, and The Brooklyn Mirage, 111 Garner Avenue, and 140 Stewart Avenue, (Renewal, liquor, wine, beer, cider, multipurpose Event center/venue)
- 7) BKLN Garden LLC, dba Freehold, 41, 43, 45 South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, (Renewal, liquor, wine, beer, cider, rest
- 8) Brooklyn Barge Restaurant Group LLC, dba Brooklyn Barge Bar, 75 91 West Street, (Renewal, liquor, wine, beer, cider, rest)
- 9) Brooklyn Lantern Inc. and Box House Events Inc., dba The Box House/Brooklyn Lantern, 77 Box Street, (Renewal, liquor, wine, beer, cider, hotel with restaurant)
- 10) BWD LLC, dba The Topaz, 251 Bushwick Avenue, (Renewal, liquor, wine, beer, cider, bar/tavern)
- 11) Egg Shop of Williamsburg LLC, Egg Shop, 138 North 8<sup>th</sup> Street, (Renewal, liquor, wine, beer, cider, rest)
- 12) Grand street Food and Wine LLC & Night Moves Bar LLC, dba The four Horsemen & Night Moves Bar, 295 Grand Street, (Renewal, liquor, wine, beer, cider, rest)
- 13) Nebuchadnezzar Brooklyn LLC, dba Glasserie, 93 99 Commercial Street, (renewal, liquor, wine/beer, cider, rest)
- 14) Ramen on the Hill Inc. dba Andante, 255 Berry street, wine, beer, cider, rest)
- 15) Red House BK LLC, dba Kings Co Imperial 20, Skillman Avenue, (liquor, wine, beer, cider, rest)
- 16) So3Alpha Corp., dba Carneval, 507 Grand Street, (Renewal, liquor, wine, beer, cider, rest)
- 17) Woodfoot LLC, dba Pokito, 155 South 4<sup>th</sup> Street, (Renewal, liquor, wine, beer, cider, rest)

#### **PUBLIC HEARING**

#### 1. ROLL CALL

- 2. <u>PRESENTATION</u>: Department of Design and Construction Update on the plans for Bushwhick Library (Brooklyn Public Library) HVAC/Roof Replacement Protect by Mr. Jomo Blackman, Outreach Coordinator, Office of Community Outreach & Notification, Public Buildings, NYC Department of Design and Construction.
- 3. PRESENTATION: Briefing on Greenpoint Hospital Plans for redevelopment of the former Greenpoint Hospital Campus St. Nicks Alliance is part of a joint venture with Hudson Companies and Project Renewal Inc., which are developing the campus to create 550 new affordable apartments and a new 200 bed men's shelter to replace existing one. by Mr. Frank Lang, Director of Housing, St. Nick's Alliance.
- **4.** PRESENTATION: Briefing on Proposed Project To create 200 units of senior housing which would be an addition to Jennings Hall St. Nicks Alliance is attempting to develop the property at the corner of Grand Street and Bushwick Avenue (819 Grand Street, Block 2922, Lots: 1 & 2) to add 200 rental apartments of affordable to low income housing. The project will require a rezoning of the property from the current R7-A to R7-X to enable the full development to proceed. by Mr. Frank Lang, Director of Housing, St. Nick's Alliance.

#### 5. LIQUOR LICENSES

#### **NEW**

- 1) 232 N 12<sup>th</sup> Restaurant LLC, dba Santa Parque, 232 North 12<sup>th</sup> Street, (New, liquor, wine, beer, cider, rest)
- 2) Anella Brooklyn LLC, dba Anella, 222 Franklin Street, New, liquor, wine, beer, cider, rest)
- 3) Bistro So Corp, dba Bistro So, 530 Driggs Avenue, (New, liquor, wine, beer, cider, rest)
- 4) Burgies on The Block LLC, dba Burgies, 198 Randolph Street, (New, liquor, wine, beer, cider, rest)
- 5) Catalpanyc LLC, dba Catalpa Cafe, 25 Greenpoint Avenue, (New, liquor, wine, beer, cider, bar/tavern)
- 6) Clocruz Inc., dba Clo Cafe, 39 Bushwick Avenue, (Corporate Change, Removal, liquor, wine/beer, cider, rest)
- 7) Hungry Ghost Metropolitan Corp., dba Hungry Ghost Coffee, 721 Metropolitan Avenue, (New, wine, beer, cider, bar/tavern)
- 8) JankyBoys LLC, dba Jack's Wife Freda, 258 Metropolitan Avenue, (New, liquor, wine, beer, cider, rest)
- 9) Kieran Mc Namara, dba TBD, 506 Grand Street, (New, liquor, wine, beer, cider, bar/rest)
- 10) New Hope Brooklyn LLC, dba Ten Hope, 10 12 Hope Street, (Method of Operation, liquor, wine, beer cider, rest)
- 11) Ponyboy Bar LLC, dba Ponyboy, 632 Manhattan Avenue, (Method of Operation Change, liquor, wine, beer, cider, rest)

#### **BOARD MEETING**

- 1. MOMENT OF SILENCE
- 2. ROLL CALL
- 3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA
- 4. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES** Board Meeting of March 9, 2021
- 5. PUBLIC SESSION

(Reserved for the Public's expression. Board Members will not be allowed to speak.)

**NOTE** --- All persons who wish to speak during this portion of the meeting **must**: **Register using the link**:

https://www1.nyc.gov/site/brooklyncb1/meetings/speaker-request-form.page

Each scheduled participant for this session will have an allowance of two (2) minutes [time permitting.] (No questions will be entertained. Speakers are requested to submit their testimony in writing)

- 6. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**
- 7. PARKS DEPARTMENT MINUTE As written.
- 8. **ANNOUNCEMENTS: ELECTED OFFICIALS** Called in the order of signup.
- 9. ADJOURNMENT

Note: For further information on accessibility or to make a request for accommodations, such as sign language interpretation services, please contact Brooklyn Community Board No. 1, Tel. (718) 389-0009; at least (5) business days in advance to ensure availability.

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5	/	,			A. C. M. SHIP.		

NAME	ROLL CALL 1ST	ROLL CALL 2ND	ROLL CALL 3RD	ROLL CALL 4RD	ROLL CALL 5TH
GINA ARGENTO	1		/		
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GINA BARROS	1		1	1	
TEON BROOKS	1/				
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THERESA CIANCIOTTA	1	7	1	·/	
GIOVANNI D'AMATO	1	/	1	7	
ERIN DRINKWATER	1	/	/	7	
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AVROM KATZ				/	
WILLIAM KLAGSBALD	_	/	V	V	
RYAN KUONEN					
YOEL LANDAU	,				
MARIE LEANZA		/	/	V	
ABRAHAM LEBOVITS					, ,
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TRINA McKEEVER	/	/.	$\checkmark$	V .	
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KAREN NIEVES		1	V.		
MARY ODOMIROK		/	/	/	
JANICE PETERSON		1	1/	/	
DANA RACHLIN	/	/	./	1	
BELLA SABEL		V -			
ISAAC SOFER		-			
ROBERT SOLANO		1	./	./	
JAMES STUART		1	1	7.	
DEL E. TEAGUE		1	V/	/	
TOMMY TORRES	-	1	V/	1	
WILLIAM VEGA		/	,	1	
MARIA VIERA	1	/	~/	100	
STEPHEN WEIDBERG	1/	1	7	ABS	
SIMON WEISER	-	1		-/-	
	26	36	36	36	
TOTAL:	26	44			

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DATE:

1. To Establish a Quorum to close the April 13th Board MEETING

2. MOTION TO CLOSE the April 13th meeting 6:18 pm

3. To open the Board Meeting 5/11/21 Roll Call

4.

5.

NAME	ROLL CALL 1ST	ROLL CALL 2ND	ROLL CALL 3RD	ROLL CALL 4RD	ROLL CALL 5TH
GINA ARGENTO	13/1	21310	7	TICE	JIII
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BOGDAN BACHOROWSKI	+/	-			_
LISA BAMONTE	1				
GINA BARROS	//		/_		
TEON BROOKS	1/	/			
ERIC BRUZAITIS		/	/	(9)	
THOMAS J. BURROWS		/			
IRIS CABRERA			/		
PHILIP CAPONEGRO			/		
FRANK P. CARBONE	/	1.	/		
STEPHEN CHESLER	1	1	/		
MICHAEL CHIRICHELLA	1	/			
THERESA CIANCIOTTA		· ·			
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GIOVANNI D'AMATO	-	/	-		
ERIN DRINKWATER	1	//	/	1	
ARTHUR DYBANOWSKI	1	1,			
T. WILLIS ELKINS	/	/			
JULIA AMANDA FOSTER		1			
DEALICE FULLER	/	/	/		
JOEL GOLDSTEIN					
JOEL GROSS					
SONIA IGLESIAS					
MOISHE INDIG					
BOZENA KAMINSKI	/				
AVROM KATZ		-			
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WILLIAM KLAGSBALD		1	-		
RYAN KUONEN	/	/	/	-	
YOEL LANDAU		-		-	
MARIE LEANZA		/	/		
ABRAHAM LEBOVITS					
YOEL LOW					
TRINA McKEEVER	/	/	/_		
SANTE MICELI	/	/	/,		
TOBY MOSKOVITS		1	/		
MARTIN NEEDELMAN		/			
RABBI DAVID NIEDERMAN					
KAREN NIEVES					
			-		
MARY ODOMIROK	1	1			
JANICE PETERSON	-	-			
DANA RACHLIN		-	/	+	
BELLA SABEL		-	-	+	
ISAAC SOFER		1	-	-	
ROBERT SOLANO	/	1	/		-
JAMES STUART		,			
DEL E. TEAGUE	/	1	/		
TOMMY TORRES		i.	,		
WILLIAM VEGA	/	/	/		
MARIA VIERA			/		
STEPHEN WEIDBERG					
SIMON WEISER	1		/		
TOTAL:	31	21	31		
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SLA 15 Vite New Liquer Licenses

BOARD MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING DATE: 4/13/21

	·		Yes NO ABS	
CDIA ADCENTO	YES NO ABS	WILLIAM KLAGSBALD		
GINA ARGENTO BOGDAN BACHOROWSKI		RYAN KUONEN		
		YOEL LANDAU	000	
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FRANK CARBONE	取口口	MARTIN NEEDELMAN		
STEPHEN CHESLER	<b>I</b>	RABBI DAVID NIEDERMAN		
MICHAEL CHIRICHELLA		KAREN NIEVES	<b>№</b> □□	
THERESA CIANCIOTTA		MARY ODOMIROK		
GIOVANNI D'AMATO	<b>国</b>	JANICE PETERSON		
ERIN DRINKWATER	<b>12</b> 0 0	DANA RACHLIN	DR 🗆 🗆	
ARTHUR DYBANOWSKI		BELLA SABEL		
T. WILLIS ELKINS	<b>8</b> 2 □ □	ISAAC SOFER		
JULIA AMANDA FOSTER	<b>5</b> 00	ROBERT SOLANO	<b>以</b> 口口	
DEALICE FULLER		JAMES STUART		
JOEL GOLDSTEIN	<b>2</b> 0 0	DEL TEAGUE		
JOEL GROSS		TOMMY TORRES		
SONIA IGLESIAS	12 0 0	WILLIAM VEGA	<b>8</b> 00	
MOISHE INDIG		MARIA VIERA		
BOZENA KAMINSKI	<b>B</b> 00	STEPHEN WEIDBERG	<b>A</b> 🗆	
AVROM KATZ		SIMON WEISER		
Time: 8fm Tally: 3 YES ONO ABS MECUSAL				



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Website: www.nyc.gov/brooklyncb1



SLA	vote	Resewoln

#### DATE: 4-13-21 **BOARD MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING** YES NO ABS Yes NO ABS **GINA ARGENTO** WILLIAM KLAGSBALD **BOGDAN BACHOROWSKI** RYAN KUONEN LISA BAMONTE YOEL LANDAU **GINA BARROS** MARIE LEANZA 図 🗆 🗆 TEON BROOKS ABRAHAM LEBOVITS **ERIC BRUZAITIS** YOEL LOW THOMAS J. BURROWS TRINA McKEEVER 内口口 IRIS CABRERA SANTE MICELI PHILIP CAPONEGRO TOBY MOSKOVITS FRANK CARBONE 図口口 MARTIN NEEDELMAN STEPHEN CHESLER RABBI DAVID NIEDERMAN MICHAEL CHIRICHELLA KAREN NIEVES THERESA CIANCIOTTA MARY ODOMIROK GIOVANNI D'AMATO JANICE PETERSON 图 🗆 🗆 ERIN DRINKWATER DANA RACHLIN ARTHUR DYBANOWSKI **BELLA SABEL** T. WILLIS ELKINS ISAAC SOFER JULIA AMANDA FOSTER ROBERT SOLANO DEALICE FULLER **JAMES STUART** JOEL GOLDSTEIN **DEL TEAGUE** | 日 | 日 JOEL GROSS TOMMY TORRES SONIA IGLESIAS WILLIAM VEGA MOISHE INDIG MARIA VIERA **BOZENA KAMINSKI** STEPHEN WEIDBERG AVROM KATZ SIMON WEISER Time: 8:05 Pr Tally: 36 YES

**ABS** 

**RECUSAL** 



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Website: <u>www.nyc.gov/brooklyncb1</u>



SLA Liquor Licenses

BOARD MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING DATE: 4/15/2/

	YES NO ABS		Yes NO ABS
GINA ARGENTO		WILLIAM KLAGSBALD	
BOGDAN BACHOROWSKI		RYAN KUONEN	<b>₫</b> □ □
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IRIS CABRERA		SANTE MICELI	
PHILIP CAPONEGRO	▼ □ □	TOBY MOSKOVITS	
FRANK CARBONE	□ □ 4	MARTIN NEEDELMAN	
STEPHEN CHESLER		RABBI DAVID NIEDERMAN	
MICHAEL CHIRICHELLA		KAREN NIEVES	
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JULIA AMANDA FOSTER	<b>#</b> 🗆 🗆	ROBERT SOLANO	
DEALICE FULLER		JAMES STUART	
JOEL GOLDSTEIN	<b>P</b>	DEL TEAGUE	
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motion to Send Letter

**BOARD MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING** DATE: 4/13/21

	YES NO ABS		Yes NO ABS
GINA ARGENTO	000	WILLIAM KLAGSBALD	
BOGDAN BACHOROWSKI		RYAN KUONEN	
LISA BAMONTE	000	YOEL LANDAU	
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# BOARD MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING DATE: 4/13/2/

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215 BERRY Street.

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Committee to displance the project

BOARD MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING DATE: 4/13/21

	YES NO ABS		Yes NO ABS
GINA ARGENTO		WILLIAM KLAGSBALD	<b>À</b> 00
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to the Sciping Session

RE: Two Trees proposal to the con all ste

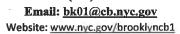
BOARD MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING DATE: 4 3 2

	YES NO ABS		Yes NO ABS
GINA ARGENTO		WILLIAM KLAGSBALD	
BOGDAN BACHOROWSKI	<b>№</b> □ □	RYAN KUONEN	
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Contamosts	vote on
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BOARD MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING DATE: 1/5/					
	YES NO ABS		Yes NO ABS		
GINA ARGENTO		WILLIAM KŁAGSBALD			
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LISA BAMONTE	00	YOEL LANDAU			
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BOARD MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING DATE: 4/13/2/

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Time: Tally: YES NO ABS RECUSAL				



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BOARD MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING DATE: 4/13/2

	YES NO ABS		Yes NO ABS	
GINA ARGENTO	800	WILLIAM KLAGSBALD	و و و	
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Time:Tally: 29 YES 9 NO 2 ABS RECUSAL				



**BOZENA KAMINSKI** 

AVROM KATZ

Time:

#### **COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 1**

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RECUSAL

Yes NO. ABS GINA ARGENTO WILLIAM KLAGSBALD **BOGDAN BACHOROWSKI** RYAN KUONEN YOEL LANDAU LISA BAMONTE **GINA BARROS** MARIE LEANZA TEON BROOKS ABRAHAM LEBOVITS **ERIC BRUZAITIS** YOEL LOW THOMAS J. BURROWS TRINA McKEEVER IRIS CABRERA SANTE MICELI 和口口 TOBY MOSKOVITS PHILIP CAPONEGRO FRANK CARBONE MARTIN NEEDELMAN を ロロ RABBI DAVID NIEDERMAN STEPHEN CHESLER KAREN NIEVES MICHAEL CHIRICHELLA THERESA CIANCIOTTA MARY ODOMIROK GIOVANNI D'AMATO JANICE PETERSON 杏口口 DANA RACHLIN ERIN DRINKWATER ARTHUR DYBANOWSKI **BELLA SABEL** ISAAC SOFER T. WILLIS ELKINS JULIA AMANDA FOSTER **X** 🗆 🗆 ROBERT SOLANO JAMES STUART DEALICE FULLER 吃 🗆 🗆 JOEL GOLDSTEIN **DEL TEAGUE** TOMMY TORRES **JOEL GROSS** WILLIAM VEGA SONIA IGLESIAS **MARIA VIERA** MOISHE INDIG

Tally: 72 YES Ø

STEPHEN WEIDBERG

ABS

SIMON WEISER

NO 🏖

I'm so glad to be able to join you tonight to share a quick update on what I and Democrats are working on in DC.

As you know, in March, President Biden signed into law the American Rescue Plan - a \$1.9 trillion emergency response package to respond to the health and economic crises wrought by the Coronavirus.

The package is projected to provide roughly \$100 billion dollars to New York State, our communities, and our families through:

- Direct aid to our city and state; specifically, \$12.9 billion dollars to the State and \$5.95 billion dollars to the City,
- more than \$1 billion dollars in rent relief,
- small business assistance
- \$6.5 billion dollars in aid to the MTA,
- a total of more than \$22 billion dollars in direct payments to individuals and families in the form of \$1,400 dollar stimulus checks,
- roughly \$8 billion dollars through expansions to the Child Tax Credit and Earned Income Tax Credit,
- extended unemployment assistance, and other key programs.

The American Rescue Plan is the life preserver we need right now to stay afloat, and now we are focusing on how we Build Back Better.

The first order of business is the American Jobs Plan - a transformative infrastructure package to modernize our infrastructure, including transit systems, make sizeable investments in climate change and clean energy technology, fund affordable housing, including investments in NYCHA and broadband deployment, and so much more.

I'll be working hard to make sure that this is signed into law. We need to ensure a robust and equitable recovery.

I also serve as the Chairwoman of the House Oversight Committee where we've been busy investigating the pharmaceutical industry and the outrageous prices they charge for prescription drugs and advancing DC Statehood - which will be on the House floor for a vote later this month.

As a senior member on the House Financial Services Committee, I also remain focused on delivering federal support for affordable housing. Here at home I am proud to support St. Nick's Alliance, and its partners, in their efforts on the Greenpoint Hospital project. An important plan that will deliver affordable housing, senior housing, the rehabilitation of the nurses' quarters for a men's shelter and much more. The project is set for ULURP this summer and I look forward to the ultimate completion in the near future.

Thank you, again, for having me and if you want to receive more frequent updates from me, make sure to sign up for newsletter through maloney.house.gov and follow me on Twitter and Instagram at @RepMaloney and on Facebook at RepCarolynMaloney.

# COOPER PARK COMMONS



# **PROJECT TEAM**

#### St. Nicks Alliance

- SNA has provided services to low- and middle-income families in North Brooklyn since 1975
- Has developed over 2,600 units of affordable housing
- Part of coalition advocating for redevelopment of Greenpoint Hospital since 1980s

### **Hudson Companies**

- Hudson has been developing affordable and market-rate housing in NYC since the 1980s
- Built affordable housing in N. Brooklyn under New Homes program
- Organizational commitment to affordability and sustainability

#### **Project Renewal**

- PRI is one of New York's oldest and most established providers of homeless housing and services
- Operates 2,000 shelter beds and 1,900 permanent housing units
- Provide a range of other services, such as health care and job training, to tens of thousands of individuals a year













# **PROJECT MISSION**

#### **Mission**

Cooper Park Commons will create a new community hub serving the residents of Greenpoint, East Williamsburg, and beyond. The project will be responsive to the needs and aspirations of the community and built in partnership with local organizations that have laid the foundation for the redevelopment of this site. The redevelopment of the Greenpoint Hospital campus will serve as a vibrant junction between Cooper Park Houses, Cooper Park, the Graham Avenue commercial corridor, and the surrounding residential areas.

### **Cooper Park Commons Will:**

- Provide much-needed affordable housing across a spectrum of affordability, from formerly homeless to 80% AMI
- Provide critical neighborhood amenities and community facility space
- Create new public open spaces for community members to gather
- Replace the existing homeless shelter with a state-of-the-art facility







# SINCE WE LAST MET...

- Working towards June '21 ULURP certification
  - Submitted EAS to HPD and consulting agencies
  - Submitted ULURP application to HPD and DCP
  - Continued to advance Phase I design
  - Secured predevelopment funding
  - Continued to conduct community outreach









# SITE INFORMATION















# SITE PLAN

## Building 1

200-bed homeless shelter

# Building 2

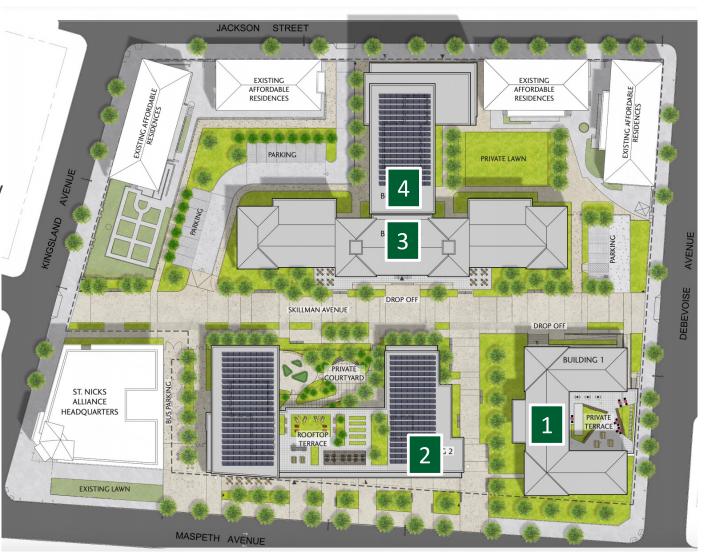
311 units affordable housing Retail and community facility

# Building 3

109 units senior aff. housing

# Building 4

137 units affordable housing Community facility









# **AFFORDABILITY PROPOSAL**

Residential units & affordability (100% AMI for family of 3: \$102,400)

Building	Formerly Homeless	30% AMI	40% AMI	50% AMI	60% AMI	80% AMI	Super	Total
Building 2	93	16	16	44	48	93	1	311
Building 3	33	25	25	25	0	0	1	109
Building 4	41	7	7	19	21	41	1	137
Total	167	48	48	88	69	134	3	557

<sup>\*</sup>AMI distributions including formerly homeless set-aside subject to HPD approval and subject to change until project closing







# **HOMELESS SHELTER**

A 200-bed shelter serving single adult men from employment and mental health populations, operated by Project Renewal.

### **On-site Programs**

- Case management
- Healthcare
- "Next step" employment counseling
- Occupational therapy
- Housing placement services
- Safety

### Working with the Community

- 24/7 safety and security program
- Good Neighbor Policy
- Community Advisory Board
- Keeping connected and in communication









# SITE PLAN

1 – Comm. Facility

Health Clinic

# 2 – Comm. Facility

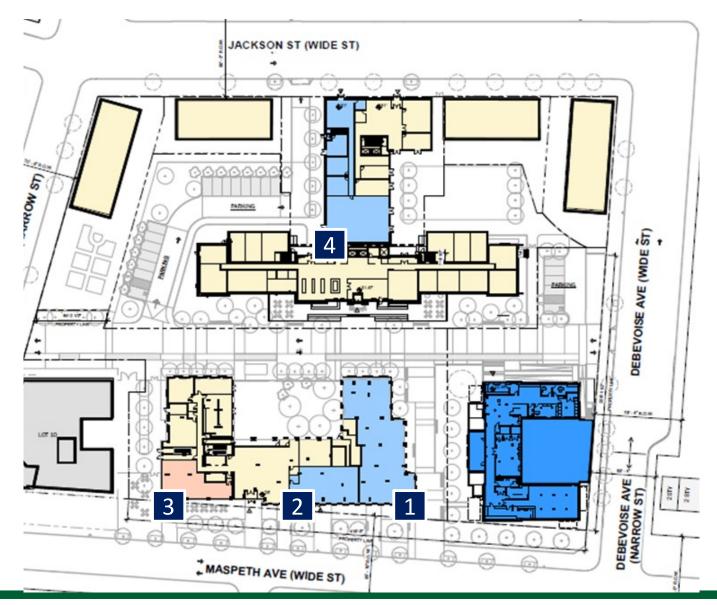
Business/workforce development center

### 3 – Retail

Cafe

# 4 – Comm. Facility

Senior center









# **COMMERCIAL AND COMMUNITY FACILITY**

### **Building 2**

- Health clinic
  - 5,000 SF walk-in clinic, serving the community
- Business/Workforce Development center
  - 2,500 SF
  - Operated by St. Nicks, partnership with Evergreen
- Café
  - 1,500 SF
  - Amenity to serve residents, neighbors, and parkgoers

### **Building 4**

- Senior Center
  - 6,500 SF
  - Relocation of existing NYCHA Cooper Park Houses center - across street.
  - Provide expanded services and modernized amenities











# **BUILDING & CAMPUS AMENITIES**

- All buildings built to LEED Gold and/or Passive House standard
- Solar arrays on two buildings
- Outdoor courtyards and playgrounds
- Children's playrooms
- Tenants' lounges
- Rooftop terraces
- Laundry rooms
- Fitness centers
- Bike storage in every building









# **COMMUNITY BENEFITS**

### **Job Creation**

- A focus on local hiring, led by St. Nicks Alliance
- MWBE hiring: participation in HireNYC
- Employment opportunities beyond construction: property maintenance, landscaping, retail, and social services

## **Community Open Spaces**

- New public open spaces throughout the campus
- Improved accessibility and neighborhood connectivity via the campus
- Improved safety and security

## **Sustainability**

- Expansive neighborhood stormwater retention system with onsite stormwater basins and permeable surfaces
- Lower emissions from buildings for better air quality









West from Skillman Ave.









North to the Main Hospital Building from Maspeth Ave.







# **AERIAL VIEW**









# **AERIAL VIEW**











Northwest from Cooper Park









Southeast from Jackson Street









Recreational lawn, looking southeast







# PROJECT SCHEDULE

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
Environmental Review									
ULURP*									
Predevelopment									
Building 1 Construction									
Building 2 Construction									
Demolition									
Building 3 Construction									
Building 4 Construction									

<sup>\*</sup>Anticipated ULURP certification : June 21, 2021







# COOPER PARK COMMONS



# Community Feedback Marsha P. Johnson State Park





STARR WHITEHOUSE Landscape Architects and Planners PLLC



## **PARTICIPATION**

## **Listening Sessions**

- 21 hours dedicated to public input
- 6 meetings in person and on line

## **Conversations** (Virtual Meeting and Tabling in Park)

- 72 people joined the March 31, 2021 virtual meetings
- 87 people signed-in on April 3 & 5, 2021

## Surveys (Online)

- 160 responses as of April 7, 2021
- 2 surveys submitted in Spanish



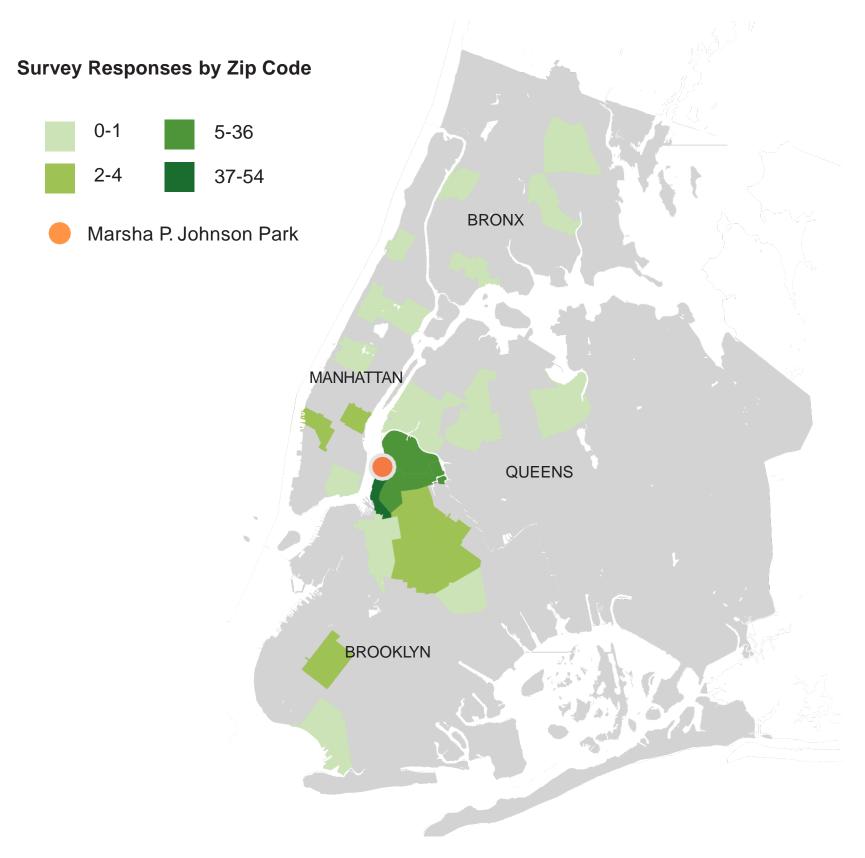
# WHAT WE HEARD | CONVERSATIONS VIRTUAL MEETING AND TABLING

# 5 themes emerged in conversations during the virtual meeting and while tabling in the park:

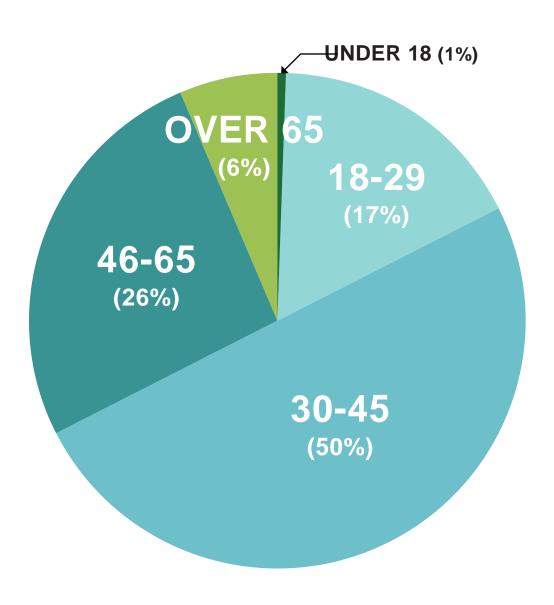
- Commemoration
- Park Character
  - Rustic / historic elements
  - Spacious lawn & waterfront
  - Natural landscape & habitat
  - o River views
  - Limit paving and asphalt
- Programming
- Accessibility and Connections
- Sustainability



# WHAT WE HEARD | SURVEY SURVEY RESPONDENTS



### **Survey Responses by Age Group**



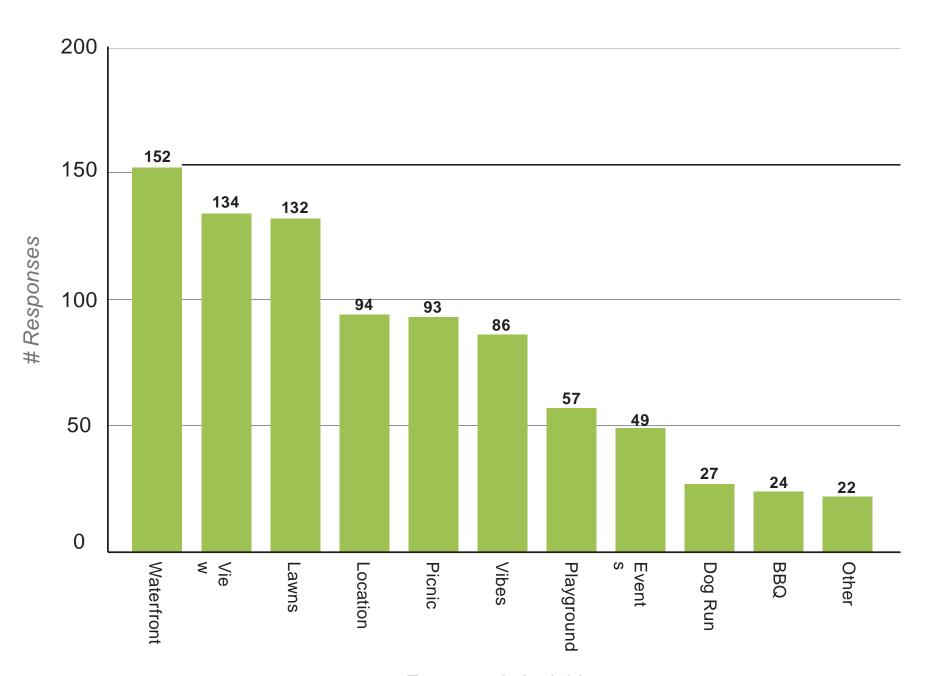


# WHAT WE HEARD | SURVEY WHAT DO YOU ENJOY ABOUT THE PARK?

# The park's riverfront setting and atmosphere are favorite features.

## TOP 5 RESPONSES

- Waterfront
- Views
- Lawns
- Location
- Picnicking



Features & Activities



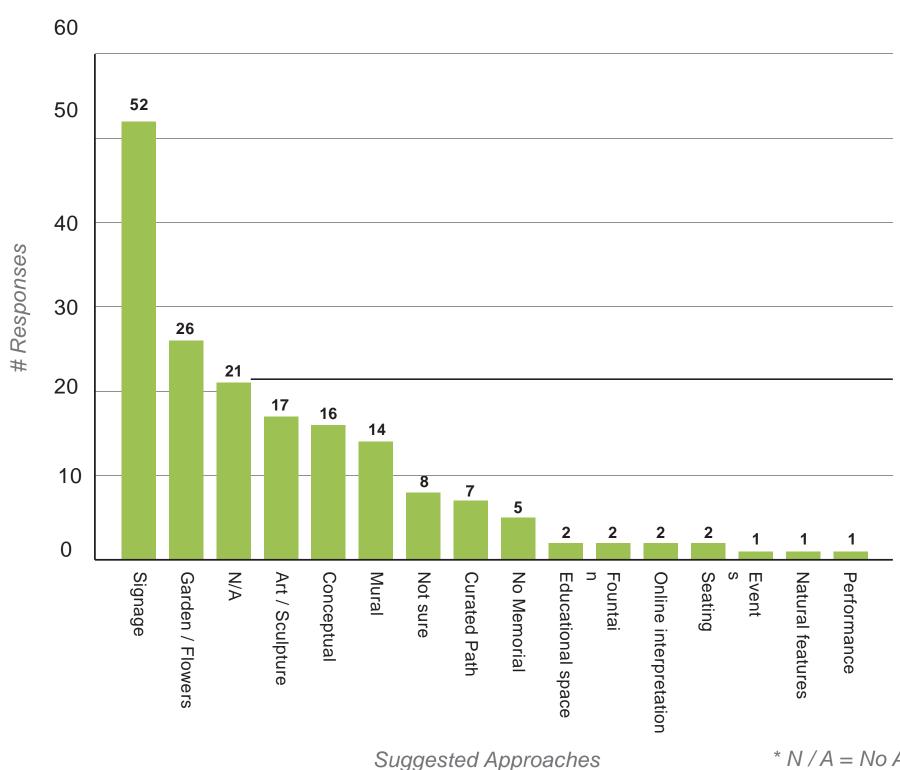
## WHAT WE HEARD | SURVEY HOW SHOULD INFORMATION ABOUT MARTHA P. JOHNSON BE PRESENTED?

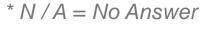
There were many ideas for telling the story of Marsha P. Johnson, with signage and a garden / flowers most commonly suggested by respondents.

## TOP 5 **SUGGESTIONS**

- Signage / Plaque / Photo
- Garden / Flowers
- Art Sculpture
- Mural
- Curated Path

Several respondents also offered "conceptual" suggestions for how the process for creating a commemoration should be carried out.



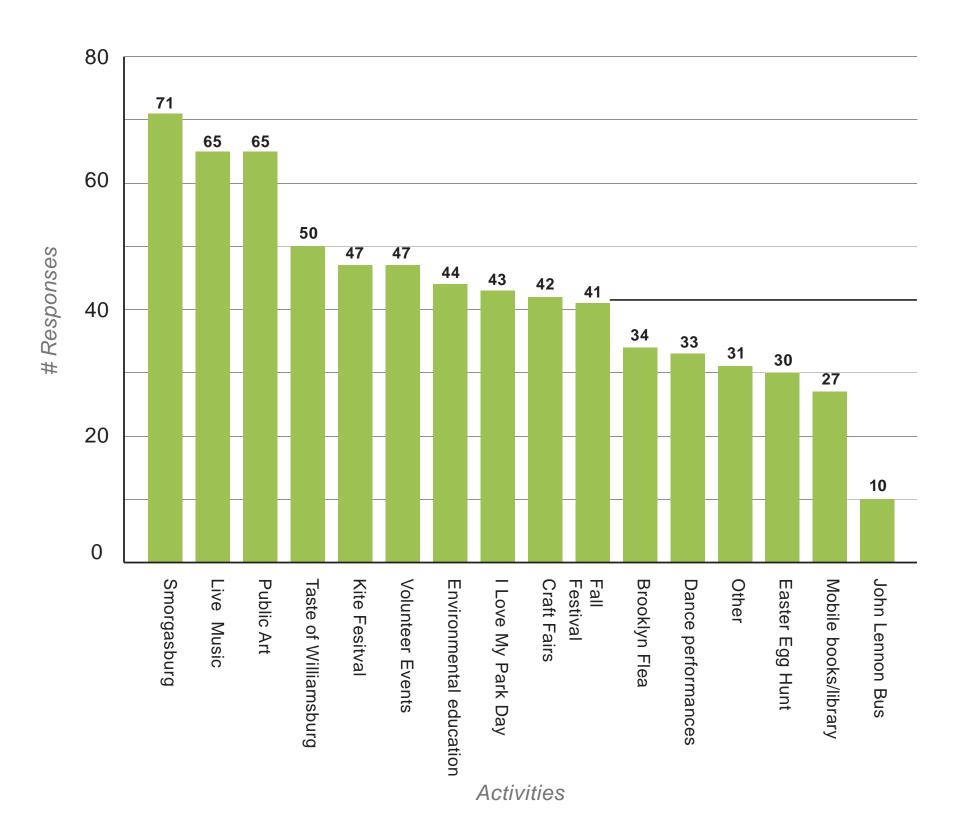


# WHAT WE HEARD | SURVEY WHAT EVENTS AND PROGRAMS DO YOU ATTEND IN THE PARK?

Visitors come to the park for a variety of programs and activities. Shoreline habitat

### **TOP 5 RESPONSES**

- Smorgasburg
- Live music
- Public art
- Taste of Williamsburg
- Annual kite festival



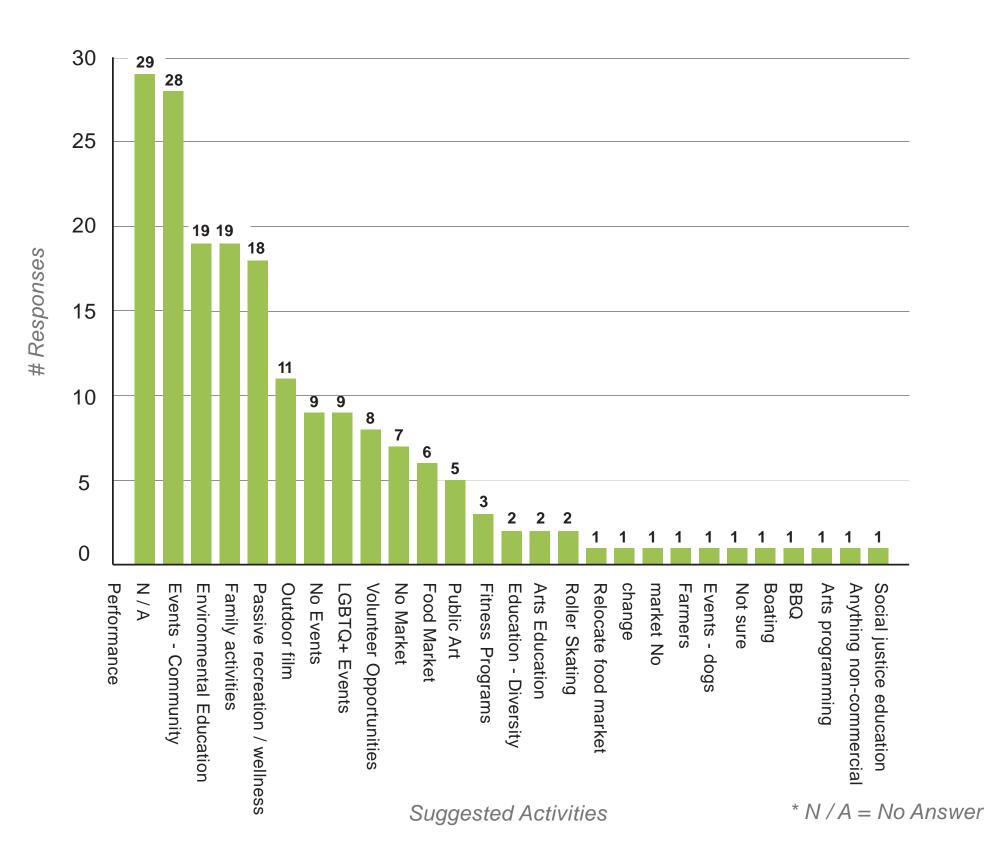


# WHAT WE HEARD | SURVEY WHAT EVENTS AND PROGRAMS WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE MORE OF IN THE PARK?

Respondents suggested both passive recreation with a wellness focus as well as community -based and LTGBQ+ events.

### **TOP 5 SUGGESTIONS**

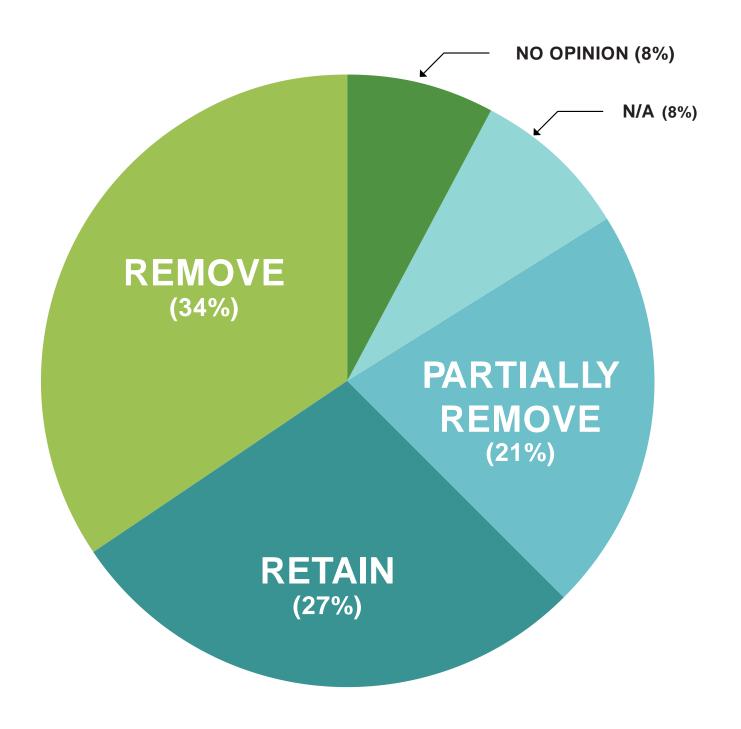
- Performances
- Community events
- Environmental education
- Family Activities
- Passive recreation / wellness





# WHAT WE HEARD | SURVEY WHAT'S YOUR OPINION ABOUT THE CONCRETE SLABS?

There is a spectrum of opinion about the concrete slabs – some people want to see them removed, some people like them as they are.







## What's Next

### Public design review

- Tuesday, April 20 10 am to 1 pm and 3 to 7 pm. *In person meeting*.
- Saturday, April 24 10 am to 1 pm and 3 to 7 pm. *In person meeting*.
- Monday, April 26 6 to 9 pm. *Virtual meeting*.

### Final public review

- Saturday, May 1 10 am to 1 pm and 3 to 7 pm. *In person meeting*.
- Monday, May 3 6 to 9 pm. *Virtual meeting*.







#### **Booking Accessible Dispatch Rides**

Below are just a few reminders regarding the important aspects of the Accessible Dispatch Program:

- You do not need to enroll in the program. Everyone is eligible. You can start using this service right away.
- You can request service via our 24/7 dispatch phone line, mobile app, or website.
- All drivers are trained in wheelchair securement
- Service is available 24 hours a day
- Accessible Dispatch passengers do not pay any additional fees. Passengers pay the standard metered rate set by the TLC.
- Passengers can request trips on-demand or book future reservations.

There are three easy ways to book a ride with Accessible Dispatch:

- 1. Download the Accessible Dispatch NYC mobile app available on the Apple and Google Play app stores
- 2. Book a trip at <a href="http://go.pardot.com/e/48102/--">http://go.pardot.com/e/48102/--</a> booking/878dzx/577914827?h=2zdZORdTEe3izh7llySn9cguXT8ijvlkQhpsDvUc2E

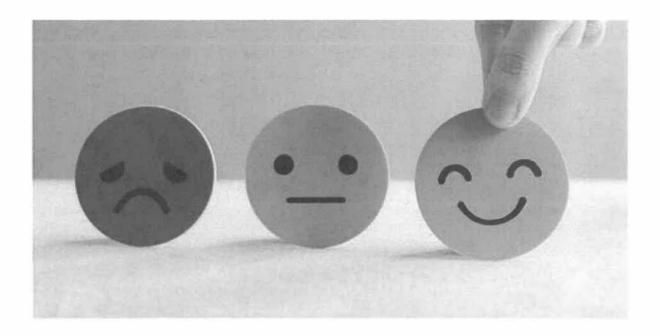
#### 3. Call 1-646-599-9999 (TTY: 711)



#### **COVID-19 Precautions & Updates**

During the COVID-19 health crisis, Accessible Dispatch has taken steps to protect passengers by:

- 1. Reminding drivers that they are required to clean and disinfect their vehicles routinely.
- 2. Requiring drivers to maintain a physical distance.
- 3. Asking passengers to sit in the rear of the vehicle to create a physical distance.
- 4. If the vehicle has a partition, asking drivers to close the partition before picking up passengers.
- 5. Only transporting passengers who are in the same party. Group rides also known as "shared" or "pooled" rides) are not permitted.
- 6. Using vehicle vents to bring in fresh outside air and/or lowering the windows.



#### **Recognizing Mental Health Awareness Month**

Throughout the month of May, Accessible Dispatch is recognizing Mental Health Awareness Month. While it is good news that mental health awareness is a growing topic, there is still work to do.

As a whole, mental health is often misunderstood because it includes several areas. These areas include social, emotional, and psychological well-being, and can affect thoughts, feelings, and actions. When one has positive mental health, they are better equipped to handle stress, be more productive, and realize their full potential.

The Accessible Dispatch Program is a champion of mental wellness and encourages everyone to take the important steps to take care of their mental and emotional wellbeing.

Once again, I look forward to building and maintaining a great relationship with you. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at 914-320-3970 or accessibledispatch@mtm-inc.net.

Sincerely,

#### Steven Williams

Outreach Coordinator, Accessible Dispatch

# Need a Ride?



#### Call 646-599-9999, or Dial 711 for NY Relay



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COMMUNITY BOARD No. 1

435 GRAHAM AVENUE - BROOKLYN, NY 11211-8813

PHONE: (718) 389-0009 FAX: (718) 389-0098 Email: bk01@cb.nyc.gov

Website: www.nyc.gov/brooklyncb1

HON. ERIC L. ADAMS BROOKLYN BOROUGH PRESIDENT

DEALICE FULLER CHAIRPERSON

GERALD A. ESPOSITO

DISTRICT MANAGER

HON. STEPHEN T. LEVIN COUNCILMEMBER, 33rd CD

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MARIA VIERA FINANCIAL SECRETARY

SONIA IGLESIAS RECORDING SECRETARY

PHILIP A. CAPONEGRO MEMBER-AT-LARGE

March 19, 2021

-williamsburg

#### **COMMITTEE REPORT**

TO:

CB#1 Board Members

FROM:

Ms. Dealice Fuller, CB#1 Chairperson

RE:

**Executive Committee Report** 

for March 17, 2021 Meeting

The Executive Committee held a meeting on Wednesday, March 17, 2021 at 6:30 PM. The committee met virtually via WEBEX.

#### **ATTENDANCE:**

Present: Fuller, Chairperson; Weiser; Teague; Barros; Viera; Iglesias; Caponegro

Absent: None. A quorum was present.

The Committee Reviewed the proposed Agenda (see attached) and a motion was made by Caponegro and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Teague to approve. Motion was approved unanimously.

Teague initiated a discussion about the removal of McKeever from the Environmental Protection Committee. Other Committee Member also asked Chair Fuller to reconsider her decision. Fuller Stated that she would take the matter under consideration.

Chair Fuller mentioned a request from the Woman's Issues Committee to hold a meeting on zoom. She referenced that we were instructed by the Administration to use WEBEX. The District Manager confirmed that the city has identified WEBEX. (see attached letter)

Meeting was Adjourned.

Attachments: Meeting Notice

Mayor de Blasio's Letter



### COMMUNITY BOARD No. 1

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Website: www.nyc.gov/brooklyncb1

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DEALICE FULLER

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HON. ANTONIO REYNOSO COUNCILMEMBER, 34th CD



DEL TEAGUE SECOND VICE-CHAIRPERSON

GINA BARROS THIRD VICE-CHAIRMAN

MARIA VIERA FINANCIAL SECRETARY

SONIA IGLESIAS RECORDING SECRETARY

PHILIP A. CAPONEGRO MEMBER-AT-LARGE

March 18, 2021

greenpoint ---

#### COMBINED PUBLIC HEARING AND BOARD MEETING NOTICE

TO:

**Community Board Members and Residents** 

FROM:

Dealice Fuller, Chairperson

RE:

Scheduled Combined Public Hearing and Board Meeting

(26 Members Constitute a Quorum for the Board)

Please be advised that a Combined Public Hearing and Board Meeting of Brooklyn Community Board No. 1 will be held as follows:

WHEN: TUESDAY --- APRIL 13, 2021

\*\*\* 6:00 PM \*\*\* TIME:

WHERE: WEBEX

(While we cannot meet in person, we will be meeting virtually.

Below are options for you to connect)

#### **Event Address for Attendees**

https://nyccb.webex.com/nyccb/onstage/g.php?MTID=ed0c1fe66f2c4a8d5ab1971bbeb6a1d69

Event number:

129 530 5244

Event password:

EPbbAQRa826

Audio conference: +1-646-992-2010 [New York City]

Access code:

129 530 5244

NOTE to All Board Members: You must sign into the meeting using the Email address that vou

have provided to the office, otherwise you will not be able access the meeting. NOTE - All persons who wish to speak during Public Session, please see form:

https://www1.nyc.gov/site/brooklyncb1/meetings/speaker-request-form.page

NOTE --- Elected Officials who wish to speak, please send an email to: Bk01@cb.nyc.gov

#### **PUBLIC HEARING**

#### 1. ROLL CALL

- 2. PRESENTATION: Department of Design and Construction Update on the plans for Bushwick Library (Brooklyn Public Library) HVAC/Roof Replacement Protect by Mr. Jomo Blackman, Outreach Coordinator, Office of Community Outreach & Notification, Public Buildings, NYC Department of Design and Construction.
- 3. PRESENTATION:—Briefing on Greenpoint Hospital Plans for redevelopment of the former Greenpoint Hospital Campus St. Nicks Alliance is part of a joint venture with Hudson Companies and Project Renewal Inc., which are developing the campus to create 550 new affordable apartments and a new 200 bed men's shelter to replace existing one. by Mr. Frank Lang, Director of Housing, St. Nick's Alliance.
- 4. PRESENTATION: Briefing on Proposed Project To create 200 units of senior housing which would be an addition to Jennings Hall St. Nicks Alliance is attempting to develop the property at the corner of Grand Street and Bushwick Avenue (819 Grand Street, Block 2922, Lots: 1 & 2) to add 200 rental apartments of affordable to low income housing. The project will require a rezoning of the property from the current R7-A to R7-X to enable the full development to proceed. by Mr. Frank Lang, Director of Housing, St. Nick's Alliance.

#### 5. LIQUOR LICENSES

#### **NEW**

- 1) Bistro So Corp, dba Bistro So, 530 Driggs Avenue, (New, liquor, wine/beer, cider, rest)
- 2) Clocruz Inc., dba Clo Café, 39 Bushwick Avenue, (Corporate Change, Removal, liquor, wine/beer, cider, rest)
- 3) Hungry Ghost Metropolitan Corp., dba Hungry Ghost Coffee, 721 Metropolitan Avenue, (New, wine, beer, cider, bar/tavern)
- 4) Kieran Mc Namara, dba TBD, 506 Grand Street, (New, liquor, white, wine/beer, cider)
- 5) Ponyboy Bar LLC, dba Ponyboy, 632 Manhattan Avenue, (Method of Operation Change, liquor, wine/beer, cider, rest)

#### RENEWAL

- 1) 54 N11 BK LLC, dba Schimanski & Standing Room Bar, 60 North 11th Street, (Renewal, liquor, wine/beer, cider, bar, rest, live music)
- 2) Brooklyn Lantern Inc and Box House Events Inc., dba The Box House/Brooklyn Lantern, 77 Box Street, (Renewal, liquor, wine/beer, cider, hotel with restaurant)

#### **BOARD MEETING**

- 1. MOMENT OF SILENCE
- 2. ROLL CALL
- 3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA
- 4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES Board Meeting of March 9, 2021
- 5. PUBLIC SESSION

(Reserved for the Public's expression. Board Members will not be allowed to speak.)

NOTE — All persons who wish to speak during this portion of the meeting must: Register using the link:

https://www1.nyc.gov/site/brooklyncb1/meetings/speaker-request-form.page

Each scheduled participant for this session will have an allowance of two (2) minutes [time permitting.] (No questions will be entertained. Speakers are requested to submit their testimony in writing)

- 6. COMMITTEE REPORTS
- 7. PARKS DEPARTMENT MINUTE As written.
- 8. ANNOUNCEMENTS: ELECTED OFFICIALS Called in the order of signup.
- 9. ADJOURNMENT

Note: For further information on accessibility or to make a request for accommodations, such as sign language interpretation services, please contact Brooklyn Community Board No. 1, Tel. (718) 389-0009; at least (5) business days in advance to ensure availability.



April 4, 2020

Mayor Bill de Blasio City Hall New York, NY 10007

Re: Using a common video conferencing platform for City agencies

Dear Mayor de Blasio:

As the coronavirus has spread across our city and most City workers are working remotely, there has been a surge in video conferencing platforms. My office has actively searched for resolution to create a uniform platform for my office as well as the 18 community boards across the borough. In light of the recent news that the New York City Department of Education (DOE) has prohibited schools from utilizing the Zoom platform, I am heartened that conversations between my office and New York City Department of Information Technology and Telecommunications (DoITT) to identify a single, secure video conferencing platform for use at community boards during this epidemic is coming to fruitful conclusion with the licensing agreement for the City to utilize WebEx for community boards.

We must also expand this platform for use across all agencies throughout New York City, including the offices of the five borough presidents.

It is integral that while we deal with the COVID-19 crisis, we must not create a long-term data integrity crisis. It is imperative that DoITT act quickly to identify secure, reliable, and cost-effective options to keep all sectors of government running during this challenging time.

Please reach out to my policy director, Jeff Lowell, at <u>jlowell@brooklynbp.nyc.gov</u> if you have any questions. I look forward to working with you on this important project.

Sincerely,

Eric Adams

Brooklyn Borough President

Ehi L Adams

EA/jpl



#### COMMUNITY BOARD No. 1

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PHILIP A. CAPONEGRO MEMBER-AT-LARGE

**April 13, 2021** 

greenpoint williamsburg

#### **COMMITTEE REPORT**

TO: Chairperson Dealice Fuller

and CB#1 Board Members

FROM: Thomas Burrows, Committee Chairperson

SLA Review & DCA Committee

RE: SLA Review & DCA Committee Report

for March 23, 2021 Meeting Via WEBEX

The SLA Review & DCA Committee held a meeting on Tuesday, March 23, 2021 at 6:30 PM. The committee met virtually via WEBEX.

#### ATTENDANCE:

Present: Burrows, Chairperson; Bachorowski; Barros; Bruzaitis; Dybanowski; Foster; Solano;

Stuart; Cohen\*, Daly\* (non-board member)

Absent: Torres: Sofer

Board members: Kuonen; Miceli

(A quorum was present).

#### **LIQUOR LICENSES**

#### **NEW:**

- 1) 1&3 on 5th Corp, dba Fabianes Café & Pastry, 142 North 5th Street, (Method of operation change, liquor, wine/beer, cider, rest)
   Committee recommends Approval.
- 2) 63 Guernsey LLC, dba Spritzenhaus, 33 Nassau Avenue, (Corporate Change, liquor, wine/beer, cider, rest)

Postponed.

#### Applicant advised:

Since the change is to an individual owner committee requests additional information to be included in CB#1 questionnaire and:

- 1. Both owner and planned manager(s) meet with Committee to discuss past concerns with location and how new owner will ameliorate any issues.
- 2. Plan for hours, security and management of outdoor space.
- 3. Resume/Prior experience of owner and manager(s).
- 4. Security Plan.
- 5. Adherence to NYC Nightlife Guidelines.
- 6. Outreach to Guernsey Street residents
- 3) 809 Conselyea Realty LLC, dba DeStefanos Dee Brooklyn Steakhouse, 89 Conselyea Street, (Removal, liquor, wine/beer, cider, rest) Committee recommends **Approval.**
- 4) Ako Bedford Inc., dba Enso Sushi, 117 Berry Street, (New, liquor, wine/beer, cider, rest) Committee recommends **Approval.**
- 5) Avant Gardner LLC, dba Avant Gardner, The Great Hall, The Kings Hall, and the Brooklyn Mirage, 111 Gardner Avenue and 140 Stewart Avenue (Corporate Change, Multipurpose event & entertainment Center, liquor, wine/beer, cider, venue)

  Committee recommends **Approval.**
- 6) Brooklyn Green Golf LLC, 195 Morgan Avenue, (New, liquor, wine/beer, cider, bar with golf venue)
  No show, Committee recommends **Denial.**
- 7) CPF Entertainment LLC, dba Haven, 683 Grand Street, (New, liquor, wine/beer, cider, bar) Committee recommends **Provisional Approval.**

Prior liquor license at location, LP & Harmony. Applicant to provide **before** next full Board meeting:

- 1. Additional signatures (Buildings next door, behind, and across the street)
- 2. Existing liquor license showing permitted hours of operation.
- 3. Photographs of backyard improvements.
- 8) H154 LLC, 154 Scott Avenue (New, catering establishment, food menu, liquor, wine/beer & cider)

No show, Committee recommends Denial.

- 9) OB Hospitality Inc., 84 Havemeyer Street, (New, liquor, wine/beer, cider, rest.) Committee recommends **Approval.**
- 10) Our Wicked Lady LLC, 153 Morgan Avenue, (Alteration, liquor, wine/beer, cider, bar/tavern)

Committee recommends Approval.

- 11) Savoi Latin Bistro Inc., dba Savoi Latin Bistro, 318 Grand Street, (Renotification New, 3 liquor, wine/beer, cider, rest)
  Committee recommends **Approval.**
- 12) The Brooklyn Brewery Corporation, dba Brooklyn Brewery, 79 North 11 Street, (New, liquor, wine/beer, cider, bar/tavern)
  Committee recommends **Approval.**
- 13) The Cactus Shop NYC LLC, dba Chikila Bar, 231 Kent Avenue, (New, liquor, wine/beer, cider, bar/tavern)
  Committee recommends **Approval.**
- 14) Tony's Pizzeria of Nassau Avenue Corp, dba Tony's Pizzeria, 175 Nassau Avenue (New, wine, beer, & cider, rest)
  Committee recommends **Approval.**

#### **RENEWAL:**

The Committee reviewed the 8 Renewal applications and both the 90 and 94 Precincts had been provided the list to review and reported no issues or concerns. Committee recommends **Approval** of all Renewal applications.

- 1) Abba Bar and Grill Corp, 492 Grand Street, (Renewal, liquor, wine/beer, cider, rest)
- 2) Brooklyn Lantern Inc. & Box House Events Inc., dba The Box House/Brooklyn Lantern, 77 Box Street, (Renewal, amended to include third party promoter, liquor, wine/beer, cider, hotel with rest)
- 3) Bushwick CC LLC, dba Bushwick Country Club, 618 Grand Street, (Renewal, liquor, wine/beer, cider, bar)
- 4) Dom Incorporated, dba Polish National Home Warsaw, 261 Driggs Avenue, (Renewal, liquor, wine/beer, cider, dance hall)
- 5) Floc Ltd, dba Bahia Restaurant & Café, 690 Grand Street, (Renewal, wine/beer, cider, rest)
- 6) OHNO, INC., dba Samurai Mama, 205 Grand Street, (Renewal, liquor, wine/beer, cider, rest)
- 7) Pizzati Ltd., dba Surf Bar, 139 North 6th Street, (Renewal, liquor, wine/beer, cider, rest)
- 8) Rex Juno Inc., dba Acqua Santa, 556 Driggs Avenue, (Renewal, liquor, wine/beer, cider)

#### PREVIOUSLY POSTPONED:

1) Elite BK Inc., dba Elite, 128 Metropolitan Avenue, (Change of Operations, liquor, wine/beer, cider, rest)

At prior Committee meeting applicant was advised to do additional outreach to neighbors regarding their operating hours and obtain additional signatures. Additional outreach was undertaken, and neighboring Community Board members spoke of the good operation and good neighbor relations of the applicant. It is also understood that all outdoor space may only be open until 11:00pm Sunday to Thursday, and 1:00pm, Friday & Saturday.

Committee recommends Approval.

2) 113 Franklin Dining LLC, TBD, 113 Franklin Street, (New, liquor, wine/beer, cider, rest)
At prior Committee meeting applicant was advised to do proper posting of notice of their application for a liquor license at the location, obtain additional signatures from residents of neighboring buildings including across the street and to meet with the Milton Street Association.

Applicant reported that:

- 1. Did outreach and met with Neighborhood Association.
- 2. Will not be taking advantage of Open Streets
- 3. Will not have roadway seating.

Mr. Miceli addressed the Committee regarding Milton Street Association meeting with the applicant and that they had a 'contract' that was with their lawyer. At first the Committee did not have an actual completed application from the applicant and when finally provided the Milton Street Association recommended revisions to the CB1 questionnaire in addition to the contract they were negotiating with the applicant. The CB1 questionnaire was developed in its present form after Committee rewriting and approval of the full Community Board. The applicant is agreeing to the stipulations as contained in the CB1 application and will be entering into a 'contract' with Milton Street Association.

Committee recommends **Approval** with abstention by the chair.

3) 620 LOR LLC, dba TBD, 620 Lorimer street, (New, liquor, wine/beer, cider pizzeria) Applicant is scheduled to appear on the next SLA Review & DCA Committee Meeting on April 27, 2021.

#### **ADDITIONAL ITEM:**

At its meeting on January 26, 2021, the Committee reviewed the application of Baba Cool LLC, dba Baba Cool, 47 Withers Street, (New, liquor, wine/beer, cider, rest).

This location is a primarily residential building with a small commercial space on the ground floor. The applicant wants to use the backyard in conjunction with the indoor space. The property behind this location has a back house that is very close to the property line. There are small residential buildings on either side of the applicant.

The Committee recommended to the Full Board at its February 9, 2021 meeting Approval with stipulations. In addition to the standard CB1 stipulations the applicant was advised to:

- 1. Prepare an architectural plan for the rear outdoor space.
- 2. Need for an 8' wall/fence around rear outdoor space.
- 3. Sound proofing/sound reduction plan for outdoor space.
- 4. Reduced hours for the outdoor space.
  - a. 10:00pm, Sunday Thursday.
  - b. 11:00pm, Friday & Saturday.

The neighbor to the rear of the applicant presented to the Committee his concern and other neighbor's concerns regarding the noise of conversations, dishes etc. impact upon their quality of life. Plantings, soft surfaces, and umbrellas/canvas flies were discussed to reduce noise. The applicant was advised to work with the neighbors to mitigate any issues that might be caused by the backyard space.

Since the full board meeting of February 9, 2021, it has been brought to the Committee's attention through letters from both the rear neighbor and other neighbors in proximity to the applicant that the applicant has not worked with the neighbors to ameliorate the impact of an eating and drinking establishment in the backyard. The entire rear yard of the location has been covered with concrete, there has been no discussion of plantings, shrubbery, softening of the hardscape and we have been told there are plans to install a petanque court in the outdoor space. This will add the noise of cheering and clacking of balls to what was described as a quiet, relaxing space.

We are requesting that a letter be sent from Community Board #1 reiterating the conditions contained in the CB#1 Liquor License Application including Stipulations. And we ask that the letter restate the additional requests that had been made to the applicant to ameliorate the impact on residential applicant's quality of life. We ask that the SLA take into their review of this license and any future license the impact of alcohol consumption in backyards in residential areas and consider either denying or strictly reducing the hours of alcohol consumption in these backyard spaces.

\_\_\_\_\_

The next meeting of the SLA Review & DCA Committee is scheduled as follows:

WHEN: Tuesday, April 27, 2021

TIME: 6:30 PM WHERE: Via WEBEX



#### COMMUNITY BOARD No. 1

**435 GRAHAM AVENUE - BROOKLYN, NY 11211-8813** 

PHONE: (718) 389-0009 FAX: (718) 389-0098 Email: bk01@cb.nyc.gov

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PHILIP A. CAPONEGRO MEMBER-AT-LARGE

**April 13, 2021** 

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#### **COMMITTEE REPORT**

TO: Chairperson Dealice Fuller

and CB#1 Board Members

FROM: Gina Barros, Committee Chair

Capital Budget Committee

RE: Capital and Expense Priorities for FY 2022 Committee Report

for March 10<sup>th</sup> 2021 Meeting Via WEBEX

Capital Budget Committee held a meeting on Wednesday, March 10, 2021 at 6:30 PM. The committee met virtually via WEBEX.

#### ATTENDANCE:

Present: Barros, Chairperson; Teague, Co-Chair; Weidberg; Brooks

Absent: Gross; Peterson; Torres

The Capital Budget committee met on March 10<sup>th</sup> to review the comments received on the preliminary budget for the fiscal year 2022 and discuss the next steps in the Budget timeline.

There were two written comments received at the Brooklyn Community Board One office. The written comments were on the improvement to the handball courts in McCarren Park and the on the renovation of the artificial turf field of the park at Kent Avenue/the East River. On the improvement to the Handball courts in McCarren Park, Ms. Del Teague spoke about the importance of handball courts and the committee members agreed. Handball courts are frequently used by the community, since many people enjoy playing handball. Playing handball games has been a large part of the culture for those who grew up in Brooklyn and remains so today. Furthermore, it is affordable for both adults and children. It was noted that this is a priority item under Capital Budget priorities for FY 2022 that was approved by the full board on 11/10/2022. On the renovation of the artificial turf field of the park at Kent Avenue/the East Rivers, the committee agreed to add this item to the Capital and Expense Budget priorities for FY 2022.

Mr. Weidberg spoke about the ongoing renovation of the synthetic turf of the field reconstruction at Sternberg Park. This is one of his favorite parks. He related that there has been a past history of problems with the synthetic turf, that has resulted in new renovations and asked why?

Ms. Barros noted that Affordable housing is our top priority, and of critical need in our community. An adequate supply of decent and affordable housing must be available at various income levels. Affordable housing is documented as a priority item of our district's needs.

In review of the next steps in the Capital Budget timeline, a statement on the Preliminary Budget for the FY 2022/Letters of Comments is to be sent to the Office of Management and Budget. It was decided that the Budget Committee send an email to the community board members, so they have further opportunity to include their comments. A deadline of March 25<sup>th</sup> was given. If further comments were received the committee members agreed to schedule a committee meeting for March 31 to review those comments. (No further comments, however, were received.)

Mr. Weidberg noted the importance of committee members attending the committee meetings, since if committee members don't attend, we don't have a quorum.

The Statement on the Preliminary Budget /Letters of Comments was prepared. It includes the Capital and Expense Budget Priorities for FY 2022 report that was voted on and approved on 11/10/2020 at the full community board meeting. Also, it includes the two written comments received at the community board office.

This Statement on the Preliminary Budget/Letters of Comments must be adopted by a majority vote of the community board, acting in the presence of a quorum.

See attached Reports

- 1. Capital and Expense Budget Priorities for FY 2022 reports report for 2022 that was approved on 11/10/2020 at the full community board meeting.
- 2. Statement on the Preliminary Budget/Letters of Comments

Gina Barros, Committee Chair Capital Budget Committee Date: April 13, 2022

Re: Statement on the Preliminary Budget (FY) 2022/Letter of Comments

Ms. Tania Uddin Mayor's Office of Management and Budget Community Board Unit

Brooklyn Community Board One appreciates the opportunity to submit our comments on Mayor de Blasio's 92.28 billion preliminary budget for the Fiscal Year 2022.

As we all know it has been a painful year in our City's history due to the Covid 19 pandemic that has had a massive impact on our budget. We, therefore, recognize that now more than ever the importance of working together with the city council, community agencies and Mayor's office, to address the needs of our district.

Capital and Expense Budget Priorities for Fiscal Year 2022

Brooklyn Community Board One district comprises Brooklyn's two most northern communities; Greenpoint and Williamsburg. The 2010 census reported a diverse population of over 179,000 people. This figure is an undercounted, as our Board continues to see more and more people moving into the district.

District funding needs: This Statement/letter of comments, as per your request, is organized by agencies, but is also numbered to designate our priorities.

#### **Fire Department**

A firehouse is greatly needed to serve the Northside and Waterfront community as a result of closure of Engine 212 in 2003. There must not be additional closures or reduction in manning.

- #1. Creation of a new firehouse in the Northside area. (Capital Budget.)
- #2. Fund the operations of a newly created firehouse (FDNY) in the Northside. (Expense Budget.)

#### **Department of Parks and Recreation**

Parks and open space are critical needs for our district. We support expense and capital funding that will increase our green spaces and maintain them.

Capital Budget for Parks and Recreation

- #3. Funding for development of parkland per Greenpoint -Williamsburg waterfront rezoning and the Administration's Points of Agreement.
- #4. Funding to continue the development of Bushwick Inlet Park (including additional construction of the park itself/remediation of the Bayside Fuel Oil site).

#5. Renovation of the artificial turf field used for soccer and other sports at the Bushwick Inlet Park.

A written comment requesting improvement to the artificial turf at the park facility at Kent Avenue/the East River was submitted to the Community board. The Capital Budget committee at March  $10^{\rm th}$  supported this improvement.

- #7. New Comfort Station for the WNYC Transmitter Park.
- #10. Redevelop NYCHA Playground on Roebling & South 9th Street.
- #25. Renovation of McCarren Park Handball Courts.

A written comment requesting improvement to the handball courts in McCarren Park was received at the community board. The Capital budget committee agreed that these handball courts are frequently used by the community, as many people enjoy playing handball. It was also noted that playing handball games has been a large part of the culture for those who grew up in Brooklyn and remains so today. Furthermore, it is affordable to both adults and children.

- #26. Restore and fund redevelopment of "Sand Park" under the Williamsburg Bridge.
- #27. Improved lighting at the Mt. Carmel Triangle Park and Monument (BQE Park).
- #28. Improvements for the concrete triangle at Williamsburg Street & Rodney Street to make sidewalks safer for pedestrians to walk, and include the installation of much needed lighting.

**Expense Budget for Parks and Recreation** 

- #4. Increase significantly park maintenance funds and increase operations/recreation staffing at specific CB #1 parks and playgrounds (including support equipment). Include additional hours for women's swim time at Metropolitan Pool.
- #13. Expand the park enforcement patrol project to incorporate McCarren Park (including Park Rangers).
- #21. Increase funding of the "Green Street Program" for projects in CB #1, including the much-needed improvements, and replace fencing of park triangles.

Continue Support Items:

- We support the needed improvements for McGolrick Park.
- Expand Neighborhood Park and Playground Restoration Programs
- Install Lighting for the Tennis Courts at McCarren Park
- Support needed improvements for Cooper Park
- Complete all phases of development and improvements for the waterfront area/parkland at: (a.) the foot of Greenpoint Avenue WNYC Transmitter Park (Old WNYC Tower Area);

(b.) Division Avenue Ferry Park.

#### **Housing**

Housing is a critical issue for our district, and we support efforts to fund affordable development and implement programs to meet the many needs of our residents.

Capital Budget for Housing

#2. Fund construction & rehabilitation of subsidized/affordable housing, including waterfront and upland areas, in the CB#1 area.

**Expense Budget for Housing** 

- #6. Funding to support subsidies to lower rents for senior citizens, to reduce an increase in homelessness.
- #7. Increase funding of Homecare Services and the Homebound Meals, especially providing these services for the frail and elderly during the COVID-19 Pandemic. The elderly have relied on their local senior citizen centers for daily social interaction, meals, counseling and easy access to programs to combat depression and social isolation.
- #8. Create a new fund for the Affordable Housing and Infrastructure Fund (\$10 million) created under the Administration's Points of Agreement regarding the Greenpoint-Williamsburg waterfront rezoning.

#### **Community Board Budget**

Community boards provide a vital function for the districts they are designated to serve and consequently stand as valuable assets to the City as well.

#1. Increase funding for Community Boards.

#### **Department of Legal Services**

Expense Budget

# 3. Reinstate funding for the Greenpoint – Williamsburg Tenant Legal Fund (\$2 million), including anti- harassment provisions per the Administration's Points of Agreement regarding the Greenpoint-Williamsburg waterfront rezoning.

#### **Public Health**

**Expense Budget** 

#15 Fund a comprehensive air quality study/anti-asthma initiative for Greenpoint and Williamsburg; (b) funding of a comprehensive study of the environmental health hazards and its cumulative effect on CB #1, including DEP wastewater treatment plant.

# 20. Increase the staffing of outreach programs that handle education, testing and counseling for COVID-19 and other infectious diseases (i.e. TB/AIDS/ZIKA), nicotine cessation (smoking/vaping), and drug abuse. Address the needs of women arising from the COVID-19 Pandemic, including thwarting a rise in cases of domestic violence.

#### **Senior Services**

#17. Establishment of a senior citizen center to serve southwest area of Williamsburg, central to Division Avenue and Clymer Street (continued funding).

#### **Education and Department of Buildings**;

Capital Budget

- #9. Department of Education projects scheduled in SD-14 to start or complete (i.e. renovations to include Automotive Trades HS, 850 Grand Street Campus, Van Arsdale Campus).
- #11. Construct a new schoolyard at PS 18.
- #12. Advance construction proposed for a new school (P.S./I.S.) at the Dupont Street site.

#### Expense Budget

- #9. Provide safe street crossing/continued presence (NYPD Crossing Guard Post) at Jackson Street & Kingsland Avenue for children attending various local schools/after school programs (St. Francis Developmental School, PS 132, St. Nicholas/Rosary Academy, IS 49 Campus, Grand Street Campus/Beacon Program, IS 126/Beacon Program, School Settlement House Association).
- #11. Fund new science labs for schools (including middle school grades) in District 14/Region 8 located within the confines of Community Board No. 1's district.
- #12. Establish additional daycare or head start programs to serve Greenpoint/Williamsburg that are now under- served. Continue these services during the COVID-19 Pandemic, and well into the future.

#14. Fund improvements for local schools: including a new school library for PS 250, installation of air conditioning in the district's schools, and create/maintain healthy classroom environments.

#### **Infrastructure:**

#### **Resurfacing and Reconstruction and Transportation**

Capital Budget for Infrastructure:

We urge that the budget for resurfacing of streets be fully funded and expanded if possible. Our streets are overburdened with traffic and we seek relief from the constant resultant wear and tear on our roadway. It is vital that our reconstruction projects are kept "on target and support funding for our district's bridges.

- #13. Trench Restoration/Reconstruction for Withers Street, between Humboldt Street and Woodpoint Road.
- #14. Reconstruct Grand Street from Grand Street Bridge to River Street.
- #15. Reconstruct Metropolitan Avenue from Varick Avenue to Scott Avenue.
- #16. Reconstruct Meserole Street between Bushwick Avenue and Union Avenue.
- #17. Reconstruct Driggs Avenue from Lorimer Street to Division Avenue.
- #18. Reconstruct Montrose Avenue from Union Avenue to Bushwick Avenue.
  - #19. Reconstruct and widen Grand Street Bridge (aka the Penny Bridge).
  - #20. Reconstruct Scholes Street from Morgan Avenue to Union Avenue.
  - #21. Reconstruct Lorimer Street from Broadway to Nassau Avenue.
- #22. Replace sidewalks on Frost Street (NYCHA Development/Cooper Park Houses) from Debevoise Avenue to Morgan Avenue. Expand improvements to adjacent sidewalks that also surround the development.
- #23. Replace sidewalks around Williams Plaza (aka Jonathan Williams Development/NYCHA) from Division Avenue/South 9th Street/Broadway/Marcy Avenue/Roebling Street/Havemeyer Street)
- #24. Reconstruct Maspeth Avenue, from Vandervoort Avenue to the Newtown Creek.

#### **Transportation**

Capital Budget for Transportation

We support the Department of Transportation in the improvement of our train stations in our district.

#8. MTA/NYCTA – Continuation of the Station upgrading program (G, L, J, M lines) to also include surveillance cameras for "L" (Bedford Avenue station) and the "G" lines, which are the (Metropolitan/Grand/Lorimer Street Station). Also a public address system on the "G" – Greenpoint Avenue Station. Identify/fund subway train stations in CB#1 that are to be upgraded with elevator access.

#25. Acquisition of a replacement site for relocation of the MTA facility (Emergency Response Unit & Depot of cross-town buses) at 65 Commercial Street.

**Expense Budget Transportation** 

We encourage the Department of Transportation to continue implementing measure for improvement of traffic in our district. We have urged a study of this matter so that our residents and the monitoring public have safer streets to travel.

- #16. Fund a comprehensive traffic "Blueprint Study" for Greenpoint-Williamsburg.
- #18. Fund a Greenpoint/Williamsburg Water Transportation Study, including ground/land-based connections.
- #19. Surveillance Cameras for the Williamsburg Bridge (roadways, walkway, and bikeway).
- #24. Increase funds of street signage for designated truck routes.

#### **Department of Youth and Community Development Agency**

#5. Increase significantly the Department of Youth and Community Development Agency's community board fair share, after school, and summer and recreation funding for CB #1. Address the myriad of needs for children during the COVID-19 Pandemic, including educational choices (i.e. remote learning, blended learning).

#### **Library**

Community board one supports requests by the Brooklyn Public Library to keep intact funding for improvements to its branches located in Greenpoint and Williamsburg. We urge that the libraries have increase funding so that they remain open for the public's use and have adequate budgets for books, technology and other circulation material. We support extended library hours, including Saturday openings and we urge that these hours are not reduced in the budget.

# 10. Expand funding for library operations – Brooklyn Public Library, including branches within CB #1; fund extended days/hours; fund computer catalogue and increase book budget.

#### **Sanitation Department**

#19. Expand the refuse collection program for NYCHA and other large housing developments (to include the Board of Education and Senior Citizens facilities).

#### **Department of Small Business Services**

Capital Budget

Community board one supports the Plaza Project at Moore Street Market.

#### **Department of Buildings**

#23. Continue/expand the building inspector training program; increase the number of inspectors (DOB) for CB#1.

Thank you for what has been done in support of our community's needs, although much remains to be done. These priorities will help to continue to address the needs of our community.

Sincerely

Notes

As per Ms. Tania Uddin request, this statement is also to be sent to the Mayor, City Council, Office of Management and Jacques Jiha, Budget Director NYC office of Management and Budget, Borough President and each member of your borough board.)



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HON, ERIC L. ADAMS

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DISTRICT MANAGER

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> Revised April 13, 2021

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#### **COMMITTEE REPORT**

TO: Chairperson Dealice Fuller

and CB#1 Board Members

FROM: Del Teague, Committee Chairperson

Land Use, ULURP & Landmarks (subcommittee) Committee

RE: Land Use Committee Report

for April 5, 2021 Meeting Via WEBEX

Land Use, ULURP & Landmarks (subcommittee) Committee held a meeting on Monday, April 5, 2021 at 6:30 PM. The committee met virtually via WEBEX.

#### -1- 114 Kingsland Avenue-

This is an application for a use variance on vacant land now zoned M1-1 in order to build a 4-story residential building with 8 market rate units. The lot is situated between two residential buildings and had contained a residential building until it burned down in 1965. The applicant purchased to lot in 2018. The applicant stated that commercial/manufacturing use would not be financially feasible and would not be welcomed by the owners of the adjacent properties. The committee noted the board's policy to protect our manufacturing sites. However, the committee also noted the existence of residential use surrounding the property.

Recommendation: The committee voted to recommend that we allow the presenter to speak to the applicant and to come back to discuss a compromise either with an offer of affordability or an agreement to request a change to commercial/manufacturing with a residential overlay.  $\underline{\text{Vote}} - 17 \text{ yes}$ ; 1 no.

#### -2- <u>Department of City Planning (DCP)</u>- Presentation on Citywide Text Amendment

DCP presented a brief overview of several text amendments, one of which the Board already supported, i.e., the hotel special permit amendment. There is also a Fresh Program incentivizing the creation of grocery stores selling fresh foods, an amendment to allow gyms and martial arts studios as of right, and an amendment to allow open restaurants in the street as of right. DCP will return in May or June to give us more details.

-3- <u>315 Berry Street</u>- request for a special permit form BSA to allow construction of an electric utility substation on the roof of the existing building.

Construction of an Energy Storage System (ESS) such as the one proposed is allowed as of right in a manufacturing district. However, to construct the system on a residential building a special permit is required. The applicant assured the committee that the building is structurally sound enough to handle the weight of the batteries and other equipment involved. We were also told the system is generally safe and that with mitigating techniques the noise level could be brought within regulation standards. The batteries would be charged at night and the stored energy would be injected into the grid when the network most needed it. Steel beams would be installed to help the building support the extra weight and a new roof system would be installed to insulate against flooding and noise. There was strong opposition by tenants of the building, who complained that the landlord has a history of being unresponsive to repair requests. In addition, they claimed there is question about the structural stability of the building, citing a vacate order on one side of the building because of segments of the façade falling off. The applicant's engineer responded that the falling façade does not mean the building's structural integrity is affected.

The tenants also claimed that the applicant has not reached out in a meaningful way to the tenant body, that they have been unresponsive thus far to complaints of noise, and have not answered questions regarding the tenants' rights with respect to damage the installation and operation of the system may cause. The tenants also asked us to consider the long-term significant interference with their lives during the construction, which is projected to take at least 4 months.

Recommendation: The Committee voted to disapprove the project at this time until the landlord and the company can do better outreach with the tenants, working with them to resolve the issues and involve the tenants in the process. The committee encouraged the city and the applicant to look to installation of Energy Storage Systems in manufacturing districts at this time. Once they are in installed and functioning in those areas, we will be able to evaluate whether the systems are appropriate for installation in a residential area.

#### -4- River Ring Update and Committee Recommendations for Scoping Meeting -

#### -A - Two Trees Update -

Dave Lombino and Bonnie Campbell presented an update on the Two Trees' plans for the River Ring application.

They described the open space design as a new approach to shore-line use, striving for

environmental equity with a diverse range of uses and users.

They stated that the plan has been changed to expand the tidal trails; and the beach has been moved to an area that will not wash out. In response to questions about whether they have entered into a binding agreement with the YMCA to provide it with community space, they answered that they have.

They stated they have increased the number of affordable units to 263 with an average of 60% AMI. The affordable and market-rate units will be integrated.

It was suggested that the applicant reach out to non-profit agencies with experience in managing affordable housing in the north-side, as well as the south-side of Williamsburg.

#### -B- Committee Recommendations for River Ring Scoping -

Under City Environmental Review, a Positive Declaration, that requires the developer to prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement, has issued. A scoping meeting has been scheduled for Monday, April 26, 2021 at 2:00 pm. Our comments are due by Thursday, May 6, 2021.

It would be ideal if the committee could view the scoping meeting and formulate recommendations for comments afterwards. However, as we will not have another full board meeting between the scoping meeting and the comment due-date, the committee reviewed the items listed on the Positive Declaration and agreed to present the following recommended comments. The committee also agreed to ask the full board if the members want to give the committee the authority to view the scoping meeting, tweak the comments at our May committee meeting, and submit them to the City on or before the due date.

CPC has determined that the proposed actions may result in significant adverse impacts related to land use, zoning, public policy, socioeconomic conditions, community facilities, open space, shadows, historic and cultural resources, urban design and visual resources, natural resources, hazardous materials, water and sewer infrastructure, transportation, air quality, greenhouse gas emissions and climate change, noise, public health, neighborhood character, and construction.

CPC has determined that the proposed actions would <u>not</u> result in significant adverse impacts related to historic and cultural resources, and solid waste and sanitation services, and energy. The committee's recommended comments seek inclusion of issues regarding solid waste, sanitation services and energy in the EIS analysis.

#### Socioeconomic conditions:

The Board agrees these issues should be analyzed using the required tools. The committee specifically asks for an analysis of the effect that the additional market rate residential units and corresponding commercial facilities will have on displacement of lower income residents, racial equity, and displacement of existing commercial facilities. This analysis must be made taking into consideration the impact of this development in conjunction with other large-scale development already in existence and as projected from recent re-zonings. The Board also asks for a study on the impact of the Domino development on neighborhood residential and commercial rents prior to 2021.

Furthermore, as the 421-a law will sunset in 2022, and as the applicant has not yet met its affordable commitment in the Domino Project, the Board is concerned about whether the applicant will be able to meet the affordable commitment it is projecting for River Ring.

#### **Community Facilities:**

The Board agrees these issues should be analyzed. However, the Board disagrees with the CPC finding that a detailed analysis of police/fire and health care services is not needed. An in-depth analysis of police/fire and health care services is warranted to determine the effect on these already over-burdened services by the projected increase in residential and commercial density, outdoor and in-water activity, and influx of people drawn to the proposed outdoor facilities. In addition, the Board feels there is a need to analyze the need for additional fire-fighting resources to deal with a mega-high-rise building.

The Board also asks for an analysis of the alternatives for holding the developer accountable for providing the promised community facilities, including a method for over-sight and enforcement.

#### Open Space:

The Board agrees these issues should be analyzed. More specifically, there should be an analysis of the ratio of the proposed increase in residential/commercial density and expected influx of people drawn to the proposed facilities with the size and planned use of the proposed open space to evaluate the actual benefit to the community in which it is situated.

The Board also asks for a study of the effect of the nearby combined sewer overflow point or wet weather discharge point on the plans for use of the water in its open space.

The developer should highlight on a map all of the area that it is considering open space in order to clarify its what constitutes 3.2 acres.

#### **Energy:**

The Board agrees these issues should be analyzed. In addition, a study should be done to determine the possibility of providing additional power to the neighborhood via its power grid.

#### Transportation:

The Board agrees these issues should be analyzed. The Board asks for a breakdown of the expected modes of transportation to be used by residents, on- site businesses, and visitors, and how such usage will affect currently available mass transit and the traffic congestion we are already experiencing.

Alternative or additional transportation services, such as increased bus service and water-borne transportation, should be explored to accommodate the likely increase in residential / commercial density and the influx of visitors, The city should explore the means of entering into a binding contract with the developer whereby the developer would accept financial responsibility for creating or maintaining water-borne transportation.

#### **Public Health:**

In addition to the standard analysis, there should be a study of the effect of the proposed outdoor activities near the power plant.

#### Neighborhood Character:

In light of the Board's recognition of the importance of protecting our industrial and manufacturing sites, an analysis is needed of the possible manufacturing, industrial and commercial uses of the site, and how the loss of those potential uses is a significant benefit to the neighborhood.

In addition, a study of the impact of the development on the neighborhood must be done taking into account the over-all effect when looked at together with the other large-scale developments already in existence and as projected from recent re-zonings.

Furthermore, when a developer purchases property that is zoned for manufacturing, but pays speculative residential prices, their inflated purchase price should not qualify as a factor in considering their financial burden.

#### **Environmental:**

Wind study should be done to consider whether there will be an increase in winds/wind tunnel effect.



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**April 13, 2021** 

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#### **COMMITTEE REPORT**

TO: Chairperson Dealice Fuller

and CB#1 Board Members

FROM: Trina McKeever, Landmarks Subcommittee Chair

RE: Landmarks Committee (Land Use/ULURP Subcommittee) Report

for April 5, 2021 Meeting Via WEBEX

The Land Use, ULURP & Landmarks (Sub-committee) Committee met on Monday, April 5, 2021 at 6:30 PM. The committee met virtually via WEBEX.

#### ATTENDANCE:

Present: Teague; Viera; McKeever; Chesler; Drinkwater; Kaminski; Miceli; Rabbi Niederman; Nieves; Sofer; Weiser; Weidberg; Vega; (board members); \*Andrews; Berger; Kantin; Kawochka;

Naplatarski; Stone ;(\*non board member committee member)

Absent: Barros; Indig; Katz; Lebovits; Solano; \*Li; (\*non board member committee member)

#### Site Plan Presentation, Williamsburg Houses presented by:

Matthew Rooney – RDC Development Brian Newman – Newman Design Frank Lang – St Nicks Alliance

The site plan presentation is the second and final LPC approval needed from CB1 for the overall renovation of the Williamsburg Houses. The architects previously presented the new windows in January 2021.

Matthew Rooney from RDC Development briefly explained the scope of the overall project reintroducing the comprehensive plan to renovate the interior and exterior of the Williamsburg Houses under the Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) program, converting the NYCHA project from Section 9 (the way NYCHA-owned properties have historically been funded) to Section 8 (a program that funds private landlords). Frank Lang spoke about St Nick's role for the project as the Social Service Provider which will include workforce development, direct counseling, hosting programming and other services for the residents.

Project architect, Brian Newman presented the landscaping plan the aim of which is to preserve the historic content while instilling "real betterment" by rehabilitating planting beds and hedges, removing fencing to soften the edges of pocket parks while adding updated play equipment, period correct site furnishings and energy efficient lighting, security cameras, bike racks, enclosing the garbage collecting and instituting a public art program for walls and spaces in homage to the original abstract murals (some now in the Brooklyn Museum) that were commissioned for the opening of the Williamsburg Houses.

Overall, the committee found the plan presented a thoughtful and appropriate improvement. Committee asked if the paths would remain asphalt (or whether the original cement and Belgian block would be restored). The asphalt will remain. It was pointed out that the choice of replacement bench was not period appropriate. Acknowledging the lack of mature shade trees throughout CB1, that the presentation called for removing trees was questioned. Also, the reality of a potential graffiti problem was brought up with regards to the murals. A suggestion was made to directly involve tenants in the tree removal decisions as well as the selection of artists/artworks (in hopes tenant involvement/ownership in the process would lessen potential graffiti). Rain gardens for storm water drainage and a composting program were suggested.

RECOMMENDATION: The committee voted unanimously to recommend that the Board vote the site plan presentation for the Williamsburg Houses Appropriate with the following suggestions:

- Replace proposed benches with more period appropriate benches
- Avoid removing mature shade trees, prune the trees where needed obtain community member consensus as far as any removal deemed necessary.
- Involve community members in curating decisions with regards to the public art.

YES: (19) Teague; Viera; McKeever; Chesler; Drinkwater; Kaminski; Miceli; Rabbi Niederman; Nieves; Sofer; Weiser; Weidberg; Vega; (board members); \*Andrews; Berger; Kantin; Kawochka; Naplatarski; Stone; (\*non board member committee member)

NO: none

ABSTAIN: none

Environmental Protection Committee (Joint Meeting with the Land Use Committee) Meeting Notes April 5, 2021 6:30pm Via Webex

Present: Steve Chesler, Eric Bruzaitis, Willis Elkins, Trina McKeever, Dan Grossman\* Absent: Williams Klagsbald, Yoel Low, Janice Petersen, Bella Sabel, Laura Hofmann\*, Kevin Costa\*

\*Non-board members

#### **Joint Committee Item: 315 Berry Street**

Owner is seeking a Board of Standards & Appeal special permit that will allow installation of an electric utility substation on the roof of their building.

Presenters: Rebecca Bar, in charge of safety and construction, and Tim Dumbleton, COO, both from MicroGrid Networks (MGN).

Summation of their presentation and proposal: The substation will consist of an energy storage system (ESS) that will store and provide energy to the existing energy grid via an array of battery units. During peak energy usage times the power demand on the local Water Street Network goes beyond capacity, lending itself to electrical outages manifested in brownouts and blackouts. They cited Texas and California as examples of outdated overtaxed electrical systems failing, and where an ESS can provide a significant remedy towards improving the current system. Currently, there is reliance on peaker power plants such as the Kent Street plant to handle peak usage. These plants produce noxious emissions, proliferate climate change and are costly to operate. Also, the current wire conduit is aging and deteriorating and costly to maintain. A battery-based ESS like the one they are proposing is carbon neutral, produces no emissions and is much more cost effective to operate and maintain.

An intent was expressed to address the concerns about the proposed project raised by board members at the full board presentation in March and 315 Berry St tenants.

New York State has mandated that the state create 3,000 megawatts of energy storage capacity by 2030 (1,500mw by 2025). Kent Street's noxious emission numbers which were provided were quite startling. Also, the local Water Street Network grid is expected to peak beyond capacity very soon. It's a very old system. Con Edison is seeking to increase storage capacity within the local network by 70mw. MGN surveyed over 200 potential sites over the course of three years. Site requirements: 1) close proximity to the overburdened feeders 2) structure that is capable of carrying the system load 3) must have sufficient rooftop space 4) long term rental opportunity to make the project viable (20 years). The 315 Berry system will inject energy directly into the system near the most overloaded feeder. Starting in 2022 the Water Street Network will exceed capacity with this excess steadily increasing each year creating an ever greater reliance on peaker plants and the old wire grid. ESS systems currently

safely operate at the Marcus Garvey Apartments, Barclays Center and the Gateway Center (shopping). This system has approvals from FDNY, DOB, NYC Office of Technical Certification and Research, Underwriters Laboratories and others.

315 Berry was originally a munitions storage facility built in 1929 to withstand heavy floor capacity. The new system on the roof will include a large array of Fluence (Siemens) battery storage units, a transformer, sound baffles and padding and insulation to mitigate sound and vibration. MGN will install a new insulated roof. Steel beams (dunnage) will be put in place to carry the system placing the weight of the system on the columns and not the roof. The current roof which is concrete and uninsulated, contributes to leaks and cracks. System installation will have approval by FDNY, DOB and NYCOTCR. Installation will not impact slabs nor the facade/wall of the building.

Construction will take 4 months. MGN will create a Tenant Protection Plan to help minimize the impact of construction. MGN will provide contact info for an onsite supervisor and a senior member of the MGN staff during and after construction. MGN states there will be no negative noise or vibration from the system when it is operational. Batteries are solid state storage units lacking moving parts that could generate nuisance noise and vibrations. The batteries do not create electromagnetic frequencies (EMFs). The EMFs generated by the interconnection apparatus are the same as standard building output allowed and regulated by local agencies. The system does not produce noxious emissions, odors nor wastwater.

MGN is fully committed to community engagement and education. Has met with community stakeholders and has offered to continue doing so. They are committed to engaging tenants of 315 Berry through distribution of education materials and direct meetings and communication. They are in the process of responding to tenant complaints about construction and noise. Claims to have already engaged tenants. If tenants feel otherwise, committed to engaging more.

Discussion: Steve Chesler asked about sound comparison to other types of systems. Rebecca Bar responded that it will be similar to a traditional HVAC unit in terms of noise. Fluence is the model of battery unit being used and is manufactured by Siemens. It utilizes a liquid cooling system that is data monitored. Sound baffling will add an additional layer of mitigation. MGN claimed they must comply with NYC building code and CEQR for sound levels and their potential impact. They are not allowed to raise sound levels above 3 decibels, including while windows are open.

Steve Chesler asked about the structural and building degradation issues raised by tenants of 315 Berry who submitted letters (10 in total) to the board. Specifically they referred to an unstable facade and a partial vacate order related to a bulging wall cover. MGN noted that because of the current uninsulated concrete roof the building has been susceptible to leaks, especially affecting top floor tenants who have the roof as their ceiling. MGN by installing a new roof instructure hope will alleviate some of the water leakage problems for tenants and improve climate control. The south wall is out of plumb causing concerns for tenants. In compliance with NYC Local 11 the owner will be installing scaffolding around the entire building with the intention

of making necessary repairs. MGN claims the situation with the facade does not affect the structure of the building as it relates to affecting the installation of the ESS. Ivan Luk the structural engineer noted that the falling debris is from the cement stucco of the building. Maintains that this building is more than capable to structurally handle the load of the ESS. MGN stated that testing and shoring up of the facade is in progress. Vibration monitoring will be installed as part of the ESS. LU CM Sante Miceli noted a building of this age using steel reinforced concrete will experience this type of deterioration and continue to over time. Is there data to support MGN's noise and vibration level and noise mitigation commitments? MGN is willing to provide data and noted their modelling data was approved by the State. Sante Miceli: will MGN take responsibility including financial for complaints and problems presented by the tenants related to sound and vibrations? Monte Bannerman, MGN CEO, noted their commitment as a responsible party to all agencies and tenants for the design, construction and operation of the system. Sante Miceli: is MGN willing to pay for an independent analysis of the data on behalf of the tenants? Mr. Bannerman, yes, if the entity is qualified. Land Use Committee Chair Del Teague: what legal document exists to bind MGN to liability for damages. Mr. Bannerman: we must comply with government codes and laws. Chair Teague: means tenants must take you to court. Mr. Bannerman: what more can we do? Mr. Miceli MGN should enter into an agreement with the tenants. Ms. Bar: tenants can call 311 or contact them directly. Chair Teague: many tenants in their complaints submitted to the board cited problems with communication and responsiveness to them. Isaac Sofer: How many tenants have been reached out to about the project? MGN: All of them. Mr. Sofer: What about regarding construction mitigation and the Tenant Protection Plan? Ms. Bar: they must submit the plan to DOB and it is available to the public. Mr. Sofer: will the project benefit the tenants in the building? Ms. Bar: those closest to the system will benefit the most from the ESS, especially during an outage event. Mr. Sofer: are more systems being installed throughout the city? MGN: hundreds. Katie Naplatarski: city allowable noise levels can still be insufferable. Questions installation of this system on a residential building. A manufacturing district location would be better. Which community leaders did MGN meet with? How much is the building owner being paid? Will the tenants benefit from the system? Richard Lobel (Sheldon Lobel, Land Use Attorneys): this is about a BSA special permit with requirements of difficulty locating a station location and that it serve local power needs, and the lot area be a minimum of 500 square feet. Applicant has met both requirements which means BSA must legislate a permit.

7 tenants from 315 Berry St submitted letters of complaint about the ongoing state of the building building owner and the project to the board. (see attached).

Community in-person testimony. Tenant Oliva Silver: has lived in the building her entire life. Problematic state of the building has been ongoing including chipping walls, ceiling and leaks. She expressed extreme frustration. Fears disruption from construction for her and her parents who live and work in the building. Communication to tenants about test construction has failed. Most tenants do not know about the project. Noise will force them to relocate during the construction. Chair Teague: there needs to be robust communication between MGN and tenants so the tenants know what to expect with the roof replacement, especially a potential beneficial outcome for them. Tenant Steve Silver (lives on 7th/top floor): project will be severely

disruptive causing his displacement. A 3MW benefit for Con Edison does not balance out against tenant displacement & disruption. Landlord has a terrible track record for not repairing problems with the building. Distrust exists. Mr. Bannerman: MGN is paying market rate rent to the owner for use of his building. 3MW of energy is capable of powering 150 homes for a month including during a power outage. Building owner Richard Herbst: he considers rent received from MGN insignificant considering project difficulties. Claims he has offered 4 months rent forgiveness during construction and MGN has offered to relocate the tenants during that period. Simon Wesier: tenants and MGN should meet directly to resolve the conflict. Roof replacement will most likely benefit tenants. New system will be beneficial in expanding the capacity of the power grid and Con Edison.

The Land Use Committee voted to recommend disapproval of the BSA special permit due threat of impact on tenants and MGN should consider relocating the project to a manufacturing district.

#### **Environmental Protection Committee deliberation**

A quorum was not present. Proposal for consensus recommendation:

Chair Steve Chesler: propose not recommending the project based on the integrity problems with the building and the issues with the tenants. Willis Elkins: issue is not relocating the project into a manufacturing district. It lies with the treatment of the residents and impending threat of construction impact. Eric Bruzaitis concurred. Chair Chesler: wish MGN would meet with tenants and agree to a proposal that they create that would satisfy them. Overall he likes the project. Dan Grossman: let us include the suggestion that all parties meet and come to a resolution.

Chair Chesler: Motion to not recommend the project due the environmental impact of construction on the tenants and the building, until there is engagement between the tenants of the building, the owner and MicroGrid, and until a resolution is achieved that the tenants approve. Second: Trina McKeever.

Vote:

Yes 5 (Steve Chesler, Eric Bruzaitis, Willis Elkins, Trina McKeever, Dan Grossman\*) No 0 Abstentions 0 \*Non-board member

Motion Carried.

## Fwd: Calendar No. 2020-88-B2, Hearing April 12th, 315 Berry Street

April 2, 2021 at 6:59 PM

From Steve Chesler

To Laura Hofmann, Willis Elkins, Dan Grossman, Bella Sabel, Huairou Commission, Yoel Low, William Klagsbald, Kevin Costa, Trina McKeever, Eric Bruzaitis

Another letter regarding 315 Berry.

Steve

Begin forwarded message:

From: "BK01 (CB)" <bk01@cb.nyc.gov> Date: April 2, 2021 at 11:06:37 AM EDT

To: Avrom Katz <abekatz@yahoo.com>, Bozena Kaminski <bkaminskiny@aol.com>, Del Teague <tq.fenjazz@gmail.com>, GINA BARROS <ginbarros@aol.com>, Issac Sofer <isaac@proactny.com>, Karen Nieves <knieves.tnt@gmail.com>, Trina McKeever <Trina@rserra.com>, menglan.li.267@gmail.com, Rabbi David Niederman <dniederman@unitedjewish.org>, Rabbi Moishe Indig <moisheindig@yahoo.com>, Robert Solano <rsolano@cuffh.org>, Simon Weiser <sam.kigel@gmail.com>, Stephen Weidberg <stephenweidberg@aol.com>, Stephen Chesler <stevechesler@me.com>, Maria Viera <marivi246@aol.com>, Keith Berger <kab225@yahoo.com>, Sante Miceli <santemiceli@yahoo.com>, Erin Drinkwater <Emdrinkwater@gmail.com>, Abraham Lebovits <abe@thebuildingsolution.com>, William Vega <william.vega206@gmail.com>, Cory Kantin <ckantin@gmail.com>, Katie Naplatarski <naplatarski@hotmail.com>, michael.kawochka@gmail.com, Allyson Stone <allyson@stoneshineventures.com>, mike@gothampictures.tv

Subject: Fw: Calendar No. 2020-88-B2, Hearing April 12th, 315 Berry Street

From: Amy Madden <amyemadden@yahoo.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, April 1, 2021 10:28 PM **To:** BK01 (CB) < bk01@cb.nyc.gov>

Cc: ooplata@yahoo.com <ooplata@yahoo.com>

Subject: Calendar No. 2020-88-B2, Hearing April 12th, 315 Berry Street

Dear members of Community Board 1,

I am writing to express my concern about a project proposed for the roof of our building at 315 Berry Street. While I don't know much about the details of the project (the installation of solar batteries as part of a micro grid, I heard from a fellow tenant), I am concerned about what could cause significant disruptions to the lives of the tenants in the building over the course of several months, and potentially long-term. In addition, the building is already in poor structural condition, with extensive leaks on the upper floors and in the stairwells where the walls are cracked or compromised. From time to time, large chunks of concrete fall off the building. Adding significant additional weight to this old and poorly maintained building may not be a good idea.

The fact that the landlord has not posted any notice in the building or sent/emailed any mention or information about the proposed project should convey Management's lack of regard for the rights and living conditions of the residents. If the two days of exploratory work are any indication of what to expect, the noise levels will make trying to work from home nearly impossible. Many of the residents in the rent-stabilized live/work units on the upper floors regularly work from home and many others throughout the building are working remotely due to Covid 19.

I will be highly skeptical of any talk of "mitigation plans" since the building has a long history of shoddy, disruptive and at times illegal work. The landlord and his workers frequently create unsafe conditions (such as leaving broken glass

everywhere inside people's homes during window unit replacement, rigging up electrical cords on outdoor scaffolding that gave powerful shocks to passers-by, and illegally converting half the building to new residential units/renting them without obtaining certificates of occupancy). I was concerned when I saw the workers who came to do the exploratory work inside the building without masks.

Here are some questions that I have:

- 1. Was the landlord required to post notice within the building or provide written notice to tenants before the Community Board meets to decide if they will approve the project? If so, this was not done. I imagine other tenants might have questions and concerns as well, but still are not aware of the proposed project.
- 2. Are the installers aware of the most recent exterior concrete failure that occurred after their exploratory work? While likely not related to their work in any way, it demonstrates the ongoing fragile condition of the building.
- 3. How many of these rooftop micro grid projects are being proposed for fully occupied residential buildings? How many projects for poorly maintained 100+ year-old buildings? Wouldn't this type of project be better suited for commercial buildings and/or unoccupied new construction?

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Amy Madden

# Fw: 5 April Joint Meeting of the Land Use, ULURP & Landmarks (subcommittee) Committee & Environmental Protection Committee

April 5, 2021 at 5:57 PM

From "BK01 (CB)"

To Avrom Katz, Bozena Kaminski, Del Teague, GINA BARROS, Issac Sofer, Karen Nieves, Trina McKeever

- , "menglan.li.267@gmail.com", Rabbi David Niederman, Rabbi Moishe Indig, Robert Solano, Simon Weiser
- , Stephen Weidberg, Steve Chesler, Maria Viera, Keith Berger, Sante Miceli, Erin Drinkwater, Abraham Lebovits
- , William Vega, Cory Kantin, Katie Naplatarski, "michael.kawochka@gmail.com", Allyson Stone
- , "mike@gothampictures.tv"

From: Paige Stevenson <paigestevenson67@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, April 5, 2021 5:28 PM

To: BK01 (CB) <bk01@cb.nyc.gov>; Olivia Silver <ooplata@yahoo.com>

Subject: 5 April Joint Meeting of the Land Use, ULURP & Landmarks (subcommittee) Committee & Environmental Protection Committee

Dear Community Board ULURP & Landmarks and Environment Protection Agency,

My name is Paige Stevenson and I am writing regarding the Microgrid presentation which I have heard from neighbors is scheduled for tonight's hearing regarding the electrical substation planned for the roof of 315 Berry Street.

I have lived on the South side of the sixth floor of 315 Berry Street since 1989 and I know from personal experience that this building is in no condition to support a big construction on the roof. Portions of my unit have been flooded multiple times over the years; wherever we are unlucky to have a storm approach from the South or East water leaks into our home from the walls of the building above an below the windows and sometimes is pulled in between the floors so that the leaks come through from my ceil 12 feet in from the wall even when the floor on the 7 is not wet. Pieces of concrete crumble off of the exterior often enough that we are forbidden to use the garden next to the building by the Department of Buildings, where there are several open violations for 315 Berry Street currently on record.

I am also concerned that the majority of the residents of 315 Berry Street are not aware of this plan and that in fact the meeting that has been scheduled on April 13th to allow those of us who do know and are against it to give testimony is scheduled for 6PM, hours AFTER the meeting of the council where the decisions to grant the special permit will be made, which means our testimony can have no effect on the decision, which does not seem sensible.

The owners of 315 Berry Street should be forced to do the repair work necessary to make our homes safe and livable and leave the neighborhood electrical infrastructure expansion to more sturdy buildings. Please do not allow a project that will deteriorate the fragile old concrete even more and make our living situation even worse.

Thank you, Paige Stevenson 917 902-0417

#### Fw: 315 Berry Street microgrid proposal, Hearing 5 April 2021

March 31, 2021 at 9:46 AM

From "BK01 (CB)"

To Avrom Katz, Bozena Kaminski, Del Teague, GINA BARROS, Issac Sofer, Karen Nieves, Trina McKeever, "menglan.li.267@gmail.com", Rabbi David Niederman, Rabbi Moishe Indig, Robert Solano, Simon Weiser

- , Stephen Weidberg, Steve Chesler, Maria Viera, Keith Berger, Sante Miceli, Erin Drinkwater, Abraham Lebovits
- , William Vega, Cory Kantin, Katie Naplatarski, "michael.kawochka@gmail.com", Allyson Stone
- , "mike@gothampictures.tv"



From: Christopher Quirk <christopherquirk@icloud.com>

Sent: Wednesday, March 31, 2021 8:43 AM

To: BK01 (CB) <bk01@cb.nyc.gov>

Subject: Re: 315 Berry Street microgrid proposal, Hearing 5 April 2021

Letter in opposition to the proposed installation of microgrid batteries at 315 Berry Street

Dear members of Community Board 1,

I have been a resident of 315 Berry Street for more than 20 years. The recent news of large battery fixtures and other implements being installed on the roof of our building by the landlord concerns me, and should concern the committee for the following reasons:

1) We received no notice of the work do be done, as was required.

I learned of the plan to put the batteries on the roof from a fellow resident. My understanding is that written notice was to be sent to everyone living within a 400-foot radius of the building, and that notices were to be posted inside the building. None of that has been done. At this moment, no resident of the building I have spoken with has any reliable information of the scope or timing of the plans for the project.

2) The building shows signs it may not be able to support the weight of the planned microgrid fixtures.

We have not been informed of the weight of the battery units and other equipment planned for the roof, nor how many. Battery storage units for microgrids can weigh many thousands of pounds. How many are to be installed, 4, 6, 10, more? We have no idea beyond the report of one of the contractors doing preparatory work on the roof a couple of weeks ago. To my knowledge there has been no independent analysis of the structural integrity of the building and whether in could safely withstand the weight of the planned installation. Since I have lived in the building, there have been pieces of cement large and small falling from the building onto the sidewalks and yards below. This is documented in the Department of Buildings records. For example, 20 years ago, a piece of cement approximately 10 feet long, close to a foot wide, and weighing well over 100 pounds fell from the the sill of a fifth floor window of the building, ricocheted off a window on a lower floor and landed on my car, crushing the roof of the car and totaling the vehicle. It was a miracle no one was killed. Now I am informed by a fellow resident that the south wall of the building is beginning to bulge outward. All of this indicates the necessity of an independent structural review to determine the suitability of the project for the building and to ensure safe conditions.

3) The landlord has an extremely poor record with construction and renovation projects in the building, and which have caused severe disruption in the lives of tenants.

Between around 2001-2004 the landlord engaged in renovations to create market rate apartments from what were primarily commercial textile factories on the lower floors of the building. In a housing court case in 2003, the landlord's own witness—his architect— admitted under oath that the landlord had moved residential tenants into

the new apartments without obtaining certificates of occupancy for the new units. Moreover, as part of those renovations, there were numerous disruptions and unsafe actions committed by the landlord's contractors. One day, while I was working on the loading dock of the building, workers began smashing out glass windows with hammers several floors above the loading dock, raining shards of glass on me and my wife. Noise levels were very high during these years, with drilling and other construction noise. The parking area behind the building for a time was used as a dump, and one day the refuse, piled up about ten feet high at that point, caught fire and the fire department was called. When the windows were replaced in our unit, the landlord's workers this time smashed the glass inward, spraying broken glass all over our apartment. When these contractors departed, they left our bathtub filled with broken glass, and left empty boxes and refuse all over our unit. When I showed landlord Richie Herbst photos of this incident several years ago he replied, "We're never going to live that down." More recently, the landlord illegally converted a residential unit on the 4th floor into 6 SRO units, presumably to cash in on the AirBNB boom in the city. This was a serious matter, as the units did not have proper egress or fire alarms (see attached). During the current pandemic, the landlord's contractors have been seen working in the building's interior spaces and hallways without wearing a mask. This endangers the residents, some of whom are at higher risk for severe illness or death from COVID. Given this landlord's persistent inability or unwillingness to execute projects legally and safely, current tenants have cause to be skeptical this project can be done in a safe and reasonable manner.

4) Should the project go forward, there is no mitigation plan to ensure a minimum of disruption to the tenants.

Is it in fact possible to mitigate the disturbance of the proposed project to reasonable levels? Our building is over 100 years old, made of cement reinforced with steel rebar. As cement ages it hardens, and the cement in our building is very, very difficult to drill into. It is noisy, time-consuming work. The drilling is extremely loud if you are in a unit adjacent to the drilling, but it carries throughout the entire building. The only information we have about the project, according to the landlord's contractor (who did the recent work on the roof in preparation for this project) is that this proposed project will last four months and that drilling into ehe cement roof is a major part of the plan. Residents on the top floor especially will be severely affected, but many others as well will as well. As many are working from home now during the pandemic, and many of the upper floor residents (including my wife and I) work at home regularly, how is it possible to do this project without severely disrupting the lives and livelihoods of the residents of the building?

In closing, while I understand the civic necessity and benefit of dispersed energy stores for the city and its citizens, and while I am a strong advocate of sustainable energy alternatives, given the almost certain and severe disruptions the installation and maintenance this project will cause, there are no doubt more appropriate and safer locations for these units than on the roof of building with so many tenants living there who will be adversely affected by this project.

Thank you for your consideration.

Christopher Quirk 315 Berry St. #6N Brooklyn, NY 11249 christopherquirk@icloud.com +1.917.648.6686 **NYC Department of Buildings** 

#### Overview for Complaint #:3711882 = RESOLVED

Complaint at: 315 BERRY STREET BIN: 3063245 **Borough: BROOKLYN** ZIP: 11249

Re: ILLEGAL CONVERSION

**Category Code:** ILLEGAL CONVERSION NO ACCESS FOLLOW-UP

**Assigned To: BROOKLYN CONSTRUCTION ENFORCEMENT** Priority: B

Received: 07/16/2019 **Block:** 2430 Lot: 2 Community Board: 301

315 BERRY ST CORP Owner:

Last Inspection: 07/16/2019 - - BY BADGE # 3043
Disposition: 07/18/2019 - Y3 - PARTIAL VACATE ORDER ISSUED

071619CMTFHZ01 071619CMTFHZ02 071619CMTFHZ03 071619CMTFHZ04/05

DOB Violation #: 071619CMTFHZ06/07

ECB Violation #: 35437997K 35437998M 35437999Y 35438025K 35438026M

Comments: APT# 4E ILLEGALLY CONVERTED TO 6 SRO'S W/O REQ EGRESS, FIRE ALARM

SYSTEM.....35438027Y/28X/29H/33K

#### **Complaint Disposition History**

#	Dispos Date	sition Code	Disposition	Inspection By	Date
2	07/18/2019	Y3	PARTIAL VACATE ORDER ISSUED	3043	07/16/2019
			APT# 4E ILLEGALLY CONVERTED TO 6 SRO'S W/O REQ EGRESS, FIRE ALARM SYSTEM35438027Y/28X/29H/33K		
1	07/17/2019	Y3	PARTIAL VACATE ORDER ISSUED	3043	07/16/2019
			APT# 4E ILLEGALLY CONVERTED TO 6 SRO'S W/O REQ EGRESS, FIRE		

ALARM SYSTEM.....35438027Y/28X/29H

#### Fw: 315 Berry Street solar batteries

March 11, 2021 at 7:12 PM

From "BK01 (CB)"

To Del Teague, Steve Chesler

Cc Avrom Katz, Bozena Kaminski, Del Teague, GINA BARROS, Issac Sofer, Karen Nieves, Trina McKeever, "menglan.li.267@gmail.com", Rabbi David Niederman, Rabbi Moishe Indig, Robert Solano, Simon Weiser, Stephen Weidberg, Steve Chesler, Maria Viera, Keith Berger, Sante Miceli, Erin Drinkwater, Abraham Lebovits, William Vega, Cory Kantin, Katie Naplatarski, "michael.kawochka@gmail.com"

FYI ---

From: Rubeefalls <rubeefalls@aol.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 11, 2021 12:00 PM

To: BK01 (CB) <bk01@cb.nyc.gov>; ooplata@yahoo.com <ooplata@yahoo.com>

Subject: 315 Berry Street solar batteries

Dear Marie, and Community Board,

I am Ellen Goldin. I have lived n the 7th and top floor of 315 Berry Street for 30+ years.

Olivia Silver alerted me to her letter to you, and I am adding my voice to it.

"Testing" is being done today, as it was yesterday. My nerves are shot.

I have an interview via Zoom this afternoon; I have no idea how I am going to hear and be heard over the sounds of drilling and banging.

In addition, in terms of building memory - this roof has had recurrent leaks, the ceilings have cracks, many windows and walls also leak.

I am not convinced the roof is strong enough to withstand much weight. I have been home when piece of the ceiling has suddenly fallen - chunks of concrete.. once barely missing me.

Patches and repairs have been made. Some have failed. There is a spot in my living area I keep an eye on.

Because it is going to fall - just a question of when. I have taken a hammer to other questionable areas to release the weak cement so I can control when it falls, and not be taken off guard.

Please let me know if you want more info from me.

best, Ellen Goldin

## Fw: Concerning the installation of solar batteries on roof of 315 Berry St.

March 15, 2021 at 2:38 PM

From "BK01 (CB)"

To Undisclosed recipients:;

FYI ----

From: Noah Jemison <noahjemison1@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, March 15, 2021 1:57 PM To: BK01 (CB) < bk01@cb.nyc.gov>

Subject: Fwd: Concerning the installation of solar batteries on roof of 315 Berry St.

I am a longtime tenant at 315 Berry St. and would like to include the email below.

#### Begin forwarded message:

From: Noah Jemison <noahjemison1@gmail.com>

Subject: Concerning the installation of solar batteries on roof of 315 Berry St.

Date: March 15, 2021 at 12:10:29 PM EDT

**To:** stevechesler@me.com

Cc: Olivia Silver < ooplata@yahoo.com>

#### Greetings Mr. Chesler,

I am also a tenant of long-standing in the Artist In Residence building at 315 Barry St. and would like to inform you that since its inception, we have

had enormous problems with the maintenance of the roof. For years with the leaking of water due to bad patches, trafficking – in particular around the

Macy's fireworks and visitors wishing to enjoy the panoramic view, and now the installation of solar batteries without notifying anyone who might be affected. First of all, I am deeply concerned with the additional weight that will be placed on a roof that has finally become reasonably stable, and I'm additionally concerned about the use of technology of which we have little understanding. You see, upon learning the real truth behind the 5G Movement of trying to head off the possibility of mass radiation poisoning, any new effort of this sort concerns me. And last but equally important, the discomforts and disruption of the lives of people who lives in the loft's first couple of floors (the noise level created by the banning and drilling of the workmen must be excruciating). Any assistance you can get with this matter would be deeply appreciated. Noah Jemison (4 West).

# Fw: Installation of solar batteries on the roof of 315 Berry St. February 28, 2021 at 3:46 PM From "BK01 (CB)" To Undisclosed recipients:;

From: Olivia Silver <ooplata@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 27, 2021 9:38 PM
To: BK01 (CB) <bk01@cb.nyc.gov>

**Subject:** Re: Installation of solar batteries on the roof of 315 Berry St.

Dear Ms. Fuller and/or members of Community Board 1,

My name is Olivia October Silver and I am a tenant of 315 Berry St. in Williamsburg, Brooklyn. My Father moved into this building in the 70s and I have been living here all 23 years of my life. I am writing to express my concern regarding a project that has been proposed on the roof of my building: the installation of 8 large (8x8) solar batteries/ solar battery boxes on our roof by Microgrid Networks LLC.

The residents in this building have not been consulted on their feelings towards this installation. As far as I am aware only one email was ever sent, requesting access into tenant's houses in order to test the walls in the building to determine the structural integrity of the roof. No information on the specifics of the actual project and how it would impact our lives was ever provided. All the information I have was obtained through private conversations with the company. This project is being marketed as something which will occur in "empty" and "unused" spaces (see the link), yet this roof is a fire exit in a **RESIDENTIAL** building. When the elevator maintenance man comes up to the roof early some mornings to check the machinery up there, the sound he makes wakes me up. Footsteps are clearly audible. When the workers from Microgrid Networks went up to drill on the roof and map out the area for their proposed project some months back, for example, the sound they made was loud and disruptive. I will also mention that the manner in which this company conducted themselves when coming to test our space was completely unprofessional and intrusive. The workers arrived to the lobby of my floor unannounced with no prior warning without wearing masks or following proper COVID precautions. They began drilling into the ceiling, spilling water and mud all over our entryway, ruing a rug and other furniture. The rather large chunk of ceiling that was removed is still there as they didn't bother to cover it up before they left. Had we simply been informed of the date and time of their arrival we would have been able to remove the rug and furniture and prevent this damage. This seems to me a clear indicator of the approach taken by this company and the kind of conduct that can be expected from them in future if this project were to move forward. Again, this is a residential building, not an empty factory or Parking Garage.

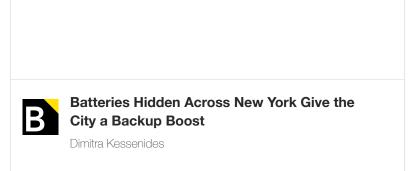
This project entails the installation of heavy machinery that would continue for hours everyday thought a 3-4 month timespan, creating a completely unlivable situation for the tenants on the floors directly underneath the roof. The livelihood of the people within this building is, I believe, more important than any gain, monetary or otherwise, that can be obtained from a project of this nature.

This is my second email regarding this matter. I am very concerned about the ramifications of this project which directly impacts my family and our living situation (as well as that of the other tenants on the 7th floor and in the building) and would like to discuss what actions can be taken against this project moving forward. Thank you for your time. I hope to hear back from you soon.

Best.

Olivia

Batteries Hidden Across New York Give the City a Backup Boost



Stashed in empty lots and installed on rooftops, microgrids in otherwise overlooked locations are the future of ...

Re

#### Fw: regarding community board meeting on April 5th

March 17, 2021 at 10:13 AM

From "BK01 (CB)"

To Avrom Katz, Bozena Kaminski, Del Teague, GINA BARROS, Issac Sofer, Karen Nieves, Trina McKeever, "menglan.li.267@gmail.com", Rabbi David Niederman, Rabbi Moishe Indig, Robert Solano, Simon Weiser, Stephen Weidberg, Steve Chesler, Maria Viera, Keith Berger, Sante Miceli, Erin Drinkwater, Abraham Lebovits, William Vega, Cory Kantin, Katie Naplatarski, "michael.kawochka@gmail.com"

0	Inside view.jpeg 43.78 KB,	Close up of v	wall.JPG 2.42 MB, 🗋	From outside.jpeg 78.67 KB
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From: Dana Kane <danakane315@gmail.com> Sent: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 9:27 AM

To: BK01 (CB) <bk01@cb.nyc.gov>

Subject: regarding community board meeting on April 5th

Dear Ms. Wallin,

I have decided to let you use my name regarding the precarious state of the south wall at 315 Berry Street. It is far less important for me to worry about my relationship with my landlord when the actual physical structure that I am living is could become even more dangerous.

On Feb 21, 2021 a very large piece of concrete fell down from above one of my windows. Initially, I didn't know what was going on. There was a lot of noises coming from above, and I thought it might be my neighbor. Then, the sounds starting getting very strange, and I realized it was the building itself. It sounded like the building was groaning.

I immediately contacted my landlord (Richie Herbst), in which I (probably foolishly) told him I would not alert the DOB. However, I wasn't thinking about the additional weight of the solar panels, or indeed the solar panels at all. Now I feel that I must weigh in with my strong objection to the project.

The last time that the exterior of the building was worked on was @ 1995, and it was mostly a cosmetic job. However, I feel that a cosmetic job is not appropriate in this instance. You can see by the photos that I am enclosing that the wall is now out of vertical alignment, and as I mentioned before, there is a bulge in the southside wall.

I hope that you take this information into consideration and deny permission for such a risky venture.

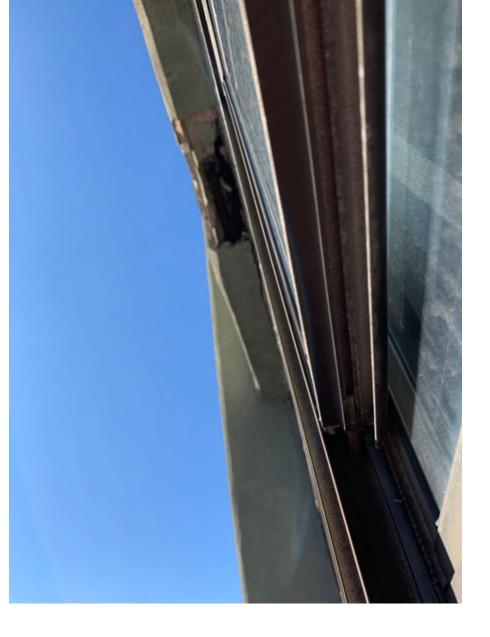
Sincerely yours,

Dana Kane

Photos: Again, this area of the wall would be directly below the proposed solar panels.







#### Begin forwarded message:

From: Dana Kane <danakane315@gmail.com>

Subject: regarding community board meeting on April 5th

Date: March 16, 2021 at 3:06:18 PM EDT

To: bk01@cb.nyc.gov

Marie Bueno Wallin

Regarding 315 Berry Street's application for Solar Panels on the Roof

Dear Ms. Wallin,

I am writing concerning the plans for placing solar panels on the top of 315 Berry Street. I am a tenant in the building, and was hoping that I could send my comments regarding the installation of solar panels on the roof while staying anonymous.

I am concerned about placing more weight on the top building, as currently the South Wall of the building is badly in need of repair, and actually bulges out a bit from the building. I understand that because the owner has gotten so many violations, in May the DOB is requiring the owner to install scaffolding around the entire building, and then start much needed repairs to the outside walls building.

The outside wall on the South side is no longer in vertical alignment. Large pieces of concrete have fallen into the garden below. And I believe that the vibration of the drilling alone could cause more shifting in that wall and present a potentially dangerous situation. But additional weight on the roof of that side of the building with a weak wall doesn't make much sense to me, but I am not a structural engineer.

I hope that I can remain anonymous, please let me know if that is possible. If it is not possible, please do not enter my comments into the notes of the meeting.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dana Kane



## Community Board 1 Joint Subcommittee Meeting: Environmental & Land Use Committee

- Why are we here?
- Who MGN is and what do we do?
- What do these systems do and why are they critical?
- These systems can be installed and operated safely
- What are the benefits to the community?
- Community and resident concerns and outreach



### **BSA** (Board of Standards and Appeals) Findings:

- a. The use will serve immediate residential area, and there are serious difficulties in locating a site that is "as of right", which make it necessary to locate instead in a residential area
- b. The site is sufficiently sized

### Open items from first CB hearing and from tenants:

- 1. Concern about the structural capacity of the building
- 2. Anxiety about the noise and disruption caused by construction
- 3. Questions about noise and vibrations on a residential building
- 4. Concerns regarding the system safety



## Microgrid Networks is:

A New York City-based company of veterans with a long history in renewable and resilient energy systems, facilities, and networks.

MGN is among a small number of qualified, experienced, and funded companies to build, interconnect, and operate distributed energy facilities in NYC's stressed electricity networks and at-risk communities.

MGN is the leader in the specialized knowledge, expertise, and relationships needed to deploy medium-scale energy facilities, protecting and enhancing health, life, and property in New York City's dense and complex urban coastal economy.



# NYC's Congested Grid is an Energy Crises

- Communities are negatively impacted by hazardous fossil-fuel emissions and call for Environmental Justice.
- NYC Grid is not designed to withstand recent weather and tidal extremes.
- Congestion, floods, brownouts and blackouts are risks to human health and life safety.
- NYC has among the most expensive power in the US.
- Grid modernization is necessary to support NYC economic development, growth and competitiveness objectives.







### **Traditional approach to Overloaded Networks**

### **Fossil Peaker Plants**



- Expensive \$\$\$ to electricity consumer
- Emits Greenhouse gasses
- Cause health problems
- Traditionally installed in lower-income neighborhoods
- Does not meet State & Local sustainability and environmental goals

### **Upgrading Wires**



- Expensive \$\$\$ to electricity consumer
- Disrupts streets and sidewalks
- Does not reduce Peaker emissions
- Does not provide backup power
- Does not encourage renewable penetration

### The Solution

### **Energy Storage System**



- Least cost solution saves consumers \$\$
- Allows more efficient use of infrastructure already paid for by consumers
- Safe and Quiet
- Provides resiliency & emergency power
- Stores wind and solar energy
- Small scale / installed close to where power is consumed



# Who Says Energy Storage is ESSENTIAL to Our Safety & Prosperity?









**Department of** 

**Public Service** 





















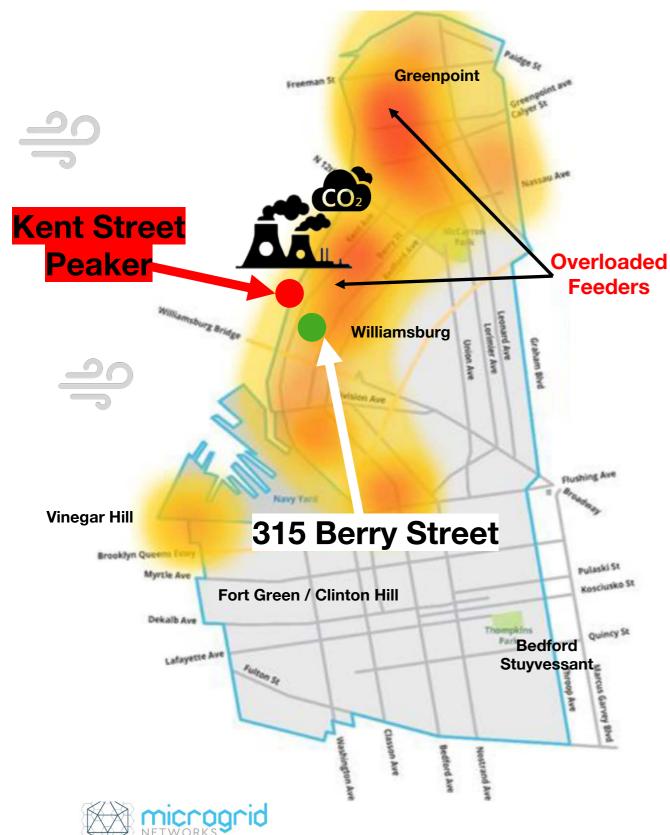


### 2019 New York State Energy Storage Mandate: 1500 MW by 2025 3000 MW 2030

"NextGen Energy Storage solutions are essential to a resilient and reliable power grid, to accelerate clean energy adoption, to advancing clean energy innovation, and attract investments which combat climate change and improve the health and prosperity of New Yorkers" - NYSERDA



## Water Street Network Con Edison Heat Map



One of the oldest and most vulnerable networks in the Con Edison system.

Water St. Capacity is ~370 MW but ConEd peak load is estimated:

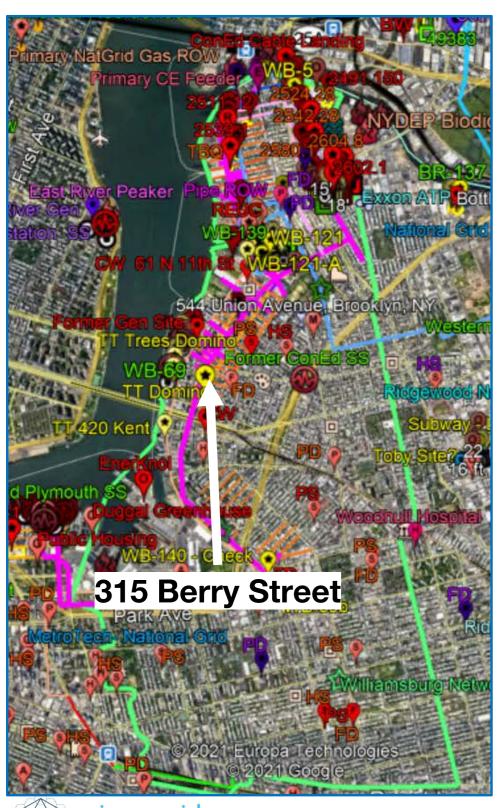
- 390 MW in 2021
- 400 MW in 2022
- 20 30 MW under-capacity -Blackout/Brownout territory

Kent Peaker Emits:

- 27,685 tons of CO2 (annually)
- 2.4 Tons of NOx
- .14 Tons of SO2

Every kWh provided by 315 Berry Street ESS will displace a kWh produced by fossil generation.

# Why 315 Berry Street?



### **Site Selection Process:**

MGN surveyed over 200 sites in 3 years in North Brooklyn, in order to find up to 70 MW of storage for ConEd. Only **2 sites** that met the criteria for such a system.

Predominantly Residential area: Lots of energy demand, but very few places for an ESS to provide feeder relief.

243 Calyer Street - 2.4MW as of right site 315 Berry Street - 3.0MW - requires BSA special permit

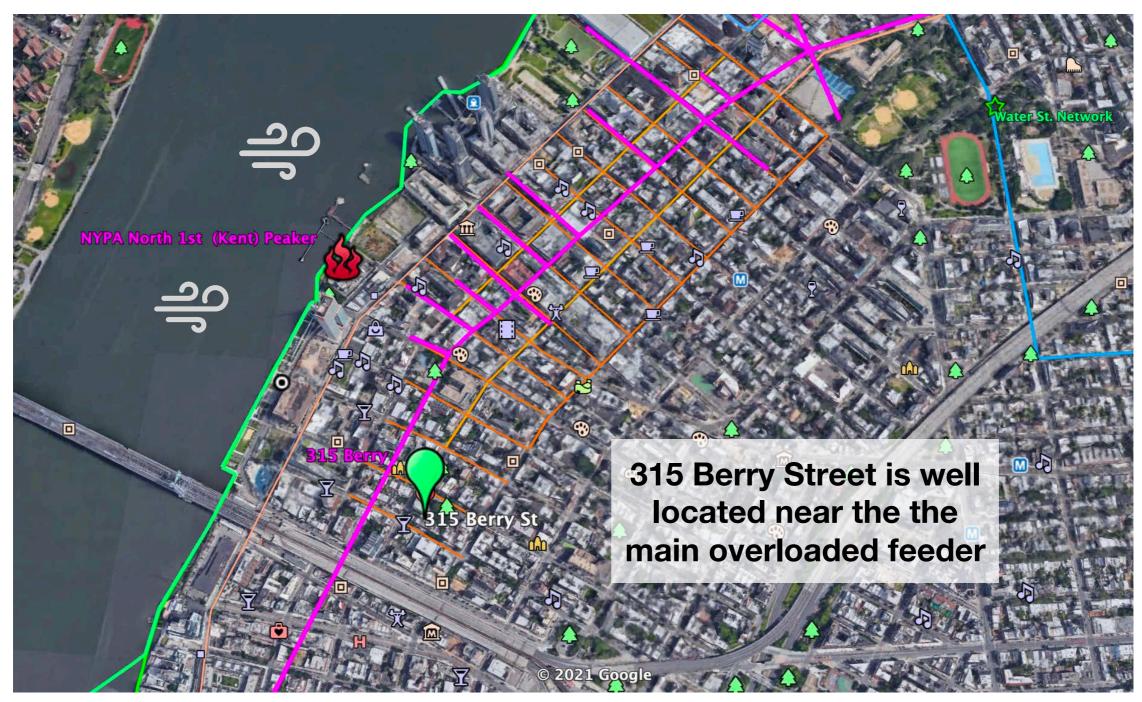
### **Site Requirements:**

- 1. Close proximity to overloaded feeders
- 2. Must meet structural requirements
- 3. Building must have sufficient rooftop space
- 4. Must be able to rent long term due to cost of equipment

MGN's projects represent small but meaningful contribution toward the 2025 State goal.



## **Peaker Plant and Feeders**

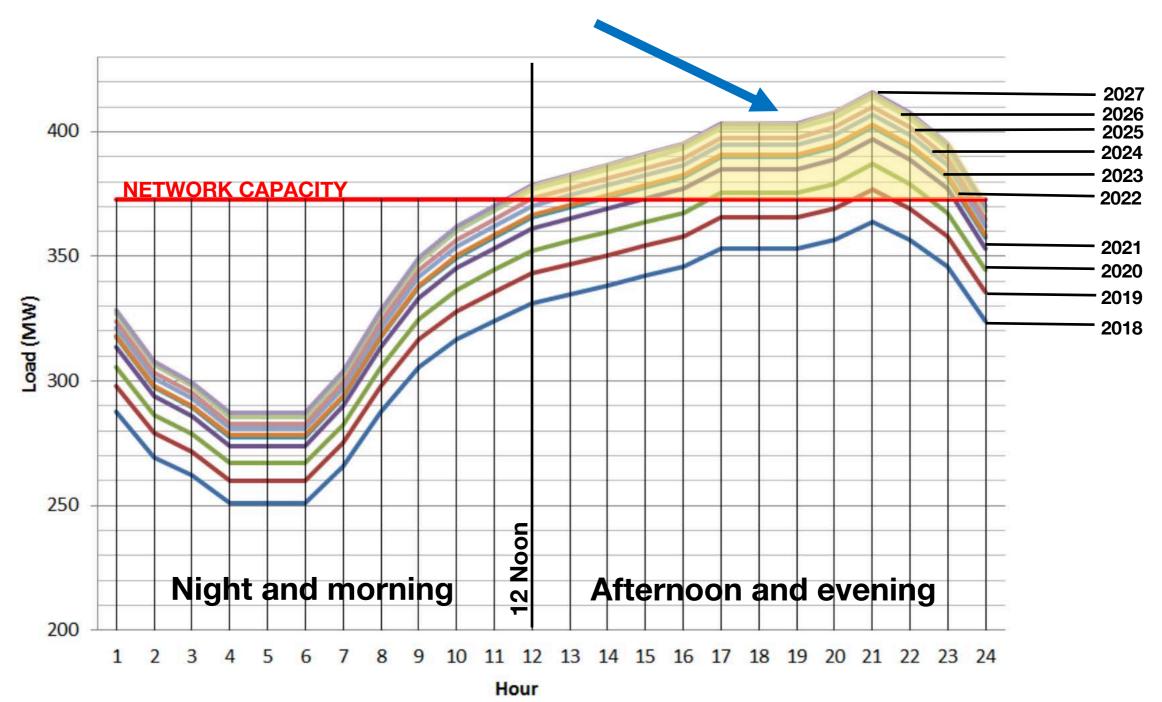


The two feeders in the Williamsburg Network have been experiencing emergency overloads since 2020.



# Water Street Network - Over Capacity

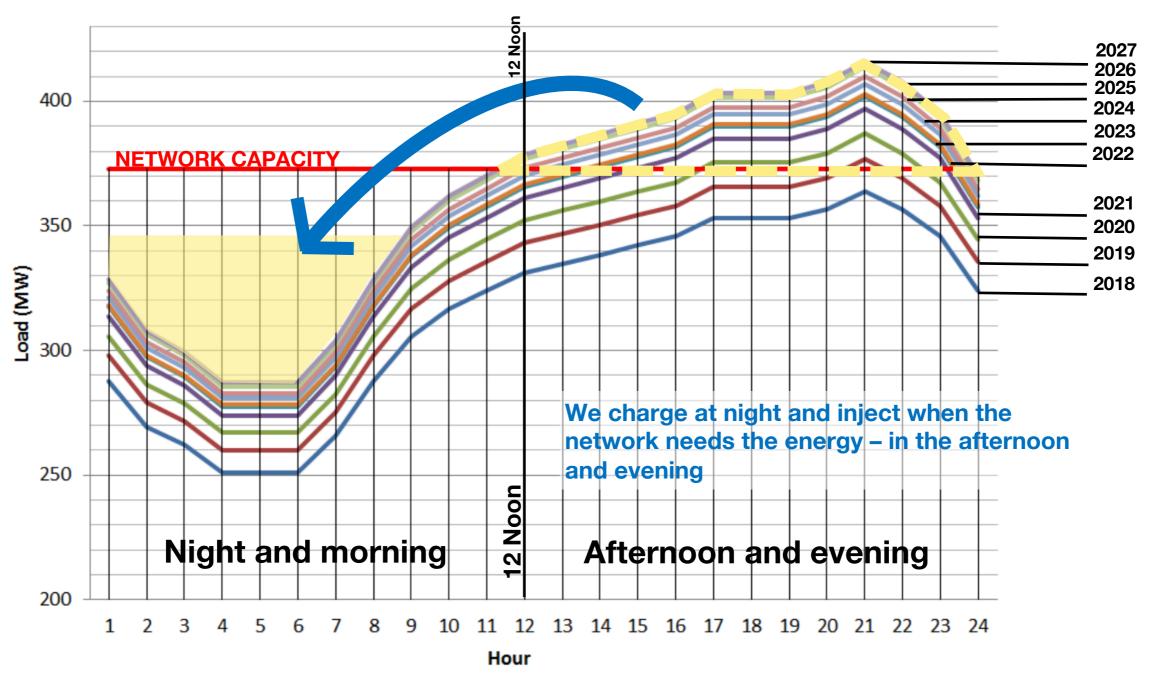
This capacity problem is the cause of blackouts & brownouts. Traditionally this would be solved by building a new Peaker plant and/or digging up streets to install larger lines & substations.





# Water Street Network – Shifting Capacity

Battery Energy Storage – shifts the peak and flattens the demand curve so the network can operate more efficiently within its existing capacity resulting in less Peaker use & fewer blackouts





# Batteries Storage is Safe and Becoming Widely Deployed in Residential Buildings

### **Existing Battery Projects in NYC:**

- Marcus Garvey Apartments Brooklyn
- Barclays Center Brooklyn
- Gateway Center Brooklyn
- Navy Yard Floating Barge Brooklyn
- East River (100 MW) Astoria

### **U.S.** Residential Battery Projects

- 600-Unit Complex in Utah (photos at right)
- Tesla Home Powerwall (photo at right)
- Rapid Rollout in Western States

### The New Hork Times

## The Hottest Amenity From Developers? A Power Plant Made of Batteries.

Charged via rooftop solar panels, the cells form a network that provides a building with backup electricity and that utilities can tap during peak periods.

Published March 3, 2021 Updated March 5, 2021



Store Energy









# The Battery - Most Advanced in the Market

- Meets all Global, National and City safety codes and testing (UL9540, NFPA, FDNY and DOB OTCR)
- UL lab testing showed no propagation, these batteries, unlike other Lithium batteries, do not catch fire.
- Battery is designed to automatically shut down, within seconds, if any irregularities are detected (temperature, CO, voltage)
- Internal (Solid Aerosol) and external (water) fire suppression systems exceed FDNY requirements
- 24/7 Monitoring of real time data and dedicate local safety response team
- Liquid cooling and data monitoring is powered even when the battery shuts down
- Deflagration Panels as per NFPA 68 and FDNY requirements











# Who says these are safe to install on buildings?

- All batteries and technologies are approved by state & local authorities, including FDNY, NYC DOB & OTCR.
- FDNY is the national leader for safe installation and operation of Battery Energy Storage Systems.
- Rigorous qualifications & certifications on equipment. Batteries meet all UL and IEC Standards.
- System are monitored and managed 7x24 by trained systems engineers
- Both MGN and manufacturer have dedicated and trained safety response teams.





Office of Technical Certification and Research (OTCR)



International Electrotechnical Commission (link)



National Fire Protection Association (link)

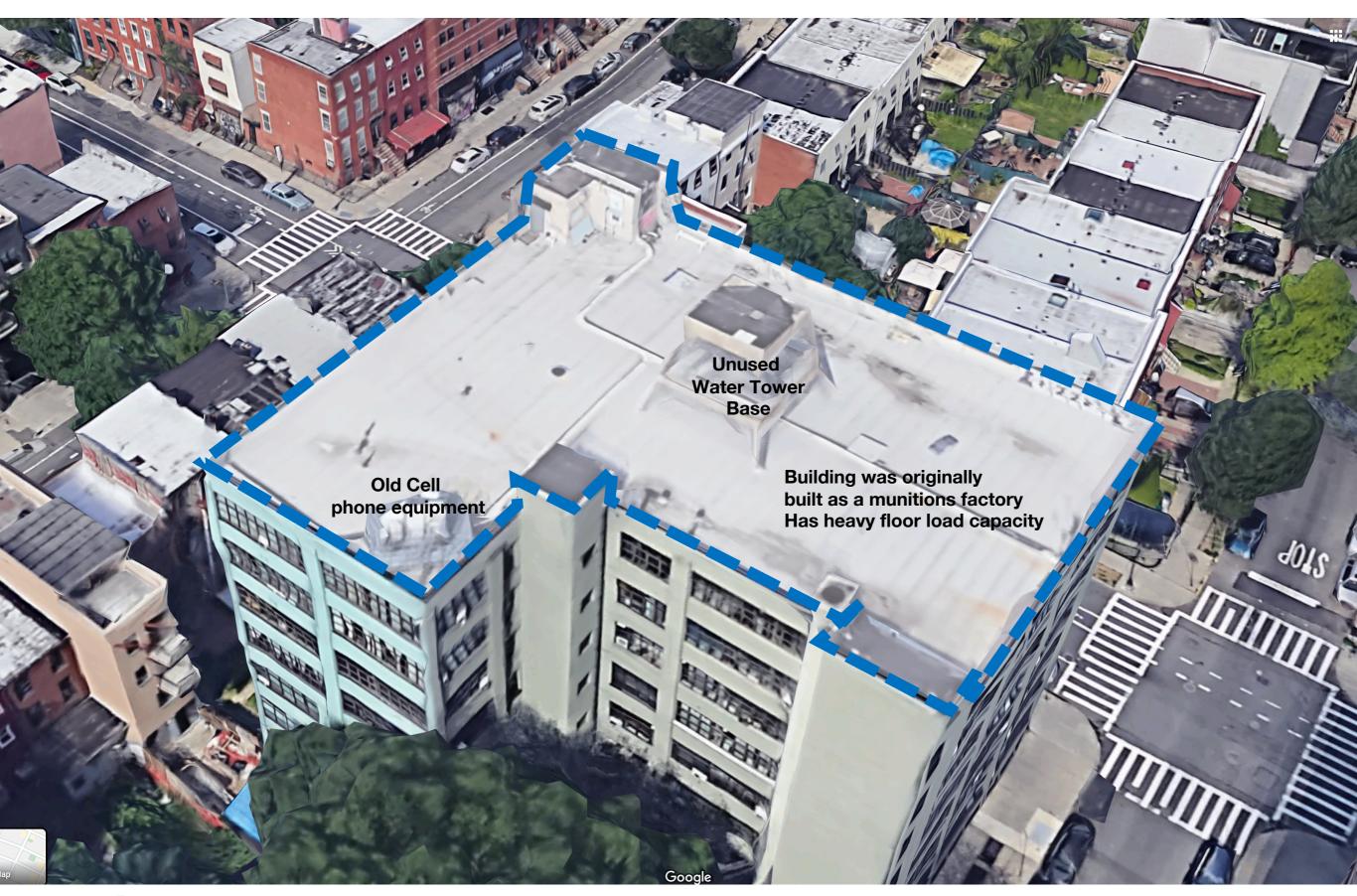


Underwriters Laboratories (link)

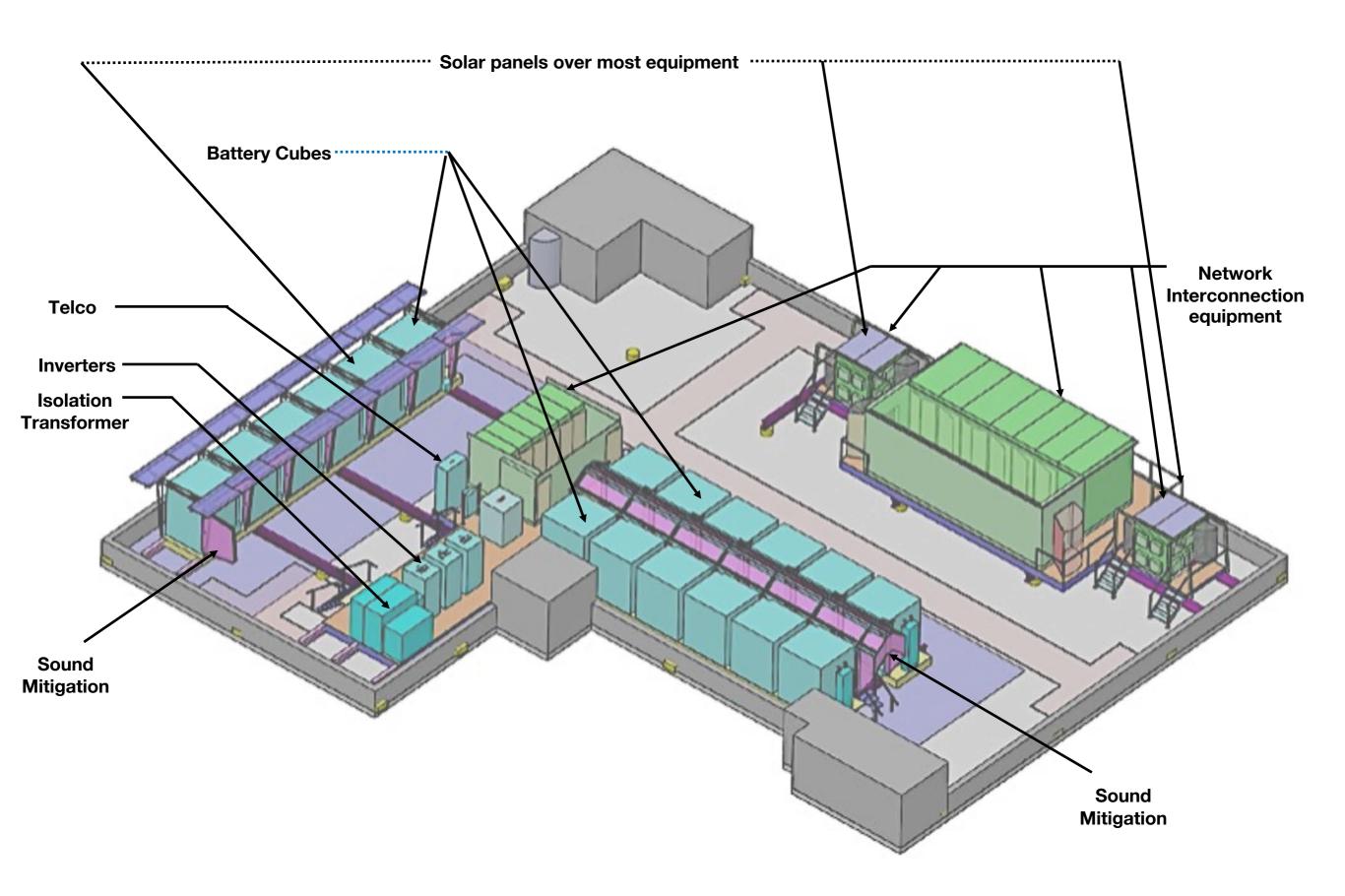








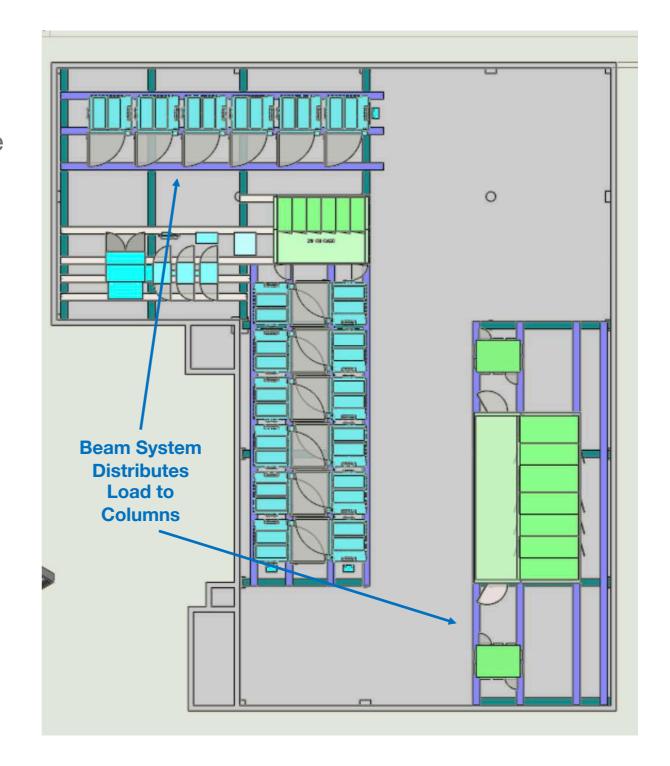






# Construction and Installation of System

- Substantial unused structural capacity.
- Equipment sits on beams 4' above roof the load goes to columns, not the roof slab or facade.
- As part of work MGN is planning to replace old roof that contributes to existing leaks and cracks, and upgrade with new insulated roof.
- The installation will meet all of the city safety codes for energy storage and must be approved by FDNY and DOB OTCR prior to installation.
- The owner is simultaneously planning LL11 work on the façade to repair the existing stucco exterior layer.





# Structural Capacity Analysis & Existing Conditions

- 1. MGN hired a structural engineer to conduct a rigorous analysis of available structural capacity including concrete testing and locating all rebar in columns. The consultant, Ivan Luk PE is a specialist in equipment installations and is currently working on the installation of solar canopies on the Javits Center.
- 2. The building has been shown to have excess load capacity on the roof due to its conversion to residential.
- 3. The weight of the equipment will be carried by dunnage to the building structural columns. The extra load is not carried by the roof slab or façade.
- 4. MGN will provide continuous vibration monitoring during and after the construction period to comply with regulations and allow for real time data collection.
- 5. Structural engineers will conduct regular visual inspections of work area to confirm safe conditions and MGN will conduct a pre-construction survey to monitor any changes in the building during construction or after.



# What about reports from tenants about leaks and façade issues?

- 1. 315 Berry Street is a 7 story concrete structure with a stucco façade. It is subject to LL!1 Facade Inspection & Safety program because of it's height.
- 2. There is deterioration of this (non-structural) stucco layer of the façade at eastern (loading dock) and southern (garden) exposure which needs to be repaired. The building owner is aware this work needs to be performed and it is already being planned as part of a larger façade repair.
- Recently a piece of stucco fell from the the façade into the garden below. The DOB was
  alerted and restricted access until the façade can be repaired and re-inspected. Access to the
  garden is limited until repairs are completed.
- 4. The roof of the building is old & uninsulated and in need of repair. MGN is planning to install an entirely new roof and insulation that will help prevent leaks and improve building thermal envelope.
- 5. There is the hope that with the planned façade work and the new roof that building leaks will be addresses.



# Tenant Concerns: How long will the installation take and how much noise will we experience?

- Construction is anticipated to take 4 months.
  - Phase 1 Installing dunnage (structural system on roof)
  - Phase 2 Craning equipment in place
  - Phase 3 Hooking equipment up and commissioning the system.
- Like any construction or renovation project, some drilling and banging and vibration can be expected but primarily during the dunnage installation. Work hours will conform to DOB regulations and we will continue to be in discussion with tenants to meet their special needs.
- There will be a Tenant Protection Plan in place to minimize impact to the building residents.
- MGN will provide contact information for any resident to reach both the onsite supervisor and a senior member of the MGN team in case there are any concerns during (and after) construction.



# Will there be noise or safety issues for tenants during operation?

- Noise: Studies have been conducted and mitigation is designed into the system so there will be no negative noise impact on the building residents. The facility will meet city noise code.
- Vibration: Because the batteries are solid state, there is very little vibration associated with the equipment. Any that exists will be mitigated and continually monitored to assure no disruption for the building residents.
- **EMF:** The battery does not produce any Electro Magnetic Frequency. Any EMF produced by the interconnection facility is no different than what is installed in residential buildings all over the city. The facility meets national electrical codes which covers EMF.
- Emissions: The facility does not burn fuel to produce power, has no form of operational exhaust, odor emitted or wastewater discharge.



# Community & Tenant Engagement

### **Statement of Commitment**

The integration of Clean Energy Technology into NYC buildings is both new and complex. We are committed to transparency and responsiveness in our community and tenant engagement.

### **Community Engagement**

Over the last three years of active engagement in North Brooklyn, we have:

- Met with dozens of local politicians and community leaders
- Met with local non-profits and environmental organizations
- Fully committed to educating residents and stakeholders about clean energy
- Fully committed to addressing the concerns of stakeholders and residents

### **Tenant Engagement**

- Open lines of communication with residents at 315 Berry and we have reached out to engage every tenant.
- Drafted educational materials to be sent to tenants after this meeting.
- We have scheduled virtual and on-site meetings to explain the technology and construction process.
- We are responding to tenant queries about noise and construction.



# Benefits of Our Energy Facilities

- Make our buildings and communities more resilient and safer from extreme weather and tidal events.
- Store energy for when and where we need it most.
- Reduce greenhouse gases, directly displacing costly and dirty combustion Peaker plants.
- Lower the cost of electricity when it is most expensive.
- Investment in local communities and creates new green jobs.
- Enables the shift to renewable generation and electrification of transportation, heating and cooling.



# **END OF PRESENTATION**



# **Appendix**

- Peaker Plants
- Key Legislation



# MGN's energy storage solution's role is to retire the Peaker Plants

- New York City spends \$43 Million annually on disease and death from Peaker plant emissions.
- The CO2 emissions of the NYC Peaker fleet cost the world more than \$300 million each year in health impacts.
- Peaker plants contribute 5% of New York's total CO2. Retirement of Peakers will reduction annual emissions by 2.66 million tons of CO2, 1,655 tons of Nitrous Oxide, and 171 tons of Sulphur Dioxide (Source: Uprose)
- Peaker Plants are 1,300 percent more expensive than the average cost of electricitor for the rest of the state. The land-owners of these plants generated \$422 million in revenue 2019 and cost \$4.5 billion to run these plants over the last ten years.
- Replacing these plants with clean energy assets by 2030 could save the State an estimated \$426 million per year.

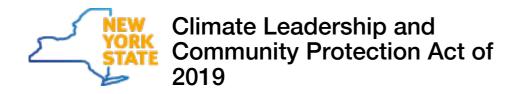
10,000 8,000 6,000 2,000 2019 2025 2030 2040 Peakers Other Emitting Assets CLCPA Target

Figure 1. Retirement Trajectory of New York City Emitting Power Capacity





# 2019 State and City Legislation Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act



- Legislation formed from decades of grass-roots advocacy for the removal of fossil fuels from New York City's grid.
- 70 percent of the state's electricity must come from renewable energy by 2030, and
- 100 percent of the state's electricity supply must be emissions free by 2040.
- ENERGY STORAGE GOALS
   1,500MW by 2025
   3,000MW by 2030



Local Law 97 - Climate Mobilization Act

- Targets carbon emissions reductions 40% by 2030 and 80% by 2050
- Establishes limits on carbon emissions for buildings over 25,000 sf and establishes fines if buildings don't take action to meet those emission caps
- Starts in 2024 with measuring and ramps up from there with enforcement and fines

NYC is positioned to be a Global Leader in Protecting, Powering and Growing Dense Urban Coastal Economies



## TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE REPORT

TO: Chairperson Dealice Fuller

and CB #1 Board Members

FROM: Mr. Eric Bruzaitis, Committee Chair

RE: Committee Report from Tuesday, April 6, 2021 Meeting

The Transportation Committee met Tuesday, April 6, 2021 (CALLED TO ORDER: 6:36 PM; ADJOURNED: 10:42 PM) via Webex virtual meeting platform.

A quorum was met.

#### ATTENDANCE:

Present: Bruzaitis; Weiser; Drinkwater; Elkins; Klagsbald; Kuonen; Odomirok; Vega; Breitner\*;

Costa\*; Kelterborn\*

Absent: Argento; Goldstien; Lebovits; Nieves; Stuart.

### **AGENDA**

### 1. ADA Elevator Projects at Metropolitan Avenue G station; Lorimer Street L station; Grand Street L station. Presentation by Mr. Andrew Inglesby, MTA NYC Transit.

Mr. Joe O'Donnell presented the program on behalf of the MTA/NYC Transit (attached). Presentation focuses on locations sited for street level and mezzanine to platform ADA Elevators, additional stairwells and additional installations to support the project.

### Committee Questions:

Ms. Kuonen: Asked as to the locations for staging for the project.

Mr. O'Donnell: Work is still being done to site the best locations for staging. MTA is trying to find a minimally invasive location. They are trying to make sure there is minimal staging at the NW corner of Metropolitan and Lorimer. MTA will update the board on locations.

Mr. Inglesby: MTA is in discussion with the owner of the building on the SW corner of Metropolitan & Union Avenues. Staging sites will be determined soon.

Ms. Breitner: In the predesign of the site why was it necessary to add the additional elevator? Also asked to see the sub-level engineering plan (infrastructure map/overlay) to qualify the MTA siting answers.

Mr. O'Donnell and Mr. Inglesby jointly: Engineers looked at possibility of 1 street level elevator. To make the entire station ADA compliant they would need to build a tunnel under the tracks that would cause long service shutdowns and above ground traffic issues. The service impacts and cost were just too high. MTA looks for customers' "maximum effective ADA path" and the ramp that connects the L to the G train is not ADA qualified because of pitch and lack of hand rails.

MTA will report back to the committee on a shareable infrastructure map/overlay.

Mr. Tommy Torres (Board Member): Expressed his support for additional ADA elevators within Community Board 1. As an Assistant Principal at Progress High School at the Grand Street L Train Stop, what are the locations proposed and what impacts will there be to the Grand St. campus.

Mr. Inglesby: It is premature to announce the elevator location for Grand Street station. There is still work being done to determine the best site. MTA will follow up with the board as to the location announcement, which should be in the next few weeks.

Ms. Jennifer Gutierez (Councilmember Antonio Reynoso's office): The office has heard a lot of concern from the community on the Lorimer Street proposals. The impacts on the community are real and valid. It also seems that the community has not heard enough from MTA earlier on the true scale of the project. She is concerned particularly about the sidewalk encroachment of the additional stairs on Lorimer and feels they should be sited with consideration for the equity of all users.

Questions from immediate stakeholders submitted in advance:

- 1. A project of this magnitude has tremendous implications above ground for residents and small businesses alike. A very similar project was done on Bedford Ave/ Driggs a year ago, resulting in several small businesses going bankrupt as a direct result of the construction. With this precedent, why are small businesses in the area not allowed to have a voice and a say in the decision making process? And why was it done unilaterally and arbitrary?
- 2. Why don't small businesses and residents have any say in the decision about the location of elevator and staircase?

#### Combined answer to 1 & 2:

Mr. O'Donnell: MTA is not aware of any business failures directly related to elevator installments at either Bedford Avenue or Greenpoint Avenue stations. In those installations, MTA worked with business to mitigate business disruptions due to above ground work. As in those situations, MTA will place signs around structures that obscure storefronts.

None of this is arbitrary: MTA held a public meeting in 2019 with over 100 members of the public in attendance. MTA based its siting on input from elected officials, ADA advocates and public. Other decisions are made with regard to cost effectiveness, logistics and existing infrastructure.

Mr. Inglesby: Stations were designed with ADA compliance team and community to have no more than 2 stations away from ADA access. At the Lorimer there is no access if the elevator only services the mezzanine since there are only stairs to reach the platform.

In the case of the Greenpoint Ave G Train installation, there was a great deal of push back from neighbors and businesses, but MTA was involved thru out to mitigate negative impacts.

3. Why is it that the timeline has zero consideration for the above ground impact for residents and small businesses?

Mr. O'Donnell and Mr. Inglesby jointly: There are unavoidable disruptions to those in proximity to the above ground work. MTA is committed to keeping access to businesses and residences open and unobstructed. A formal timeline is still being worked out to determine best staging. MTA will continue to work with residents and businesses. Once the work begins MTA will police contractors to mitigate noise, dust, vibrations and other disruptions.

Some additional foundation inspections can happen based on proximity to the work and MTA will coordinate with survey engineers.

4. Why do we need more than one elevator if one is already going to the Macri park area?

Mr. O'Donnell: Both Lorimer St. L and Metropolitan G need ADA access because of mezzanine stairs.

5. Why are residents and small businesses not involved in the specific studies for location, timeline and overall impact of the project?

Mr. O'Donnell and Mr. Inglesby jointly: MTA held a public meeting February 2019 at MTA offices at 2 Broadway. Community Board representatives, elected officials and over 100 members of the public attended. They were notices sent out to CB's & electeds to advertise the meeting.

Mr. Bruzaitis asked MTA to clarify that it was a city-wide ADA compliance meeting, and not specific to stations in North Brooklyn.

6. Was an independent study besides the one performed by MTA engineers done to determine if there are other alternative locations for the stairs and elevator?

Mr. O'Donnell: MTA Design and Engineering conducted the studies. It is not protocol to enlist outside group to evaluate. Utilities infrastructure are more complex at the Lorimer/Metropolitan intersection, so some other locations were ruled out.

- 7. If underground access to all four platforms is not being provided by one elevator, shouldn't the two above-ground elevators be as close together as possible?
  - Mr. O'Donnell: They are as close as they can be.
- 8. Has the MTA looked at a possible plan to construct ONE elevator at Macri Square and a tunnel to the various platforms? If not, why not? If so, what were the results?
  - Mr. O'Donnell and Mr. Inglesby jointly: The impacts of train disruption, negative traffic conditions and cost make this untenable.
- 9. The two stairways currently in use for the Lorimer L station are located where the original stairways existed. It seems like they were renovated and updated when the station was renovated several years back. Why do two new stairways need to be added when two UNUSED stairways (which were inexplicably shuttered about 15 years ago) already exist? Can't the existing shuttered stairways be renovated and upgraded easily and efficiently as the two currently in use have been?

Mr. O'Donnell and Mr. Inglesby jointly: There needs to be additional access to the mezzanine at Lorimer to meet the projected demand for the coming decades based on a report from the Kinsey Group. Pre COVID use for the entire station complex is recorded as 62,000 users and falls within the top 15% of stations. connects to mezz.

There are plans to repurpose the stairs at the South East corner of Lorimer/metro corner stair. The existing shuttered stair pits conflict with the elevator siting.

Mr. Bruzaitis: Is it possible to mirror the proposed stair array on the North side of the intersection on the South side?

Mr. O'Donnell & Mr. Chris A (from Judlau Contractors): There is a high pressure gas main and old sewer main that transits the South side of Metropolitan that prevents this possibility.

10. Has Metropolitan Avenue, which has both wider sidewalks and a wider roadway been considered for the elevator, rather than Lorimer Street?

Mr. O'Donnell: All 4 corners were studied and the infrastructure, mezzanine and track bed location does not allow it.

11. We are concerned about the soundness of the structure of our homes. Wouldn't THREE holes into the ground threaten them considerably more than the one already there or the two that would be there if only an elevator were added? Will compensation be given for structural issues that occur as a result of the drilling and earth-moving?

Mr. O'Donnell and Mr. Inglesby jointly: As stated above, MTA can do additional surveys based on proximity. It is possible to do post construction surveys to assess cracks or other issues and MTA will work with property owners to resolve structural issues.

12. Has a traffic study been done? Lorimer Street is extremely narrow and both a bus and truck route. As it exists now, it is extremely difficult for oncoming traffic to pass buses and trucks on the street-honestly, it's often extremely difficult for two cars to pass each other--and traffic is backed up for blocks for several hours every weekday afternoon. Wouldn't narrowing the roadway exacerbate this problem?

Mr. O'Donnell and Mr. Inglesby jointly: MTA is working with NYCDOT Office of Construction & Management (OCMC) to assess traffic impacts and will report back to the board when it is available.

Ms. Messer (DOT): No determinations have been made at this time, but confirmed the OCMC is currently studying the project.

District Manager Esposito: Asked for clarification what "no decision" relates to.

Mr. Inglesby: The width of Lorimer during construction and the "bump-out" impact on traffic during construction.

- 13. Will the almost certain increased traffic congestion affect air quality?
- 14. Has an Environmental Impact Study (EIS) been done? If not, will one be done? If so, what does it say?

Combined response to 13 & 14:

Mr. O'Donnell: MTA went through National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) protocols as part of planning process. Based on the criteria for this project, NEPA reported that there were "no significant impacts". MTA is only required to meet "Class 2 Exclusion" under NEPA and it was determined that there were no impacts to warrant a full EIS at this location.

Mr. Bruzaitis: Asked MTA to submit the specific language from under NEPA that qualifies this response.

Mr. Inglesby: MTA will furnish the committee with the appropriate statute.

15. The drilling/construction noise will make it almost impossible for people to work from home (and many still are due to the pandemic) We experienced this in Spring 2020 when the MTA began scouting. We had to stop meetings, log off, end classes - how will it be possible to carry on with our work from home while this project is happening?

16. What will be done to cover the construction sites at night...when we asked on Tuesday, we were told that it would be too expensive to cover them. That will cause our community, and possibly our homes to become rat infested.

Combined answer to 15 & 16:

Mr. O'Donnell and Mr. Inglesby jointly: There will be excavation and demolition. MTA is sensitive that this will be disruptive but has directed (and will monitor) contractor to employ sound blankets and other measures to mitigate as much as possible. MTA will assess complaints and address as necessary. The heavy construction times will be from 7:00 AM- 3:00 PM, Monday to Friday. MTA will bate the construction area to reduce issues with vermin.

District Manager Esposito: Asked for clarification on the exact encroachment into the roadbed

Mr. Chris A: Completed bump-out to accommodate street level elevator will be 2.10' which is within the DOT required distance.

Mr. Inglesby encouraged all effected parties to subscribe to the MTA's email distribution list for regular updates on the status of the project: 8stations@ohlna.com

17. The MTA is stating that prior to the pandemic 60,000 riders used this station per day. We need a differentiation between L train and G train numbers. Actual statistics. Should be easy, as everyone has to swipe to get in. And go through a turn style to get out. Are these numbers from both stations? And what is the breakdown from each station?

Mr. O'Donnell and Mr. Inglesby jointly: 62,000 riders is for the entire station daily under pre-COVID conditions. Half of those are transfers between the L and G trains. 7,000 are recorded during the morning rush.

Both the committee and public questioned these numbers. Mr. Bruzaitis will follow up with the MTA team to get a more granular detail of station use.

18. Also, it seems that they only did a test pit at the southeast corner of Union/metro near the liquor store. This makes me think that the test pit at Lorimer and Metropolitan on the northwest side was sufficient, so they only explored the south side of metro near Union. I couldn't find any test pits on the north side and I walked down there everyday that they were there. Let's see some facts. We would like some clarification on this.

Mr. O'Donnell and Mr. Inglesby jointly:

Total test pits to date

7 pits at Metropolitan and Union Avenues

5 pits at Metropolitan and Lorimer Street.

2 Additional pits will happen in the coming week.

5-6 weeks were spent at Lorimer. Because much of the work must be done by hand (infrastructure prevents heavy machinery at this stage) which adds to the amount of time to finish pit assessments.

19. What are the current numbers for usage, and projections on the number of New York city employees that are permanently working from home now? Ridership will not be near pre pandemic for years.

Mr. O'Donnell and Mr. Inglesby jointly: This kind of detail is not available. The station is currently experiencing 40% of pre-COVID ridership.

20. Why not push the project off 3-5 years so they don't put businesses out who barely survived the pandemic?

Mr. O'Donnell and Mr. Inglesby jointly: MTA has listened to the stakeholders and understand hardships they have and continue to face. The original plan was based on a need to make the system ADA compliant. There are also budget constraints that prevent the project from being delayed on top of the COVID shut downs.

As with other projects like this one when contracts are awarded there are penalties for delays and incentives to complete projects on time or ahead of schedule.

21. Why are they not using the vacant piece of property across the street?

Mr. O'Donnell and Mr. X jointly: That location is too far North to connect to the mezzanine. MTA will reach out to the owner of the lot as a potential site for some of the staging.

2. Calyer Triangle Project. Review of the latest iteration by NYC DOT to safety and quality of life improvements at the intersections of Calyer St, Banker St. and Franklin Avenue. Presentation by Ms. Jessica Cronstein & Ms. Ronda Messer, NYC DOT.

### **Public Comments:**

Lisa Summa: Supports ADA Elavators. Stairs will end in front of her door. Does not feel MTA has listened to her and her neighbors concerns. Feels stairs or elevator should be closer to the corner to allow for safe paths for pedestrians.

Jessica Dela Rosa: ADA Advocate: Statement is attached.

Marco Semelia: Notification from the MTA was vibrations from the pit diggings. Feels MTA always looked to site elevator at this location based on a conversation with one of the project managers. Supports ADA, but does not support the stairs in front of 577-581 Lorimer St. Will be looking to file and Article 78 on this project.

Melissa Morales: Owner of Pomp & Circumstance restaurant immediately in front of the planned stair location. Supports ADA accessibility based on personal experience caring for her mother.

The timing for this project will have terrible effect on their business that has been looking forward to opening and recovering post COVID. Feels there is a lack of concern on the part of MTA.

Niurka Tallarico: Resident at 589 Lorimer Street. Family has been in the community for generations. Supports the ADA project but the stairs are a problem. The restaurant and nail salon will be severely impacted. Concerned about open construction sites, rat problems. How can we trust MTA that this was the best location.

Sasha Aiken: Resident around the corner from the project. Supports ADA accessibility. Questions the timeline and duration of the project. Feels it can be done differently to reduce impacts.

Mr. Bruzaitis made an appeal to the MTA engineers to re-evaluate the stairwell on Lorimer Street. There is no opposition to ADA accessibility and are happy North Brooklyn is getting so many. But the stairwell must be removed from the project.

Mr. Inglesby: There has been a lot of requests from elected officials to increase ADA accessibility. MTA will work to address the community concerns more fully.

# 2. Calver Triangle Project. Review of the latest iteration by NYC DOT to safety and quality of life improvements at the intersections of Calver St, Banker St. and Franklin Avenue. Presentation by Ms. Jessica Cronstein & Ms. Ronda Messer, NYC DOT.

Ms. Jessica Cronstein of NYC DOT presented the revised plan (attached)

Plan includes a direct pedestrian path on the East side of Franklin Avenue across Calyer & Banker Streets.

Delayed left turn at Calyer for Southbound Franklin St.

Expanded triangle space.

Additional pedestrian space at the curb cap on Calyer connecting Franklin Avenue and Banker Street.

Hardening turns to improve pedestrian safety.

Addition of 24 bike parking spaces on Banker St in front of Silk Road Cycles.

Since there are no operational changes to this location, NYC DOT only requires Board approval on the bike corral on Banker Street between Calyer and Franklin Streets.

### Committee Questions:

Mr. Bruzaitis: expressed his approval of the plan despite disappointment that some of the measures proposed by Mr. Dan Keezer in 2018 could not be adopted. Particularly happy with the direct pedestrian path along Franklin Avenues East side, signal timing changes and additional pedestrian safety measures.

Mr. Elkin: Why was it not possible to close the Banker St. slip to create a plaza?

Ms. Cronstein: There is a business on Banker St immediately south of this location with a 53' Freight permit. Closing Banker Slip does not allow the adequate turn radius for trucks to exit Banker.

Mr. Sante Micelli (Board Member): Noted that Silk Road Cycles is his "family bike shop". Reminded the committee that Franklin St is a truck route and that if Banker slip had been closes it would have meant more traffic on Calyer and other local streets.

Public

Mr. Dan Keezer: Thanked Ms. Cronstein and the team at NYCDOT that worked on this project. Also thanked Community Board 1 for supporting the project. Would have liked to have seen the Banker Street Slip closed and was disappointed that DOT was not able to incorporate a Westbound bike lane. He asked if there were any "milestones" that would allow for a future slip closure.

Mr. Bruzaitis: In reference to Mr. Keezer's question asked if the Westbound bike lane could also be considered in the future.

Ms. Cronstein: NYC DOT may revisit this idea if there are zoning or use changes on Banker Street approaching Calyer. DOT can re-evaluate the Westbound bike lane as well.

Mr. Kevin LaCherra: Thanks to Dan for starting this project and feels it has opened the door to other good initiatives within community board 1. He is disappointed that one business stands in the way of the slip closure. Asked that DOT look at extending the raised bike lane south of Calyer Street on Banker.

Mr. Bruzaitis: Also requested DOT look at a continuation of the raised bike land on Banker Street.

Ms. Cronstein: DOT can only implement raised bike lanes at curbside. The current parking on banker does not allow for it.

District Manager Esposito noted the absence of a quorum. Mr. Bruzaitis entertained a consensus vote on the bike corral.

Ms. Ryan Kuonen: MOTION: Approve the bike corral on the section of Banker Street East side between Calyer and Franklin Streets.

SECOND: Mr. William Vega.

CONSENSUS APPROVED WITH ONE ABSTENTION FROM MS. MARY ODOMIROK.

3. NYC Ferry: South Williamsburg Landing work. Update on construction starts and project notifications. Mr. Radhy Miranda for NYC EDC

Mr. Miranda was recognized at the opening of the meeting to give a brief update since no substantial changes have been made to the construction timeline. The work began on Monday, April 5th and is still expected to be completed within 8 to 10 weeks. Mr. Miranda will update the committee on any changes.

# 4. Make Meeker Move (MMM). Update on recent efforts by the MMM coalition to improve safety and quality of life conditions along the Meeker Avenue corridor. Presentation by Mr Kevin LaCherra, Make Meeker Move coalition member.

Mr. LaCherra was recognized to present a summary of the work being done by the MMM coalition, which calls for repurposing of the area under the BQE from Metropolitan Avenue to Vandervoort Street for bike & pedestrian paths, open space, storm water capture and other improvements.

Report and presentation attached.

#### Committee:

Ms. Ryan Kuonen and Mr. William Vega noted the amount of work gone into trying to improve Meeker Avenue for at least a decade and support the vision outlined in the presentation.

Public recognized in support of the MMM plan:

Mr. Dan Keezer; Mr. Elliot Drabble; Mr. Jack Donohue; Ms. Konstancja Maleszynka; Meryl Laborde; Juan Serra; Clara Smith; Elana Ehrenberg

Ms. Evelyn Dul: Had heard from other meetings that there are plans to remove parking under the BQE and other locations does not see the need for more park space. and is concerned about the loss of parking. Also concerned about encouraging pedestrians to cross a heavily trafficed street.

Mr. LaCherra: Responded to Ms. Dul's comments that per capita Community Board 1 is underserved by open space. There is a climate emergency and every step must be taken to mitigate the negative impacts. Mr. LaCherra provided his email to Ms. Dul in an attempt to further explain the MMM plan.

Mr. LaCherra asked for a letter of support for the MMM plan.

District Manager Esposito noted the absence of a quorum.

Mr. Bruzaitis entertained a consensus motion.

Ms. Ryan Kuonen: MOTION: Community Board 1 should draft a letter of support for the Make Meeker Move Plan.

SECOND: Mr. William Vega.

Approved with Ms. Mary Odimirok voting against.

\*\*\*Following this meeting it was noted that only 3 board members voted in favor. Despite having 7 committee members in support, 3 board members is not a true consensus. The full board should take note if there is a supporting motion made at the full board meeting\*\*\*

### 5. Discussion: Open Streets Program. Review of outreach progress in anticipation of summer OSP usage and reports on available data from NYC DOT and other city agencies.

Mr. Bruzaitis: Recognized Kyle Gorman of NYCDOT to update the committee on status of OSP.

#### Mr. Gorman:

- \* Barriers have been refreshed and new signage at Berry, Driggs, Russel Sharron Streets.
- \* Rules and regs for OSP have not changed and new signage indicates that local access and parking is still permitted.
- \* Hearing a need for more local outreach, DOT has launched its Street Ambassador team to conduct survey in multiple languages to get feedback on future uses for OSP:

Teams will be on Berry Street in the areas of North 8th, North 9th and North 3rd Streets from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM this Monday, Wednesday and Friday

Next week teams will be on Driggs Ave Monday, Wednesday & Friday 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM

### **Public Comments:**

Shannon Phipps: Berry used to be a quiet one way street with a nice bike lane, but has been bad.

New barriers are heavy and the signs need to state the hours clearly.

volunteers are harassing residents on social media.

DOT needs to monitor NBKOSCC volunteers and Noel Hidalgo for bullying behavior.

The hours should be changed since they are barely used 8am-8pm. There are new quality of life issues from people tailgaiting in front of her North 7th residence, smoking, vomiting, urinating etc. She is very frustrated that there is a lack of outreach from DOT.

\*\*Ms. Phipps has also submitted a detailed letter listing issues to to board (attached) for the record.

Ms. Angie Bilotti: Agrees with Shannon. Has been forced out of the neighborhood on weekends because of bad public behavior. Is harassed by people on her stoop when she asks them to move. Her neighbors are also being harassed simply for parking. She is concerned with the speed of delivery bikes that go unchecked. Made a strong case to put times of OSP back on the signs.

Ms.Odomirok: Agrees with Ms. Phipps and Ms. Biliotti. Questioned Mr. Gorman on specific routes for emergency vehicles.

Mr. Gorman: Emergency access is a priority concern for DOT. Has not heard any specific issues from either FDNY or NYPD. There is not a specific route - emergency vehicles choose their own route as needed.

DOT can not give you a definite answer.

Ms. Kuonen: Does not see any of the incidents being expressed. Living on Berry and Metropolitan and working on Kent & North 8, she transits this area every day.

Has a truck that is kept on the street and OSP makes it easier to park.

Has actually seen neighbors open and close barriers for people and has not witness any harassment of people moving barriers.

Encourages people to video these harassment incidents and document them for proper response.

Strongly defended Noel Hidalgo as a good neighbor and as a volunteer works hard to keep people safe on OSP streets.

She is also concerned that 911 is being abused because people are simply talking on the sidewalk...one incident resulted in a death because police were speeding to an incident and crashed into a motorcyclist.

Mr. Micelli: Is neutral on the OSP but has heard a lot of issues especially now as chair of the Outreach Committee. Glad to see DOT doing more with the Street Ambassadors.

On Berry Street there are so many issues to consider. There also needs to be a traffic analysis.

Calling 311 and 911 is not enough. We must be designing better rules and guidelines so people know how to behave.

Ms. Odomirok: Ryan may have more peaceful situation at metro...but the situation, especially since the weather has gotten nicer, on North 7th is different. Recently, music went until 2AM. Weekends and evenings are a huge problem.

Mr. Gorman: Encouraged residents that are experiencing these quality of life issues must report thru 311 and 911.

Mr Bruzaitis: Emphasized Mr. Gorman's point, noting that the city responds to numbers, and if enough complaints are generated at a particular location emergency service are pressured by department leadership to respond to recurring problems.

### **Public Comment:**

Mr. Elliot Drabble: Stopping OSP at 8pm will not stop quality of life issues. It is not comparable to say someone smoking on a stoop is equivalent to reducing the health effects of car emissions.

Ms. Evelyn Dul: There is too much fighting on this issue in the meetings she has attended and always turns into a he-said-she-said. She has documented incidents with her phone and has experienced issues on Russel Street, which is under utilized. Has seen NBKOSCC volunteers taking pictures of cars not returning barriers. OSP has facilitated a party scene that did not exist before.

Ms. Francoise Olivas: Wants to remind people liability is an issue with open streets. Insurance is not required but does not indemnify parties when issues occur.

Mr. Gorman: To be clear DOT does not pass on all liability to OSP partners. Fortunately, we have not seen any liability issue and want to take comments. But if anyone has specific liability concerns they should reach out to him directly.

Mr. Jack Donohue: Has heard these issues of problems on OSP before. Lives on North 6th and Berry and is surprised to hear these complaints as he does not experience them. Also noted that if NYPD, FDNY or DSNY had serious concerns with the operation of OSP it would have been canceled by now.

Mr. Kevin LaCherra. As far as emergency routes, there are more problems with double parked vehicles that block emergency vehicles. Has heard complaints of metal barriers damaging cars, but cars are made of metal and travel upwards of 40 miles an hour causing hazzards. Proud to be a partner with Noel Hidalgo. Delivery cycles kept the city alive during the pandemic and should not be singled out. He noted that he has been very critical of DOT on other issues, but outreach on OSP has been unprecedented.

Mr. Sasha Aikin: Berry has improved my quality of life.

Mr. Bruzaitis concluded the item by recognizing that emotions are high on this issue and that the concerns are real. He asked that people remain "cool" in these discussions to facilitate a resolution in the end. This item will continue to be on the Transportation Committee agenda, and the May meeting will address OSP issues more specifically.

## 6. Old Business.

Ms. Kuonen: Wants to see a follow up to the child that was killed by a private bus on the south side and the status of that driver and the company he works for.

Mr. Bruzaitis: Cannot promise it will be on the May agenda, but will reach out to the South Side community to organize a constructive discussion on how private buses operate and what can be done to make their operation more safe.

## 7. New Business.

None

\*\*The next Transportation Committee meeting will be held Tuesday, May 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM via Webex\*\*

## **CHAT LOG**

from Eric B to Everyone: 7:03 PM

- 1. A project of this magnitude has tremendous implications above ground for residents and small businesses alike. A very similar project was done on Bedford Ave/ Driggs a year ago, resulting in several small businesses going bankrupt as a direct result of the construction. With this precedent, why are small businesses in the area not allowed to have a voice and a say in the decision making process? And why was it done unilaterally and arbitrary?
- 2. Why don't small businesses and residents have any say in the decision about the location of elevator and staircase?
- 3. Why is it that the timeline has zero consideration for the above ground impact for residents and small businesses?
- 4. Why do we need more than one elevator if one is already going to the Macri park area?
- 5. Why are residents and small businesses not involved in the specific studies for location, timeline and overall impact of the project?
- 6. Was an independent study besides the one performed by MTA engineers done to d

from Eric B to Everyone: 7:03 PM

determine if there are other alternative locations for the stairs and elevator?

- 7. If underground access to all four platforms is not being provided by one elevator, shouldn't the two above-ground elevators be as close together as possible?
- 8. Has the MTA looked at a possible plan to construct ONE elevator at Macri Square and a tunnel to the various platforms? If not, why not? If so, what were the results?
- 9. The two stairways currently in use for the Lorimer L station are located where the original stairways existed. It seems like they were renovated and updated when the station was renovated several years back. Why do two new stairways need to be added when two UNUSED stairways (which were inexplicably shuttered about 15 years ago) already exist? Can't the existing shuttered stairways be renovated and upgraded easily and efficiently as the two currently in use have been?
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from Eric B to Everyone: 7:03 PM

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- 11. We are concerned about the soundness of the structure of our homes. Wouldn't THREE holes into the ground threaten them considerably more than the one already there or the two that would be there if only an elevator were added? Will compensation be given for structural issues that occur as a result of the drilling and earth-moving?
- 12. Has a traffic study been done? Lorimer Street is extremely narrow and both a bus and truck route. As it exists now, it is extremely difficult for oncoming traffic to pass buses and trucks on the street-honestly, it's often extremely difficult for two cars to pass each other--and traffic is backed up for blocks for several hours every weekday afternoon. Wouldn't narrowing the roadway exacerbate this problem?
- 13. Will the almost certain increased traffic congestion affect air quality?
- 14. Has an EIS been done? If not, will one be done? If so, what does it say?
- 15. The drilling/construction noise will

from Eric B to Everyone: 7:03 PM

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from Eric B to Everyone: 7:03 PM

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- What are the current numbers for usage, and projections on the number of New York city employees that are permanently working from home now? Ridership will not be near pre pandemic for years.

from NYCDOE to Everyone: 7:17 PM

Is any thought or consideration being given to the elderly and handicap in the placement of the ADA elevators or is the MTA just haphazadly placing the elevators so they are in compliance, because it takes me at least 5 minutes to walk from Lorimer to Union.

from MARIO SALERNO to Everyone: 7:20 PM

Will There Be Any Traffic Pattern Changes?

from Marco and Caterina Semilia to Everyone: 7:37 PM

seems to be a ton of fluff here with zero validity.

from Lisa Summa to Everyone: 7:40 PM

We are talking about making the connection between the G and the L train

from Lisa Summa to Everyone: 7:44 PM

IS that peple passing through on those trains? I would like to see numbers on those

from Marco and Caterina Semilia to Everyone: 7:44 PM

and the flow of traffic was fine, with the addition of multiple shuttle buses.

from NYCDOE to Everyone: 7:46 PM

Capacity has never been an issue at the Lorimer Street .....

from Luke Ohlson to ryan kuonen she/her (privately): 7:46 PM

Sending this message to you and Willis. I've been on for an hour and fifteen minutes and have to go. I just want to express my support for the Meeker Avenue plan that is being presented and in general for making that space open to community use and community planning.

from Luke Ohlson to ryan kuonen she/her (privately): 7:46 PM

Also, as always, you are a saint for doing this

from NYCDOE to Everyone: 7:49 PM

Refurbhising of the 2 preexisting stairwells will save 2 small businesses.

from Sasha Aickin to Everyone: 7:50 PM

If the stairs on the northwest corner stayed there, there wouldn't be space for the elevator on the sidewalk, I think

from Sasha Aickin to Everyone: 7:51 PM

Right, so if we added the elevator there, we have to get rid of that emergency stair, or else you can't get out of the elevator on the mezzanine

from Sasha Aickin to Everyone: 7:55 PM

I think Chris is confused and is talking about southeast corner; Eric meant southwest

from Marco and Caterina Semilia to Everyone: 7:55 PM

we are doing alot of assuming here

from Sasha Aickin to Everyone: 7:56 PM

Guess I was wrong, and Eric meant southeast.

from NYCDOE to Everyone: 8:03 PM

The buildings on Lorimer are over 100 years old and of wood structured. We would like to see the preconstruction data?

from Lisa Summa to Everyone: 8:20 PM

We want to see those NUMBERS!

from NYCDOE to Everyone: 8:21 PM

No way is there 7000 passengers getting on at Lorimer Street ..... lived there for over 30 years.

from Lisa Summa to Everyone: 8:34 PM

That leaves a lot less of a sidewalk

from Jessica De La Rosa to Everyone: 8:48 PM

can someone provide me that email so I can send Eric B my statement? Thanks

from Community Board to Everyone: 8:55 PM

bk01@cb.nyc.gov

from Sasha Aickin to Everyone: 8:56 PM

For the record, I am in the community and am not saying that!

from NYCDOE to Everyone: 8:57 PM

Thank you Eric

from Sasha Aickin to Everyone: 9:01 PM

Thank you for wrangling a tough and contentious conversation in a constructive way, Eric.

from John Rozmus to Everyone: 9:14 PM

I like this plan.

\

from ryan kuonen she/her to Everyone: 10:15 PM

from angie bilotti to Everyone: 10:22 PM

Times are not posted

from angie bilotti to Everyone: 10:24 PM

Guidlines for electric bikes and revels also not posted, they go up to 35mph in all directions

from ryan kuonen she/her to Everyone: 10:26 PM

I live here too and i love BERRY streets

from nick s. to Everyone: 10:38 PM

Ryan the problem areas start from around N3, getting worse from N6-N10 Street.

from angie bilotti to Everyone: 10:38 PM

We have evidence of otherwise. How would you like to see since my word is not good enough? Ryan

from angie bilotti to Everyone: 10:39 PM

Ryan, so we are lying is that what youre suggesting?

from ryan kuonen she/her to Everyone: 10:40 PM

I say video it because i dont see it

from angie bilotti to Everyone: 10:41 PM

typical hostile and divisive response, Ryan just like your friend noel

from nick s. to Everyone: 10:41 PM

Ryan, this is when it started:

from nick s. to Everyone: 10:41 PM

https://greenpointers.com/2020/06/30/as-partygoers-crowd-berry-street-police-enforce-open-streets-schedule/

from angie bilotti to Everyone: 10:42 PM

mary +1

from angie bilotti to Everyone: 10:42 PM

I have video ryan

from ryan kuonen she/her to Everyone: 10:42 PM

i work on n8th so i am on that streert and live on metropolitan. i bike home at midnight and its not a party

from angie bilotti to Everyone: 10:43 PM

yes I have

from nick s. to Everyone: 10:43 PM

https://www.brooklynpaper.com/locals-slam-impromptu-dance-party-on-williamsburg-open-street/

from angie bilotti to Everyone: 10:43 PM

don't gaslight me ryan. we're not making this up

from nick s. to Everyone: 10:47 PM

"We really can't trust the NYPD, can we?"

from nick s. to Everyone: 10:47 PM

-Noel Hidalgo

from angie bilotti to Everyone: 10:49 PM

We never had these issues pre 2020

from angie bilotti to Everyone: 10:50 PM

evelyn +1

from ryan kuonen she/her to Everyone: 10:51 PM

LOL Gran Torino wasnt as issue before 2020. REALLY?

from angie bilotti to Everyone: 10:54 PM

so dismissive

from ryan kuonen she/her to Everyone: 10:56 PM

The smorgasburg crowds from 2013-2019 werent an issue?

from angie bilotti to Everyone: 11:01 PM

thank you Eric

## **PUBLIC STATEMENTS**



Thu, Apr 8 at 12:56 PM

Hi Eric,

I'm forwarding this statement to you but please let me know if I need to send it somewhere else

Thanks,

Lisa

My name is Lisa Summa. I am a lifelong resident of Williamsburg and homeowner on Lorimer Street. Tonight, we are speaking about accessibility and this community has stressed our support of an accessibility elevators. While accessibility is important, so is LIVABILITY. How livable will our block be with virtually no sidewalk space? It is unacceptable for the MTA to construct two additional staircases, one steps from the entrance to my home and those of two small businesses, when there are two pre-existing stairwells on the corners of Lorimer Street. Subways belong at the corners where they do not interfere with homes or businesses and therefore, are safer for everyone. With little sidewalk space, our block will be less desirable, less safe, and less livable. The MTA has said repeatedly that they asked for input with the community but they haven't; they met wth us and told us what their plan was ..they did NOT address our concerns. It is incumbent upon the MTA to create a plan that is agreeable to all parties- residents, businesses, and those in need of accessibility. We implore you to revisit, revise and improve this plan.

Don Summa <donsumma@gmail.com>

To:

Eric Bruzaitis

Thu, Apr 8 at 10:20 AM

Hi Eric,

Thank you for this--and for taking the time to listen to me bitch--I hope I did so calmly and clear-headedly. I won't send the plan to anyone. Here's a breakdown of what we discussed:

--Metropolitan vs. Lorimer--Why can't the elevator be sited ANYWHERE on Metropolitan, which can better weather the loss of three feet from its wider roadway. Sure, Lorimer would still technically be wide enough to classify as a two-way street, but it's a highly-trafficked two-way street that's a bus and

truck route. Additionally, putting the elevator on Metropolitan would possibly mean no additional stairways would need to be dug, and the existing ones could be restored.

- -- Can we request an overlay plan of the street, mezzanine, and platform?
- --Can we request more specificity about the numbers? What does 62,000 mean and how do they calculate it? If they're saying that only 3700 people (of the 7000 total riders including transfers) use the Lorimer stairways during morning rush, why are four stairways needed at Lorimer in addition to an elevator? And how do we get to 62k per day for the two stations if only about 1700 per hour (based on a four-hour morning rush) use the busier station at the busiest time of day? And why are TWELVE total entrances needed for these two stations? It's an absurd number. I don't think Union Square has many more.
- --I would like to request the specific documentation relating to this project or group of projects as it pertains to the NEPA. My neighbors and I want to see exactly what was filed with the relevant agency (FTA?) to support the finding that there was no impact and, as such, no environmental impact study/NEPA was required.
- --Has a traffic study be done? If so, can we see it? We can't believe that traffic wouldn't be severely impacted (as well as noise levels, air quality, and bus delays, which no one has addressed) by the narrowing of an already narrow two-way street.
- --The MTA cannot call that 2019 meeting 'community input' on the design of this station. It was a meeting to decide which stations would get the elevators. If you're just listening, it's not a process. We all believe that no other site was ever tested for the elevator. If other sites were tested for the elevator, let's see the results of those tests.

--And, finally, how do I get my building inspected?

Thank you again--and now I'll go to bed.

Best.

Don

On Apr 7, 2021, at 6:24 PM, Don Summa < donsumma@gmail.com> wrote:

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

On Wed, Apr 7, 2021 at 1:56, Don Summa <donsumma@gmail.com> wrote: Hi Eric,

Thank you for that meeting--and for all your hard work--you're much appreciated.

I can't help but say I'm even more dismayed today. There were few answers to our many questionsand those that were answered were done so inadequately. Even more frustratingly there was considerable obfuscation and, as far as I can tell, some lies as well.

We never received a clear answer as to why the current elevator site is basically the only one possible. We never received a clear answer as to how the complicated transfer from one station to the other would happen. We never received a clear answer to your smart question of why an added stairway couldn't go on the southeast corner. We never received an answer as to why an EIS isn't required. We never received an answer as to what would happen to traffic and air quality and noise once Lorimer Street is even narrower than it currently is. We never received an answer as to why the elevator can't be on the southeast corner of Metropolitan and Union where it would be closer to the G station elevator. Just a few of the many unanswered questions.

I agree with the woman who said that even when there were answers, there was no back-up presented to us, so who's to know if the MTA is being straightforward. Even their number of 62,000 riders seems grossly inflated; I'd like to know how it's been calculated. The population of Williamsburg--a very large swath of land--is only 150,000--and there's no major industry whose workers commute to the area--nor is our stop a great tourist destination like Bedford Avenue.

My sister and I also don't understand why there have to be SO many entries to these stations. If this project is completed as planned there will be nine subway entrances within one block of each other. I'm not sure that Union Square or Times Square has that many entrances. It seems a little insane--and a lot like overkill. How can we totally trust an organization that says we need nine subway entrances?

I do understand the need for an elevator. I do not understand its planned site. It will create many more problems than it will solve.

I'd love to be able to get on the phone with you to discuss further and to see what our next steps would be. I know that my neighbors and I are not ready to give up.

be. I know that my neighbors and I are not ready to give up.

Thank you again.

Best,

Don Summa

On Thu, Apr 1, 2021 at 10:40 PM Don Summa <donsumma@gmail.com> wrote: Hi Eric.

Thanks for your reply. My sister told me that she spoke with you.

I must say I'm a little dismayed by the project--its seeming lack of efficiency and rationality--and also by the lack of information that's come our way up to this point. I do look forward to seeing the plans and timeline--though I can't imagine it makes much more sense on paper. I hope the community board will be able to help us convince the MTA to streamline things a bit.

Thank you again.
Best,
Don
On Thu, Apr 1, 2021 at 6:05 AM eric bruzaitis <ebruzaitis@yahoo.com> wrote: Mr. Summa,</ebruzaitis@yahoo.com>
Thank you for responding. My apologies for not responding sooner.
I will make your comments part of the record of the April 6th Transportation Committee mtg.
I also have a call planned with Lisa to follow up on the MTA walk thru.
I will forward a meeting link for the meeting to you and your neighbors.
Best,
Eric

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

On Thu, Apr 1, 2021 at 5:11, Don Summa <a href="mailto:</a> <a href="mailto:</a> wrote: Mr. Bruzaitis:

I write again to make sure you received the letter below and attached. You so kindly met with my sister, Lisa Summa, and our neighbors earlier this week.

I reiterate my concerns outlined in the letter and to them I add a deep concern about--and utter confoundment by--the proposed addition of staircases to two corners at Lorimer and Metropolitan that already have shuttered staircases, which I'm sure can be easily restored. Building additional staircases seems inessential and wasteful--and would take up even more real estate on an already congested corner.

I thank you for listening and I would appreciate your help on any or all of these matters.

Best,

Don Summa

From: Don Summa <donsumma@gmail.com>

Date: Mon, Mar 22, 2021 at 5:23 PM

Subject: MTA elevator at Lorimer Street and Metropolitan Avenue

To: <ebruzaitis@yahoo.com>

Don Summa

581 Lorimer Street

Brooklyn, NY 11211

917 673 5723

donsumma@gmail.com

March 22, 2021

Mr. Eric Bruzaitis

Brooklyn Community Board 1

Dear Mr. Bruzaitis:

My husband and I are the owners and occupants of 581 Lorimer Street, between Metropolitan Avenue and Conselyea Street, in Brooklyn—a home that has been in our family for over 75 years. We are deeply concerned about the MTA elevator planned for our corner, specifically the northwest corner of the intersection, but, more generally, the siting of an elevator anywhere at this intersection—and we seek your help in this matter.

A little over a year ago I was awakened by an extraordinary noise and the palpable shaking of my home. I ran to the window to see a 15-20-foot-tall apparatus in full view of my window—about 25 feet from my front door. After numerous phone calls I discovered that it was a testing site for a new elevator for the Lorimer Street subway station. I was also told that there would be a hearing for members of the community to learn about the project and to voice concerns. We are now being told

that work will begin imminently and as far as I can tell a hearing has never taken place, not even online—and, if one did, no one on our block was ever notified. Furthermore, no one on the block was ever notified that the initial testing would happen.

We have learned in our research that the elevator planned for our intersection is one of eight currently in consideration throughout the city. Oddly, two of those are within one block of each other. In addition to the one planned for Lorimer and Metropolitan (the entrance to the L platforms), one is planned just one block west at the intersection of Union and Metropolitan avenues (the entrance to both the L and G platforms). Additionally, one is already located at an adjacent L stop, Bedford Avenue, making that three elevators for two L train stations.

We wonder if the MTA ever considered providing proper underground access to the two platforms (L and G), so that only one street-level elevator is needed. Under a more sensible plan like that, the prime location for an elevator would be the northeast corner of Union and Metropolitan--the block of the small, gated park area known as Macri Square, which has a very generously sized sidewalk, much deeper by far than at the Lorimer and Metropolitan intersection, and which houses no residential structures. The placement of one elevator there serving both stations is the least intrusive to the neighborhood's residents, least disruptive to the life of the neighborhood's streets, least damaging to the safety of the neighborhood's pedestrians and drivers, least dangerous to the structure of the neighborhood's homes—and safest as an entry and departure point for the elderly and persons with disabilities or injuries because of its wider open space, less congested pedestrian traffic, and potential farther distance from vehicular traffic.

While we completely understand the need for access to mass transit for everyone, we implore the MTA to try to find a solution in which only the northeast corner of Union and Metropolitan Avenues is used for an above-ground elevator for these stations.

The problems we see for the proposed elevator at the intersection of Lorimer Street and Metropolitan Avenue are numerous:

- 1) Lorimer and Metropolitan is a busy intersection in terms of both pedestrian and vehicular traffic. It is an intersection of two two-way streets—both bus routes—and one heavily trafficked as a truck route. (A nearby elevator structure, for example, on the adjacent L stop of Bedford Avenue at North 7th Street is at the intersection of two one-way streets, which has much, much less vehicular traffic). On a normal weekday beginning at about 2:30pm, traffic on Lorimer—both north and south of Metropolitan—is backed up for four or five blocks for several hours—until about 6:00pm or so. We know that not only would vehicular traffic worsen considerably during the elevator construction phase, but also the structure itself, once completed, would limit visibility on the corner for both drivers and pedestrians and possibly narrow the actual roadway, permanently worsening already bad traffic conditions.
- 2) Our neighbors and I are also extremely concerned about local businesses. Within approximately 100 feet of the corner of Lorimer and Metropolitan are three bars, three sit-down restaurants, and two takeout establishments (in addition to numerous other businesses). All of the businesses have struggled mightily for the past year in the face of COVID closures—and several have also faced break-ins resulting from the social unrest. A disruptive two-year long public works project could shutter a

number of these for good, particularly the sit-down restaurants, which will probably be unable to serve outdoors, a key to their survival today. Specifically, the restaurant on my block of Lorimer (northwest of the intersection), is located just one door from the corner: The siting of the elevator on this block would almost certainly lead to its closure.

- 3) My home, as well as most in the immediate vicinity of Lorimer and Metropolitan, are 100-year-old wood structures, and we and our neighbors are concerned about how they will almost certainly be compromised by the intense groundbreaking needed to complete this project. Last week when some testing was taking place, a neighbor on our block said his home was literally moving. I am fairly certain that my home couldn't weather a storm like that, and I am also certain that similar homes on the block would not as well.
- 4) On our specific block of Lorimer (northwest of the intersection), the sidewalk is extremely narrow: In front of my home, it measures only about twelve feet—and it, in fact, narrows further as it extends north towards Metropolitan Avenue, which is one of the proposed sites that has been tested. The elevator structures that we've seen in other parts of the city are approximately seven feet in width—perhaps wider—which would take up over half the sidewalk, be extremely close to the building line, impede vehicular and pedestrian traffic, and, as mentioned, in some of its possible locations greatly hinder a number of small business by eliminating the possibility of outdoor dining. Additionally, because the structure would be so close to homes, its significant height would interfere with the view of the street from many of the apartments in the low-rise buildings, creating a safety hazard by not allowing residents to properly monitor our street.

As the great urbanist Jane Jacobs wrote in The Death and Life of Great American Cities, in order for a city to be safe:

"First, there must be a clear demarcation between what is public space and what is private space. Public and private spaces cannot ooze into each other.

Second, there must be eyes upon the street, eyes belonging to those we might call the natural proprietors of the street.

And third, the sidewalk must have users on it fairly continuously, both to add to the number of effective eyes on the street and to induce the people in buildings along the street to watch the sidewalks in sufficient numbers."

For many of the reasons enumerated in this letter we fear that an MTA elevator at Lorimer Street and Metropolitan Avenue would not only hinder our Williamsburg neighborhood's ability to maintain Jacobs' requirements for safety, but also negatively affect street life, quality of life, and the livelihood of the area.

I reiterate our understanding of and respect for the need for access, which the city has already provided at an adjacent L train station, and which would ideally be granted by constructing only one elevator for the Lorimer/Metropolitan L and G stations—on the northeast corner of Union and Metropolitan avenues—and I ask that you help us convince the MTA to cancel the proposed elevator at Lorimer Street and Metropolitan Avenue.

Again, I implore you for your help and thank you.

Best,

Don Summa

Michael Rochford <mrochford@stnicksalliance.org>
To:ebruzaitis@yahoo.com
Cc:summalisa@aol.com, Jose Leon

Tue, Apr 6 at 5:12 PM

Mr Chairman

On behalf of St Nicks Alliance we join with concerned residents and submit a letter to Community Board # 1 asking that the MTA revaluate their decision to jam an elevator and multiple stair cases at the Lorimer Street entrance. We believe this action will destroy local business, interfere with access to homes and create a unsafe condition for pedestrians and motorists. I will join the call tonight and followed up with our elected officials tomorrow.

Warm regards
Mike
(LETTER ATTACHED)

James Ahearn <pandchospitality@gmail.com> To:ebruzaitis@yahoo.com

Wed, Mar 24 at 3:04 PM

Hi,

I am reaching out as a business owner from Lorimer street regarding the proposed elevator at the interaction of Metropolitan. The MTA rep has reached out to us to schedule a meeting about the location of the elevator, and construction timeline. A few businesses at this intersection have gotten together just to express our concerns over the location, and timeline of the project. As you may know, a

few eateries at this intersection will be greatly affected by this 2 year project. Every business owner here is in support of accessibility to the subway, first and foremost. As restaurant owners we have been extremely burdened by pandemic related restrictions. One thing that has helped us get through these tough times is the outdoor dining program. We have been getting by these winter months with hopes of outdoor dining opening up and welcoming back customers to our storefronts. If this project starts this spring, we will lose all customers for outdoor sidewalk seating. This intersection is already congested and the timing of the traffic light is so terrible that we suffer from constant noise pollution of honking cars and trucks on a normal day. This will be a disaster for the restaurants counting on outdoor service for the season. The meeting is sceduled at the intersection on Tuesday March 30 at 3:30 pm. I am reaching out to see if you as a community board member would attend, so that we can all come together as a community to get this project completed with as few casualties as possible. I look forward to hearing from you.

Thank You,
Melissa Morales
Pomp and Circumstance
577 Lorimer Street
https://www.pandcdining.com
646-315-2000

Shannon Phipps <sp@shannonphipps.com> To:ebruzaitis@yahoo.com Cc:Tjburrows

Wed, Mar 31 at 3:53 PM

Dear Eric,

Please consider all correspondence herein admissible for records as the community board deems.

I am writing you because you serve on the Community Board as Chair of Transportation (Street Reconstruction, Parking, Motion Pictures).

Last year the DOT launched a program called "Open Streets (OS)" on Berry St. in response to the lockdowns and advertised it as a community lead effort to provide safe space for people to socially distance. Residents living on or off North Berry St. between N7th - N12th, were under the impression this was a temporary program because that is how the Mayor's Office and DOT advertised Open Streets. We do not want this program to be permanently installed on North Berry St. and feel mislead, manipulated, censored, invisible and left out of the decision-making processes for a program that has profoundly affected our daily lives. Before the program, Berry St was a quiet one-way street with a beautiful bike lane. Since the program, Berry St. has become a source of anxiety, harassment, extra work, more liability, and a symbol of unaccountable power and authority being exercised in our community.

We are very concerned about the upcoming warmer weather and the installation of metal barriers installed this week. It's important to note, the masses of people the DOT claims need this space seem to have dissipated during colder weather and during the weekdays, especially during business hours. I can only imagine when people are back to work and the city opens again, the underwhelming occupancy on North Berry St., during these days and hours, will continue to be the pattern. The destination crowd appears on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. However, my observation, as someone that lives here, is not a formal study. I have not seen a formal study from the DOT to justify the closure of this particular street. In fact, we feel there is a lot of missing data, necessary for community review before rushing a project of this magnitude through as an institutionalized feature of the neighborhood and Williamsburg. We feel the neighborhood was not properly consulted. The surveys, workshops and outreach done by the DOT and BetaNYC's "North Brooklyn Open Streets Community Coalition (NBOSCC)" were biased and designed to promote their agenda.

Despite what the DOT advertises, the present reality is, Berry St. is a destination for people that do not live on or off Berry St. Politicians are publicly wanting to install porta-potties on Berry St. We believe that is a disgusting idea and do not want the smell human waste outside our homes. Given the poor performance of the DOT and BetaNYC,NBOSCC managing and maintaining open streets, we feel the DOT and "volunteers" are not able to handle the responsibility of porta-potties. We are concerned, given the manipulative way OS was deployed, this is a cover-program for the DOT to lease out spaces on Berry St. to vendors and an opportunity for NBOSCC to pad resumes and collect a paycheck from the city as volunteers push for funding.

In addition to our own lives being effected negatively by the pandemic (one neighbor lost 4 family members during the pandemic), OS program brought us sleepless nights full of noise pollution, trespassers during all hours of the day and night, trash in front of our homes and on the streets, more than usual, as sanitations budget and schedule was cut, vomit, views of Mens genitals during all hours of the day and night (This happened regularly and became a norm for our area), people intoxicated outside our homes at all hours of the day and night, people smoking cigarettes on our steps, outside our doors and windows, effectively getting second-hand smoke (a known toxic and cancer causing and asthma triggering exposure) into our homes and entry-ways, people loitering on our property leaving cups and food debris behind, people tailgating in front of our homes and buildings drinking before hitting the "scene" of Berry St., people cruising to find parking, traffic being diverted to other streets in the neighborhood meaning more idling meaning worse air quality and more honking, barriers staying up all day and night since the NBOSCC took over which block delivery trucks daily (continues to be an issue they refuse to acknowledge or remedy), and, ultimately, open streets attracted many more people to our front door than would normally be here - the opposite of safe social distancing. OS brought the pandemic closer to us. We just grinned and bared it by looking out for each other thinking it would pass. This experience took a toll on our mental health, emotional endurance and downgraded our neighborhood to a trash pile overrun by entitled party people. The climax of my trauma was taking out the garbage and seeing a man peeing on my basement door. He then got very confrontational, probably because it was night, I am a woman, and he had a group of 5 other men standing there with him. The way the law is written, unless an officer sees public urination themselves, a citation cannot be issued. The above experiences do not add up to safe, sanitary, environmentally sound or a peaceful community. With city services reduced during the pandemic and the courts slowed down, in some cases closed, we felt violated and helpless by the social and environmental hell the DOT relocated us too.

This program has been grossly mismanaged. Unaccountable volunteers are running the blocks we live on. Because we are regular people working from home, caretaking family, adjusting to the new norm during the pandemic, etc., we had no idea this was a huge agenda. Thus, we were in a vacuum when Noel Hildago (BetaNYC Founder) who organized NBOSCC swooped in and decided he would tell us what we need and why. He presents himself as a representative and neighbor in the community, yet none of us have ever heard of or seen him before this program. He does not live on Berry St. or off Berry St. He is a very problematic character that uses divisive language (i.e. Karen def "The term refers to memes depicting white women who use their privilege to demand their own way." see attached twitter screen shot) and polarizing strategies online to rally OS support (posted to his twitter, "we really cannot trust NYPD") that is far from being cut from the same cloth of this community. NYPD showed up for us the best they could given the mandates handed down by politicians during the pandemic. We experienced a very neighborly and empathetic NYPD presence in our neighborhood. I find his language offensive because it dehumanizes anyone that disagrees with his agenda and it is inappropriate to the context of OS because it seeks to insight uncivil behavior bordering on chaos and violence. An elderly woman, on a community council call I attended, expressed fear as she was moving a barrier to park her car and a group of young partiers began ganging up on her and intimidating her by yelling at her, then chanting Karen at her. She did not understand what "Karen" was or why they were being so aggressive towards her. This is not about race, class, privilege, social justice, ethnicity, gender, landlords, tenants, capitalism, etc. Yet, many OS supporters frame the conversation in these polarizing way that Noel himself presents and does not condone. I have heard from other neighbors he is dismissive and rude in online meetings and on social media. People say he blocks dissent on social media too. A recent article in the Brooklyn Paper is another example of how biased the OS story is being presented the public and how Noel continues to designate himself as our representative (Brooklyn Paper Article). Besides being antagonistic to our community, I am not sure what the volunteers' functions are beyond putting up barriers in the morning and monitoring to keep them up 24-7 outside the programs operating hours of 8am-8pm. The barriers have not been taken down at 8pm since Noel took the barrier responsibility from the NYPD. This has been documented by people that live here. Currently, the metal barriers are installed on Berry St. 24-7 and not installed according to the diagrams on the DOT website which illustrates them a part not linked together (DOT Temporary Limited Access Diagram). Again, the DOT did not publish the operating hours on the barrier signs or contact info for the public should they have concerns. Not enforcing operational hours and removing the barriers entirely from the street has become a safety issue and source of hostility outside our homes because OS supports and business owners (Cheeseboat is suspected) feel embolden to put them back and leave them up. These same people are very confrontational towards anyone attempting to remove the barriers for whatever reason. It is very alarming that Noel has been so abrasive with a community he claims to come from, and we believe it is a red flag that he postulates himself in a defensive and nasty tone. His unprofessional and undiplomatic leadership overshadows the program and darkens our doors. No one from the DOT or politicians that support OS has spoken out against his comments or behavior, normalizing an uncivil and hostile atmosphere where we live. On March 26, 2020, a Friday, Noel tweeted out the barriers would be removed due to the high winds (see attached tweet) and the DOT website also lists this as a weather-related reason to suspend the program (Weather Information: During severe weather, including heavy snow and strong winds, NYC DOT may require partners to temporarily halt Open Streets. During these weather events, partners must secure all barricades, signage, and other furniture and materials associated with Open Streets, removing them from the street. Partners will be notified by email when the program is suspended due to weather). As I was walking home through the destination crowd on Berry St., I noticed all the barriers were up. I moved one to the side and was called "a piece of shit" by a man cycling by. This is a recent example of how the program has no oversight and no one taking responsibility. To live here now is to be verbally attacked, exposed to men's genitals and at the whim of OS patron's unchecked anger issues tinging on

violence. We are concerned about barriers blocking emergency vehicles, being too heavy for people that are not able-bodied to move or navigate, damaging cars, becoming weapons, and turning Berry St. into the longest (both in length and time) block party Brooklyn has ever seen.

Please consider, a lot of people that live here speak different languages (not just English and Spanish), not everyone is able bodied, not everyone is young and online. These are the most vulnerable among us and they were not included in this decision or change. Quality of Life Issues and Safety Issues are very important to us. We feel taken advantage of by the DOT's lack of response or care in workshops set up to promote OS, not fielding community feedback. We have had no input on the hours the program is run, whether or not, it is necessary along the Northside of Berry St. where there are already a high concentration of bars, restaurants and entertainment venues etc. Despite the DOT's advertisement as a community led effort it is in fact a community defined by and composed of a closed circle in the Mayor's Office, DOT and with BetaNYC, North Brooklyn Open Streets Coalition (again, the leader does not live on or off Berry St.).

Please consider someone's 24-minute walk down Berry St. (even a hour during the day) is a different reality than someone that lives here 24 hours a day.

There are currently two petitions in circulation asking for this program to be stopped or paused

Petition-to-Prevent-the-Permanent-One-Mile-Closure-of-Berry-Street-and-Proposed-Bedford-Ave

Brooklyn-Stop-Open-Streets-From-Becoming-A-Permanent-Fixture-in-Greenpoint

I am concerned with the legality of this program as well. It is baffling how government power and authority has been given to someone like Noel. How traffic laws are being legislated by DOT, how the rights of citizens with disabilities or emergencies are being trampled on, how restaurants not enforcing the smoking ban or keeping their areas clear of trash are now freely without oversight allowed sidewalk and street access in Post-Pandemic times essentially altering the communities check and balances and oversight on permits, etc. 311 calls have increased since this program started, crime has risen, and quality of life issues have it an all-time high. Do we have no legal recourse to restore our neighborhood?

I would love it if you could forward my correspondence to Janice Peterson, Chair of Women's issues. Last night on Berry St. a neighbor called 911 to report domestic violence occurring on Berry St. and the police where delayed by the barriers thus the man and woman walked away before patrol officers could arrive. As a woman, I possess fear, that was absent before OS. I am scared to advocate for my personal space and property and I am scared of retaliation, physical and verbal assault. I am concerned. the police will not be able to respond in time. The increase of openly intoxicated men on the streets has left many women feeling less safe as well. Before Open Streets on Berry St., I felt safe to take out the garbage, come and go from my building at all hours and to confront people on the property.

If the program is pushed forward and we cannot do anything about it, here are some suggestions:

- -OS needs to end at Metropolitan Ave and not extend via the Northside of Berry St.
- -Hours of operation should only be on the weekends and be in effect 10am-6pm.
- -Volunteers should be fired and prohibited from taking on government functions.
- -All Maintenance, Security and Safety functions should be under the direct supervision of a government agency and carried out by persons identified by uniform and ID, with training and qualifications to do the job.
- -Penalties need to be raised extremely high and enforcement applied to restaurants and bars not keeping their areas clean of trash and not enforcing the smoking ban.
- -All open containers and tobacco use should be prohibited and enforced in Open Streets just like a park and within a block on either side of the OS because as we witnessed OS is not a container it is site from which all activity effects the areas around it.
- -Laws should be modified in regard to public urination to make it easier for people to record offense and report same with a much stiffer penalty for urinator.
- -People found congregating and creating noise disturbances should be immediately dealt with and large summons handed out to repeat offenders or businesses affiliated with hosting such happenings
- -Patrol officers should be placed on every block during operation of open streets in areas with increase in crime and 311 calls.
- -Penalty for littering should also increase and be enforced.

Essentially, we need OS to be regulated like any other event on a public street was pre-COVID.

I look forward to the upcoming transportation meeting and hearing from you.

Thank you for your service.

Sincerely,

Shannon Phipps

Jennifer Weisberg < jenny@travelin.com>

To: gabriela. almonte @nypd.org, christopher. spizuco @nypd.org, david. molina @nypd.org, eric bruzaitis, Keith Bray

Cc:Françoise Olivas, Angie B, andrea@andreahuelse.com, sp@shannonphipps.com

Hello,

I am writing, yet again, about issues with the administration of the Open Streets program along Berry Street in Williamsburg. After having made over 30 complaints to the DOT regarding the failure of the so-called North Brooklyn Open Streets Community Coalition (NBOSCC) to remove the barriers from the roadway each night by 8 pm, I am frustrated that there has been no movement from either the DOT or the NYPD to address this issue. In that vein, the DOT's response to my numerous complaints has only been to tell me that my complaints should be directed to the NYPD, as its under their purview. Considering the Open Streets program started last May expressly \*without\* police administration and oversight, according to Streetsblog in a May 2, 2020 article, it's hard to understand why my complaints should be redirected to the 94th Precinct.

Furthermore, all signage on the barriers along Berry Street has had the stickers indicating they should be in place between 8 am and 8 pm daily removed. Often the barriers are in place until midnight. I will point out the NBOSCC has no problem promptly returning the barriers to close off Berry Street each morning, and often well before 8:00, so it's not as if they aren't aware of the parameters of the program. Attempts to move the barriers to the side in the evening are often met with hostility from passers-by; a neighbor had a cup of coffee thrown at her.

Repeated complaints to the DOT have been fruitless. I, along with my equally frustrated neighbors along Berry Street have met with DOT representatives, attended Community Board meetings, attended the DOT's uniquely useless "workshop" that really served to highlight how little the DOT cared about addressing problems and complaints with the program. After enduring a hellish summer of 2020, full of drunken revelers along North Berry night after night, well into the fall, as the weather warms, my neighbors and I are growing increasingly apprehensive about what the spring and summer of 2021 will bring. It would appear that all of our complaints fall ceaselessly upon deaf ears.

We have walked the length of Berry, querying business owners, most of whom report they have yet to be contacted by the DOT for their feelings about the program, which are uniformly negative. Talking to our neighbors, we acknowledge there is a world of difference between the north and south sides of Berry street in how the program is used. South Berry has far fewer bars and restaurants; residents on the Southside acknowledge that their experience of the closed off street is extremely different than for those of us on the Northside. Suggestions made in the fall to the DOT to that effect, that perhaps the program could be limited to the Southside, seem to have been completely disregarded.

The frustrations we feel are very real. A mounting cynicism and disgust with how people are manipulating this program for their own ulterior motives is hard to avoid. The DOT has repeatedly failed to take any form of responsibility for the program's administration and oversight, cynically shifting the weight of accountability to the unknown volunteers of the NBOSCC, who are now agitating not only to close the street permanently and expand to Bedford avenue, but also to be recompensed for their actions, as well as the NYPD, which was shut out of entire process of determining where the streets should be closed in the first place.

We would be more than happy to meet with the DOT, representatives of the 94th and 90th precincts, as well as our elected officials, most of whom seem unwilling to acknowledge there is a real problem with how this program has been implemented and administered. We would welcome the opportunity.

best,

Jennifer Weisberg 72 Berry street, apt 5D

BK01 (CB) <bk01@cb.nyc.gov>

To: Eric Bruzaitis

Wed, Apr 7 at 2:47 PM

From: Jessica De La Rosa <jdelarosa@bcid.org>

Sent: Tuesday, April 6, 2021 9:02 PM To: BK01 (CB) <br/>bk01@cb.nyc.gov>

Cc: Joseph Rappaport <jrappaport@bcid.org>

Subject: My statement for tonight's community board meeting

Hello,

Thank you for having me and allowing me to speak. As per Eric B's request please see my statement below.

## STATEMENT:

Hello all and good evening. My name is Jessica De La Rosa and I am the Systems Advocate at the Brooklyn Center for Independence of the Disabled. We are an independent living center advocating for the ability of people with disabilities to live, travel and work independently in the community.

We strongly support the proposal to make the Metropolitan Av-Lorimer St. Subway station accessible.

For decades, people with disabilities – like me -- have been fighting for accessibility for our New York City subway system. This process has been very slow and challenging. Equal access for all is extremely important and this new elevator installation is another step – or roll – in that direction.

Many of the people BCID works with are Brooklyn residents with disabilities and this elevator would greatly benefit those in the neighborhood and who want to go there. The elevator also would help seniors as well as parents with strollers navigate the subway easier, bringing more business to the area.

I have a physical disability and use a wheelchair 24/7. I can tell you that it is a daily struggle when commuting to work, school, or other daily activities because of the lack of accessible subway stations like this one. Across the city, there are often elevator deserts, elevators out of service or long distances needed to be traveled to get to an elevator where others do not have to, just to get from one point to the next.

It's incredibly frustrating and angering.

My friends, the wider disability community and I are really counting on the new elevator at the Metropolitan-Lorimer station and are looking forward to a time where our commute will be one elevator ride easier. Thank you.

Jessica De La Rosa Systems Advocate Brooklyn Center for Independence of the Disabled (BCID) 25 Elm Pl 5th Floor Brooklyn, N.Y. 11201 718-998-3000

# Make Meeker Move Campaign Report

Edition 1.0--April 6th 2021

## What is Make Meeker Move?

For 70 years, Meeker Avenue has divided our community, while constant car traffic from the BQE pollutes North Brooklyn with toxic fumes. For over a decade, local leaders and residents have rallied for street safety improvements on Meeker Avenue and a radical reimagining of the space under the BQE. Greenpoint and Williamsburg's residents have long imagined a world where the area under the BQE is not devoted to car storage, but transformed into a safe and vibrant public open space.

Meeker Avenue, the street under the BQE, is a source of environmental injustice in the neighborhood. It is one of North Brooklyn's busiest streets and is unsafe for all who use it. As the neighborhoods on either side of Meeker Avenue grow, foot and bicycle traffic along the street continues to dramatically increase. However, Meeker's current design does not support or encourage those who live and work in the neighborhood to walk or bicycle, but rather, encourages cars to speed through and speed into the neighborhoods, increasing the likelihood of crashes, injuries, and deaths. Air pollution from the highway has greatly contributed to high asthma rates, and poor planning has exacerbated Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) which pollutes our waterways. Greenpoint and Williamsburg are starved for safe, quality open space and have advocated for years to secure land for public use. There are 25 acres under the BQE between Metropolitan and Morgan Avenues that cut directly through these communities. The current conditions are dark, dirty, and deeply underutilized.

We would like to join our fellow community members in requesting a Complete Street redesign of Meeker Avenue to make it a safe and vibrant street that no longer divides our community.

We request that the NYC Department of Transportation remove the current parking use from under the BQE and bring pedestrian, bicycle, public transit, public space, and stormwater management improvements to Meeker Avenue. We deserve a complete street redesign on Meeker Avenue that incorporates changes designed to protect all street users and encourages dynamic community use.

## Make Meeker Move Vision

We deserve a Meeker Avenue that is responsive to the needs of all community members. Today we share our vision for a 21st century Meeker Avenue that is redesigned for street safety, community centered improvements, environmental justice, and open space. Over the course of 6 years, the North Brooklyn Transportation Alternatives activist committee has surveyed community members about what they want to see on Meeker Avenue. NBKTA hosted visioning sessions with urban planner James Rojas and high school students at El Puente, talked to countless neighborhood residents and businesses through years of petitioning efforts. More recently the Make Meeker Move Coalition has hosted two visioning sessions with elected officials, neighborhood organizations, and residents. What we have heard from the community is a resounding call for a radical change on Meeker Avenue, a complete street redesign that speaks to the needs of the community. Our community wants and deserves a street that is safe and enjoyable to walk, bike, play on, a place where families and children feel safe crossing the street.

Our first priority is creation of pedestrian safety improvements and protected bike lanes to ensure that pedestrians and cyclists can move safely along one of North Brooklyn's main corridors, and to connect to the Kosciuszko and Williamsburg Bridges for new commuting options. Our second priority is environmental justice for the communities directly impacted by the decades of harm caused by the BQE. Our third priority is to transform the space under the BQE from underutilized parking spaces to a linear park, quality open space that offers opportunity for rest, relaxation, and play.

## We need a reimagined streetscape

We need safety improvements to reduce crashes for everyone on the street that include:

- Protected bike lane with jersey barriers
- Safer pedestrian crossings with bulb outs and pedestrian wayfinding
- Street redesigns to mitigate speeding and unpredictable traffic patterns
- Better lighting and enjoyable design elements

### We need to prioritize the community's lived experiences

We need environmental justice for the decades of harm the BQE has caused that includes:

- Green infrastructure and better stormwater management
- Improved air quality
- Respect and care for our unhoused neighbors
- Climate resiliency planning
- Plantings to green the space and help clean the air

## We need quality open space

We need real investment in the 25 acres of open space underneath the highway to create:

- An open space corridor connecting and creating a network of parks and plazas
- Racial and economic justice for a neighborhood divided by a deadly highway
- Spatial equity for the 60% of NBK residents who don't own cars
- Programmed spaces to support small businesses and community orgs
- Public seating, public art, athletic spaces, and public marketplace possibilities

## Who Supports Make Meeker Move?

Transportation Alternatives North Brooklyn Activist Committee
North Brooklyn Mutual Aid: North Brooklyn Stewards
North Brooklyn Parks Alliance
El Puente
North Brooklyn Neighbors
Newtown Creek Alliance
Williamsburg High School of Architecture and Design
Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church
Friends of Bushwick Inlet Park
District 14 Green Alliance
North Brooklyn Open Streets Community Coalition

State Senator Julia Salazar
State Senator Brian Kavanagh
Assemblymember Emily Gallagher
Councilmember Stephen Levin District 33
Councilmember Antonio Reynoso District 34
Female District Leader Kristina Naplatarski Assembly District 50
Male District Leader Emile Bazile Assembly District 50
Community Board 1 Transportation Committee

Support from 3,915 community members Support from 80 community businesses

# History

Without meaningful community input, BQE construction divided North Brooklyn beginning in 1946 and continued until 1952. In that time, homes were demolished with 5,000 people displaced. While the BQE connects highways, it has divided our neighborhood for over half a century. Community organizations like EI Puente and Transportation Alternatives have worked for years to mitigate the devastating effects of poor air quality caused by BQE traffic and the deadly rash of traffic violence on Meeker Avenue.

Marisol Martinez was hit and killed at the intersection of Meeker Avenue and Union Avenue in 2014 and countless others have been killed and injured on the wide, dangerous street. Community efforts have continued in recent years with street safety forums, petitioning campaigns, and business outreach. Both Council Members on the corridor have expressed vocal support for safety improvements and backed that up with financial contributions to improve dangerous intersections.

## Present

In January 2020, community residents were thrilled to hear that the New York City Department of Transportation planned to install a two-way protected bike lane on Meeker Avenue by the end of the year as part of their Green Wave plan. As of today, the community has not heard any updates on the proposed bike lane. Instead, DOT moved forward with a proposal to add hundreds of metered parking spots on Meeker Ave with no community input or feedback. This metered parking plan is in direct opposition to our community's requests for a shared public space, which we have asked for since 2015.

In response to all of this, the Make Meeker Move Coalition held two visioning sessions in November 2020 and March 2021 to gather community feedback and demonstrate the widespread and passionate support in North Brooklyn for major improvements to the entire BQE corridor. The feedback from those sessions is detailed below and in more detail in the Appendix.

We want DOT to move forward with our vision of Meeker Avenue as a space for pedestrians and cyclists, a place that improves the surrounding community's health, and a quality open space for the public to enjoy. We do not want paid parking!

# Feedback from the Visioning Sessions

Visioning Session 1

Date: November 12, 2020

## Who Attended:

- Office of State Senator Julia Salazar
- Office of State Senator Brian Kavanagh
- Office of Assemblymember Emily Gallagher
- Office of Councilmember Stephen Levin District 33
- Office of Councilmember Antonio Reynoso District 34
- Female District Leader Kristina Naplatarski Assembly District 50
- Male District Leader Emile Bazile Assembly District 50
- Community Board 1 Transportation Committee chair and representatives
- Willis Elkins (NCA, Transportation Committee of CB1)
- Katherine Thompson (Friends of Bushwick Inlet Park)
- Kristina Naplatarski (50th Assembly District)

- Katie Denny Horowitz (North Brooklyn Parks Alliance)
- Masoom Moitra (El Puente, Green Light District)
- Lisa Bloodgood (North Brooklyn Neighbors)
- Noel Hidalgo (NBK Open Streets Community Coalition)
- Rachel Albetski, Tom Huzij (North Brooklyn Transportation Alternatives)
- About 75 other members of the community

#### Overview:

On November 12, 2020, North Brooklyn community members came together for a panel discussion on problems and potential solutions regarding Meeker Avenue. The panel included representatives from a broad array of neighborhood organizations, local activist groups, and elected officials, including (but not limited to) *El Puente*, *North Brooklyn Transportation Alternatives*, *North Brooklyn Neighbors*, the Community Board 1 Transportation Committee, and the offices of the State Senators Brian Kavanagh and Julia Salazar, State Assembly Member Emily Gallagher and Council Members Stephen Levin, and Antonio Reynoso. The discussion was framed around three main goals for the area underneath the BQE:

- 1) Street Safety
- 2) Environmental Justice
- 3) An Increase in Quality Open Space

Panelists and attendees unanimously disapproved of DOT's proposed plan to convert the space underneath the BQE into paid parking spots. Moreover, many panelists, including representatives from the offices of elected officials, expressed disappointment in the lack of transparency and community engagement on the part of the DOT during the proposal, likening the last-minute, unilateral decision to "a slap in the face." The fact that community members had been proposing alternative uses of the space for years only added to this sense of betrayal. The group agreed that any decisions made regarding the future of Meeker Avenue should take into account the experiences and perspectives of the community - especially Black and brown community members.

The panel also recognized that unhoused neighbors currently utilize the space underneath the BQE, and agreed that any restructuring should include support and opportunities for alternative housing for those who need it.

Comments and suggestions have been consolidated in the Takeaways section below. A more in-depth transcript of the session is provided at the end of the document.

## **Key Takeaways:**

## Street Safety

- Meeker Avenue is dangerous and unpleasant for pedestrians and cyclists.
- Pedestrians face lengthy, poorly-lit crosswalks with short timebanks.
- Vehicles speed down Meeker Avenue, creating unsafe conditions for bikers. Damaged and uneven pavement create additional hazards.
- Community Suggestions:
  - Protected bike lanes with concrete jersey barriers
  - Enhanced pedestrian crossings: longer crosswalk timers, expanded pedestrian plazas for safe crossing, decreasing the width of car lanes to discourage speeding, adjusting corner angles to reduce speed at which cars can turn onto side streets, better lighting.

#### **Environmental Justice**

- The BQE cuts directly through residential neighborhoods and is a huge source of air and noise pollution.
- Black and brown communities, especially those in the South Side of Williamsburg, have very little greenspace. Air pollution from the BQE and other car-centric projects lead to higher rates of respiratory illnesses.
- The space could be utilized for green infrastructure, such as stormwater capture mechanisms that would prevent overflow into the Bushwick Inlet.
- Community Suggestions:
  - Stormwater capture technology
  - More green space, especially in Black and brown neighborhoods
  - Electric vehicle storage and charging stations
  - Eventually remove the current BQE structure, either by dismantling it entirely or by moving it underground

#### Open Space

- The BQE acts as a barrier between different neighborhoods of North Brooklyn.
   Restructuring Meeker Avenue as a more pedestrian and bike-friendly environment could bridge these gaps and bring the community closer together.
- Small businesses could use this space for markets, seating, increased capacity, pathways, and other flexible use cases.

- The newly-constructed K-Bridge Park is a good example of space underneath transportation infrastructure being restructured for mixed-use public access
- Community Suggestions:
  - Use the space to create pedestrian 'corridors' that would connect the neighborhood instead of dividing it.
  - o Create space for businesses .
  - Create space for sports, such as enclosed soccer fields.
  - Look to successful examples of public space in similar settings, such as the K-Bridge Park and Brooklyn Bridge Park.

# Visioning Session 2

Date: March 11, 2021

#### Who Attended:

- About 45 members of the community
- Office of Councilmember Stephen Levin District 33
- Newtown Creek Alliance
- North Brooklyn Transportation Alternatives
- North Brooklyn Neighbors
- North Brooklyn Parks Alliance
- North Brooklyn Mutual Aid: North Brooklyn Stewards
- El Puente
- NBK Open Streets Community Coalition

#### Overview:

On the night of March 11, 2021, community members joined together for a virtual Make Meeker Move visioning session. The session focused on personal experiences and community members' ideas for the space beneath the stretch of the Brooklyn Queens Expressway (BQE) and Meeker Avenue from the intersection with Metropolitan Avenue to the Kosciuszko Bridge. To facilitate the discussion, this stretch of the BQE and Meeker Avenue was further divided into four parts, (1) Metropolitan Avenue to Union Avenue, (2) Union Avenue to Manhattan Avenue,

(3) Manhattan to McGuinness Boulevard, and (4) McGuinness Boulevard to the end of Meeker Avenue and the Brooklyn side of the Kosciuszko Bridge.

The participants of the visioning session were separated into four smaller breakout sessions. The comments, suggestions and visions of participants were collected by facilitators, and have been consolidated below. The feedback outlined below has been organized into three general themes: pedestrian experience, bicycle experience, and public space.

## **Key Takeaways:**

## Pedestrian Experience

- Walking along Meeker and crossing intersections is unsafe and uncomfortable. Families with children avoid the area because they do not feel safe there.
- Cars travel at high speeds, threatening the safety of pedestrians
- Exit lanes from the BQE onto Meeker create intersections with unexpected turns and timing patterns that are confusing to pedestrians
- The infrastructure prioritizes car speed over pedestrian safety
- Car exhaust, illegal dumping, bird droppings and general lack of maintenance create dirty and unsanitary conditions on Meeker
- Community Suggestions:
  - Substantial improvement of pedestrian experiences at the locations of recent New York City Department of Transportation interventions that shortened the distances pedestrians had to walk to cross the street, such as bulb outs. Would like to see more of those interventions along Meeker.
  - Several participants spoke of reinventing the area by reallocating road space and the area under the BQE into green space that would be safe and pleasant for pedestrians and their families.

## **Bicycle Experience**

- Meeker Avenue lacks bicycle infrastructure. Biking underneath the BQE is unwelcoming, dangerous, and scary for cyclists.
- Meeker Avenue under the BQE is dangerous due to road intersections in-between the parking lots including low quality pavement surface and unpredictable interaction with the cars within the parking lots.
- Biking on Meeker is unpleasant and dangerous. Two participants noted, biking in the area is a "disaster" and a "situation to avoid at all costs."

- Community Suggestions:
  - Roadspace must be reallocated to improve the conditions for bicyclists.

## Public Space

- The space under the BQE is inhospitable for pedestrians and cyclists
- The current use of the space reinforces the dangerous conditions for pedestrians and bicyclists.
- There is a unique opportunity to create new park land under the BQE
- Community Suggestions:
  - Convert the parking lots under the BQE into green space and use the existing small parks as jump off points to create a large system of connected green space.
  - Create new park land under the BQE

# Appendix:

## **Original Coalition Letter:**

#### The Problem!

Meeker Avenue, the street under the BQE, is one of North Brooklyn's busiest streets but is unsafe for all who use it. It has cut our community in two as long as it has existed. As the neighborhoods on either side of Meeker Avenue grow, foot and bicycle traffic along the street has increased dramatically. But the street is designed for cars to speed through our neighborhood, not for people living and working in it. Greenpoint and Williamsburg are starved for quality open space and have advocated for years to secure land for public use. There is a massive amount of space under the BQE that is underutilized and cuts directly through these communities. The current conditions are dark, dirty, and deeply underutilized. Meeker Avenue is a source of environmental injustice in the neighborhood. Air pollution from the highway has greatly contributed to high asthma rates, and bad planning has exacerbated Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) which pollutes our waterways.

### The Solution!

We would like to join our fellow community members in requesting a Complete Street redesign of Meeker Avenue to make it a safe and vibrant street that no longer divides our community.

We request that the NYC Department of Transportation bring pedestrian, bicycle, public transit, public space and stormwater management improvements to Meeker Avenue. We deserve a Complete Street redesign on Meeker Avenue that incorporates changes designed to protect all street users and encourages vibrant community use.

#### The Details!

Protected bike lanes will ensure that cyclists can move safely along one of North Brooklyn's main corridors, and connect to the Kosciuszko and Williamsburg Bridges for new commuting options. Pedestrian safety improvements will boost local business by fostering access to the many shops and restaurants dotting Meeker Avenue.

These types of safety improvements:

- Reduce crashes for everyone on the street by up to 58 percent
- Reduce sidewalk riding by up to 84 percent
- Increase retail sales up to 49 percent

Additional measures any redesign must include

- More time to cross the street, and pedestrian wayfinding
- Real investment in public open space underneath the highway includes many possibilities such as seating, public art, athletic spaces, and public marketplace possibilities
- Better lighting and enjoyable design elements
- Stormwater management infrastructure to prevent polluted water from overwhelming our waterways during rainstorms
- Other traffic calming measures, like curb extensions and bulb outs that make the street a more inviting destination
- Plantings to green the space and help clean the air

North Brooklyn residents deserve these safety and open space improvements. We hope you can join us in making Meeker Avenue and its surrounding neighborhoods friendly, safe, economically viable, and sustainable.

## **Some Helpful Links:**

<u>Links to Resources</u> <u>Make Meeker Move 1st Visioning Night</u>

NOTES FROM MAKE MEEKER MOVE VISIONING SESSION 1

November 12th 2020

#### **Facilitators:**

- Elana Ehrenberg
- Rachel Albetski
- Tom Huzij

#### Panelists:

- Leslie Velasquez (*El Puente*)
- Willis Elkins (Newtown Creek Alliance, Transportation Committee of CB1)
- Katherine Thompson (Friends of Bushwick Inlet Park)
- Kristina Naplatarski (50th Assembly District)
- Katie Denny Horowitz (North Brooklyn Parks Alliance)
- Masoom Moitra (El Puente, Green Light District)
- Lisa Bloodgood (North Brooklyn Neighbors)
- Noel Hidalgo (North Brooklyn Open Streets Community Coalition)

#### **Opening Statements:**

- Leslie Velasquez (El Puente)
  - "I'm here because the communities that we represent are heavily impacted by pollution from the BQE so we have a hugely vested interest in what happens with the BQE."
- Kristina Naplatarski (Female District Leader 50th Assembly District)
  - Mentioned that New York City is "on life support" when it comes to budgeting
  - "How do we get to a place where the area under Meeker Avenue is useful for the community and is not an eyesore and a boon, but a place that will bring open space and enjoyment in a community that is park starved?"
  - "The DOT cannot hold general maintenance and cleanliness as a bargaining chip in this conversation. It is the agency's responsibility to make sure that the area under the BQE is taken care of regardless of what is there."
- Emile Bazile (Male District Leader 50th Assembly District)
  - Regarding the lack of community involvement in DOT's parking plan: "In the age where we push for transparency, there was no transparency in regards to their decision making... the most important thing is the community engagement which wasn't present"
- Eliana Cohen (Senator Kavanagh's Office)
  - "The senator has been working to make sure that the space under the BQE is a space where people feel safe and comfortable and where folks who are unhoused are receiving services"
- Alvin Peña (Senator Salazar's Office)
  - "DOT is moving without the consent of the community"
  - "The reality is that for a long time, the space that's being utilized now by DOT has been in conversation for a long time and for DOT not to recognize that is a real slap in the face"

- "Without a comprehensive plan for unhoused neighbors, is DOT going to just kick them out?"
- "Clean air and clean water" should be a birthright in America
- Andrew Epstein (Assemblymember Gallagher's Office)
  - "For seven decades, the stretch of the BQE from the Williamsburg Bridge to the Kosciuszko Bridge has bisected North Brooklyn, has blanketed our neighbors in shadows and noise. It should never have been built and someday it should come down. But while that's admittedly a very very distant vision, we cannot in the interim backslide into the same short-sighted, exclusively car-centered projects that created these problems in the first place."
  - Assemblymember Gallagher's office will support "through the level of state policy and supporting community organizing around a different vision; quality open spaces, sustainable environmental planning and green infrastructure, and crucial measures like protected bike lanes, and longer pedestrian crossing times"
  - "There are 25 acres of land...there is room to meet a variety of community needs. Many of the ideas that have already been put forward do not require significant financial resources (some of them do) but all of them require collaboration, openness, transparency, and vision, and that is plainly not represented by the DOT's sudden decision to install these paid lots"
- Elizabeth Adams (Councilmember Levin's Office)
  - "Our office has had numerous requests for bike lanes, open space, safer pedestrian crossings, for addressing the illegal dumping... never have we gotten a request for 300 metered parking spots."
  - "This plan was not done with the community in mind, or with an examination of local needs."
  - DOT is looking for revenue-generating plans but "we have yet to see any analysis that there will even be any revenue generated by this."
- Jennifer Gutierrez (Councilmember Reynoso's Office)
  - "Speaking from the perspective of the South Side, which has more Black and brown communities and immigrant communities, we have to create parkspace."
  - "Our parkspace is immediately next to the BQE" and because of rezoning, there
    is no park space
  - Post-COVID, the response needs to serve communities where the government failed: for example, climate change and asthma
  - The councilman is weary about what kind of infrastructure projects we can get across under this administration
- Eric Bruzaitis (Chair of CB1 Transportation Committee)
  - Regarding DOT's parking proposal, the Community Board received an email at the 11th hour, with no community input
  - The Committee met and came up with a resolution that opposed the program until DOT could come back with a plan that included uses that have been discussed for five plus years by community groups. At the public meeting, the DOT agreed to hold off until getting input from community
  - The Transportation Committee would like to see the proposal permanently tabled

- Karen Nieves (Member of CB1 Transportation Committee; Evergreen)
  - The parking lot proposal was "truly a slap in the face"
  - The priority should be open space, and safety for all users: pedestrians, cyclists, motorists
  - Mentioned that Meeker Avenue has been an area of concern since she was the Community Board 1 Transportation Committee Chair between 2009 and 2015:
    - "The first walk-through was in 2012 and nothing has happened. It's piecemeal but this community was promised safety. We have to continue to push. No parking lot."
    - "We were promised safety, and we need to continue to push"

#### Historical Context of the BQE (Luke Ohlson):

- In the 50 years that the BQE has existed, "from the beginning it has divided the neighborhood" and added noise and air pollution
- Meeker has become a focus point amongst different groups

#### Timeline of Visioning Sessions (Rachel Albetski)

- 2015: first visioning sessions, "Meeker Island," "Scary Meeker"
  - DOT responded with Pedestrian Safety Plan (for three intersections)
- 2017: Surveys and Outreach
  - Gathered 4,000+ signatures
- 2020: Bike Lane proposed
  - DOT has not provided any updates since March 2020
  - ... until Paid Parking Lot was proposed

### **Environmental Justice Conversation**

- Willis Elkins: Newtown Creek Alliance
  - During rainstorms, stormwater runoff floods the area under the BQE; but there's a real opportunity in spaces like under Meeker Avenue for stormwater capture technology
  - Green infrastructure can be used to capture runoff from highway. Currently all of the sewage goes to Bushwick Inlet and it makes the water unswimmable after it rains
  - Capturing stormwater is not the main priority for Meeker (compared to pedestrian safety) but is a citywide priority
- Masoom Moitra and Leslie Velasquez: El Puente
  - El Puente has worked on air quality for decades
  - Launching initiative *Our Air (Nuestro Aire)*: citizen-science focused air quality monitoring
  - "The BQE is a historical wound in our community and is a huge source of pollution for the South side of Williamsburg"
  - Asthma rates are twice as high as Brooklyn and NYC; parking lot will bring more vehicular traffic to the area, which is exactly what we don't need
    - COVID hits communities with lower air quality the hardest

- S Williamsburg has one of lowest proportions of greenspace per capita in all of NYC; greenspace can help improve air quality (and also heat risk and flood risk)
- Air quality issue is one of systemic racism; areas with highest air pollution are the areas with highest COVID death rates
- *El Puente* is releasing a 5 Point Platform:
  - Any decision made around the BQE has to include impacted communities and analyses of the racial and economic impacts
  - Solution have to focus on mitigations regarding health effects of BQE on community
  - Want to see concrete replaced with permeable surfaces
  - Ground cover: green walls, green canopies
  - Green funding mechanisms: community-led green development funds should be used to support these projects when the city doesn't provide the capital support
- Nothing is isolated: infrastructure projects will all have impacts on surrounding communities
- Lisa Bloodgood and Luke Ohlson: North Brooklyn Neighbors
  - The BQE has been an obstacle and a barrier between different sections of the neighborhood
  - Organizers need to think big: put the BQE underground
    - "Cap it and bury it"
  - "We do not need nor want paid parking underneath this roadway. What we do need is for this space to be a connector when it has been for so long a disconnector."
  - COVID puts needs at the forefront; this is a covered space that small businesses could use; bike and pedestrian pathway, markets
  - People look to North Brooklyn to see how we adapt our space from our past
  - We need to make sure that our next elected officials have this high on their list of priorities
  - North Brooklyn Neighbors aims to connect neighbors
    - "We don't build half a sewer network"
    - What the BQE does is cut networks in terms of street safety (bike lanes, street crossings, bus routes, connecting public space), akin to cutting a sewer line in half.

#### **Quality Open Space Conversation**

- Katie Denny Horowitz (North Brooklyn Parks Alliance):
  - There was good coordination and forward thinking on the K-Bridge Park
  - The decision to install paid parking came as a surprise based on conversations with DOT
  - The pandemic is making clear that parks are essential for our health and wellness and we need the space now more than ever
  - Think of this as a city-wide coalition: neighbors in Brooklyn Heights also taking on the BQE

- There are many examples of space underneath an elevated transportation system that we can use as examples:
  - Under the K: combination of hardscape (multipurpose, sports) and softscape (green walls, air quality mitigation tools)
- Part of visioning should include a funding model. There will be some revenue generation needed if not parking, this should include some suggestions
- Katherine Thompson (Friends of Bushwick Inlet Park)
  - Stormwater from the BQE ends up in Bushwick Inlet
  - It is not safe or community members to get from one end of the neighborhood to the other
  - Space under Meeker should be a corridor: open the neighborhood, connecting and creating a network of parks and community (opposite of parking)
    - Bike lanes, wayfinding, enhanced open space
  - 85 acres of land that made us Brooklyn Bridge Park was already publicly-owned land; same as most of the land under the BQE

#### **Streets and Safety Conversation**

- Rachel Albetski and Tom Huzij (North Brooklyn Transportation Alternatives Activist Committee)
  - DOT already promised a protected bike lane along Meeker (Greenway Program)
  - Every accident is a tragedy but every one is preventable
  - Over 60% of North Brooklyn residents don't own cars. Street space must be distributed more equitably to prioritize pedestrians
  - Crossing Meeker Avenue is dangerous:
    - "The crossing is very long, the time you have to cross is short"
    - Suggestions:
      - "Increase crossing times"
      - "Shorten distances between islands, create holdouts"
      - "Decrease the width of car lanes"
      - "Adjust the turn rates of cars to slow down turning speeds"
      - Protected Bike Lane
    - There is bad lighting under BQE, which poses a danger for pedestrians at night
  - DOT improvements have been miniscule but we need to see more (comprehensive plan, improve air quality, more open space)
    - 'Soccer fields, crosswalks, bike lanes' think big!
- Noel Hidalgo: North Brooklyn Open Streets Community Coalition
  - Open Streets are an opportunity to reimagine and carve out some pedestrianized and cycle-friendly space
  - Minimizing car traffic creates a safe space for children, people with various types
    of abilities, people who want to learn how to bike, etc. but what we need is
    political will to recognize that we should repurpose streets into public space
  - The space should be contiguous and protected

- In London, businesses under train tracks bring people together (Borough Market, Brixton) why can't we do this with the BQE?
- "More public space for people, not cars"
- We need spaces with carbon-zero transportation infrastructure:
  - safe spaces to store bikes
  - and eventually park and charge EVs (motorcycles and bicycles, not just cars)

#### Q&A

- Question regarding unhoused neighbors: "This is a place where folks who need a place to live and support go - could someone speak to how this plan would take into account unhoused neighbors?"
  - Kevin LaCherra: this is a space meant for everyone, better lit, cleaner, covered.
  - Elizabeth Adams (Stephen Levin's office): Levin is proposing separating NYPD from unhoused response policy.
- Question regarding unhoused neighbors and alternate uses for the space: "There is a gap between unhoused neighbors and those of us in the meeting. There are community members that use this in other ways, for example BBQs and other gatherings. There are different needs of people to take their use of the space into account."
- Question regarding next steps for the space:
  - Eric Bruzaitis (Co-Chair, Community Board 1 Transportation Committee): That is up to this group. This will be on the agenda for the next Transportation Committee meeting in the first week of December. From the Community Board's perspective, "we're not going to step back from opposing it unless we see a plan that makes sense for everyone in the community"
  - Kevin LaCherra: We're planning 3 more community sessions.
  - Jennifer Gutierrez (Representative, Council Member Anthony Reynoso): Visioning sessions are great, but we need to apply political pressure to DOT. "DOT needs to be here"
- Question regarding DOT's timeline: What is DOT's timeline for implementing pay parking? We shouldn't have to worry about a park generating revenue.
  - As of this meeting, DOT had put the timeline on hold.
  - Eric had to push them for even a powerpoint presentation DOT hadn't done much preparation. It feels rushed and they haven't done any studies.
- Question regarding the BQE south of Flushing Avenue: What is the scope, just the underpass of the BQE or all the way down to Flushing Ave? There is a greatly underserved black community under the Flushing Ave site.
  - Kevin: This campaign has focused through the four neighborhoods. Today we're
    focused on one area that DOT tries to implement parking spots, but this entire
    stretch needs to be better.
  - Leslie Velasquez (El Puente): We need to have a holistic approach for every area of the BQE.
  - Eric: Stay tuned, it's now in the agenda but it will come for the Flushing area.
- Comment from William Vega of CB1 Transportation Committee:

- DOT, under pressure from Mayor's Office, is enacting projects that are not well thought out; we need to keep checks on that
- Community Board is against parking meters that DOT hasn't even proven will generate revenue (no data provided)
- Comment from Konstancja Maleszyńska:
  - There's 700 miles of space under highways/infrastructure. This is a space that can and should center lived experiences in the community

#### NOTES FROM STREET SAFETY VISIONING SESSION

#### Community Feedback from Make Meeker Move Visioning Session on March 11, 2021

On the night of March 11, 2021, community members joined together for a virtual Make Meeker Move visioning session. The session focused on personal experiences and community members' ideas for the space beneath the stretch of the Brooklyn Queens Expressway (BQE) and Meeker Avenue from the intersection with Metropolitan Avenue to the Kosciuszko Bridge. To facilitate the discussion, this stretch of the BQE and Meeker Avenue was further divided into four parts, (1) Metropolitan Avenue to Union Avenue, (2) Union Avenue to Manhattan Avenue, (3) Manhattan to McGuinness Boulevard, and (4) McGuinness Boulevard to the end of Meeker Avenue and the Brooklyn side of the Kosciuszko Bridge.

The participants of the visioning session were separated into four smaller breakout sessions. The comments, suggestions and visions of participants were collected by facilitators, and have been consolidated below. The feedback outlined below has been organized into three general themes, pedestrian experience, bicycle experience, and public space as well as section specific comments for the four geographic parts of the area underneath the BQE and along Meeker Avenue as described in the paragraph above.

#### Pedestrian Experience

Participants found walking along Meeker and crossing the intersections to be unsafe and uncomfortable. One participant with young children recounted changing their route often to avoid the area and asked the question how the city could create a space so unwelcome to families. Some of the most common specific complaints included:

- Cars traveling at high speeds threatening the safety of pedestrians
- Exit lanes from the BQE onto Meeker Avenue creating intersections with cars traveling in unexpected directions and surprising timing patterns
- Infrastructure that prioritizes car's ability to travel fast over the safety of pedestrians

• Especially dirty and unsanitary conditions related to exhaust from the cars as well as concentrated droppings from birds under the BQE structure.

The community did notice substantial improvement of pedestrian experiences at the locations of recent New York City Department of Transportation interventions that shortened the distances pedestrians had to walk to cross the street, such as bulb outs. Several participants spoke of reinventing the area by reallocating road space and the area under the BQE into green space that would be safe and pleasant for pedestrians and their families.

### Bicycle Experience

The participants consistently spoke of their experience bicycling on Meeker Avenue and in the space under the BQE as unpleasant and dangerous. As two participants noted, biking in the area is a "disaster" and a "situation to avoid at all costs". More specifically, observations included:

- No bike lane along Meeker Avenue
- Area underneath the BQE is also dangerous due to road intersections in between the parking lots, low quality pavement surface and unpredictable interaction with the cars within the parking lots.

The overall narrative of the comments was that they avoid the area if possible and, if they have to cross underneath the BQE, the experience is unwelcoming, dangerous, scary. Looking in the future, the participants noted that because there is no current bicycle infrastructure, roadspace must be reallocated to improve the conditions for bicyclists.

#### Public Space

The public space discussion involved many participants envisioning the conversion of the parking lots under the BQE into green space and using the existing small parks as jump off points to create a large system of connected green space. There was an overwhelming consensus that the current use of the space reinforces the dangerous conditions for pedestrians and bicyclists. Participants noted that a potential conversion represents a unique opportunity to create new park land that does not require a large budget but political will.

#### **Section 1 - Metropolitan Avenue to Union Avenue:**

When participants were asked for their comments on the stretch of the BQE and Meeker Avenue between Metropolitan Avenue and Union Avenue, they brought up the following issues:

- Dangerous Biking conditions along Metropolitan Avenue created by disconnected existing bike lanes and the lack of clear and protected paths. Protected bike lanes are needed.
- Unsafe conditions crossing from the west side of the BQE to the east, with no crosswalks at North 7th and North 8th Street and drivers travelling at high speeds.
- Drivers turning right at high speeds at a narrow angle onto Meeker Ave heading towards
  Queens from Union Avenue create dangerous conditions for pedestrians heading north
  on Union Avenue crossing Meeker.
- Open and unsecured construction sites, loose trash on the sidewalk, insufficient lighting create unsafe and unpleasant experiences.
- Location near the subway, restaurants and nightlife would be a great fit for dynamic activity under the BQE, such as a flea market.

#### Section 2 - Union Avenue to Manhattan Avenue

When participants were asked for their comments on the stretch of the BQE and Meeker Avenue between Union Avenue and Manhattan Avenue, they brought up the following issues:

- Unsafe conditions for pedestrians and bicyclists due the extremely high driving speeds by cars on this stretch of Meeker Avenue. Protected bike lane is needed.
- Crossing times too short and pedestrians get stuck under the BQE.

#### Section 3 - Manhattan to McGuinness Boulevard

When participants were asked for their comments on the stretch of the BQE and Meeker Avenue between Manhattan Avenue and McGuinness Boulevard, they brought up the following issues:

- Road environment is that of a highway with very dangerous conditions for pedestrians and bicyclists. The city must work to reallocate space to pedestrians and bicyclists and slow the cars down.
- Intersection of Humboldt Street, McGuinness Boulevard, Meeker Avenue and BQE ramps are extremely dangerous for pedestrians and bicyclists due to the amount of cars turning in unexpected directions. Even when pedestrians have light, many cars turn at high speeds.
- Gas station north of Meeker Avenue at McGuinness Boulevard with large curb cuts allowing the cars to drive over the sidewalk consistently in the path of pedestrians.
- No pedestrian markings on the west side of Humboldt/McGuinness Boulevard crossing Meeker Avenue make it dangerous for pedestrians crossing.

• All Meeker Avenue crossings in this stretch either have no bike lanes and they become unsafe in practice. Bicyclists need physical separation and protected bike lanes.

#### **Section 4 - McGuinness to Morgan and beyond**

When participants were asked for their comments on the stretch of the BQE and Meeker Avenue between McGuinness Boulevard and Morgan and Beyond, they brought up the following issues:

- Pedestrian plaza needed at the intersection of Meeker, Driggs and Morgan to slow cars down coming off of Meeker and BQE. Open Street has improved the area but a permanent solution is needed.
- Apollo Street exit ramp needs to block drivers from going up Van Dam Street as they are traveling at dangerous speeds into the pedestrian crossing to the *Under the K* Bridge Park.

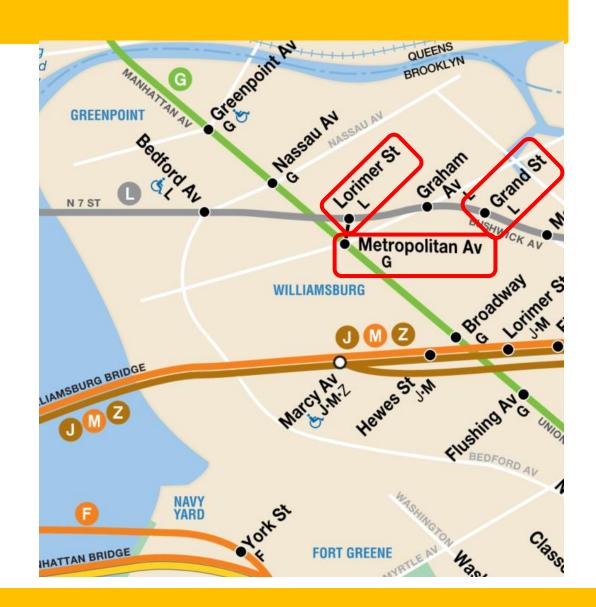




# Accessibility Upgrades at Lorimer Street Station, Metropolitan Avenue Station, and Grand Street Station

### Project Intent

- ADA Accessibility part of a larger project at 8 stations throughout NYC
- Long-term flood resiliency upgrades
  - Metropolitan & Lorimer only
- Structural rehabilitation
- Systems upgrades
- Design-build contract awarded December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020
- Completion: July 2023



### Customer Benefits – ADA Scope



- Improved station components ADA
  - New elevators
  - Raised ADA boarding areas
  - ADA compliant sidewalk curbs
  - AFAS gates
  - Token booth modifications
  - Braille signage

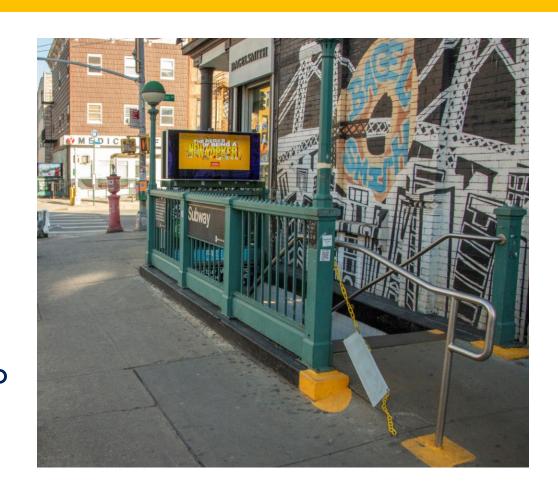
### Customer Benefits – General Scope

- Protection against future service impact due to flood resiliency
- Enhanced customer flow
  - New public staircases, Lorimer St only
- New artwork all 3 stations
- Structural improvements
- Fire alarm and new CCTV, electrical upgrades

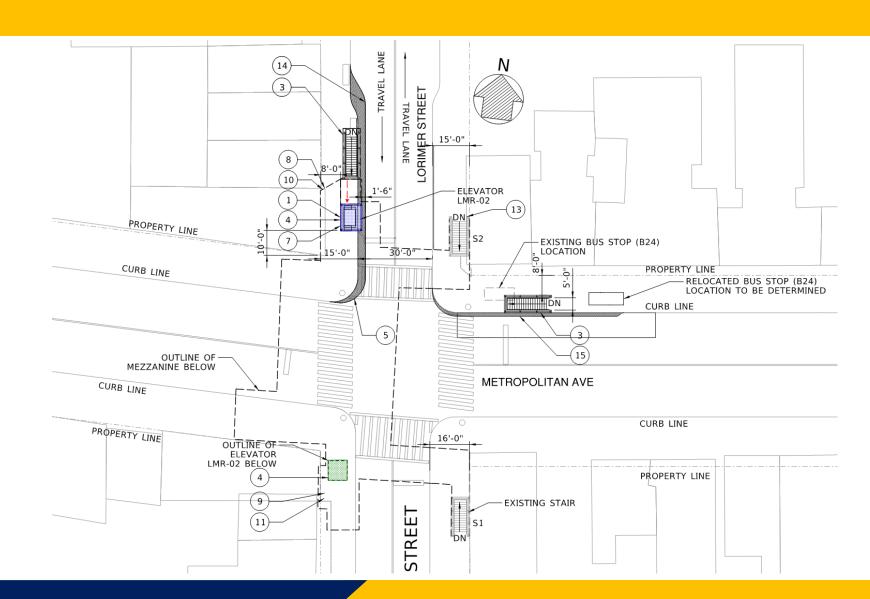


### Additional Scope Items - Station Specific

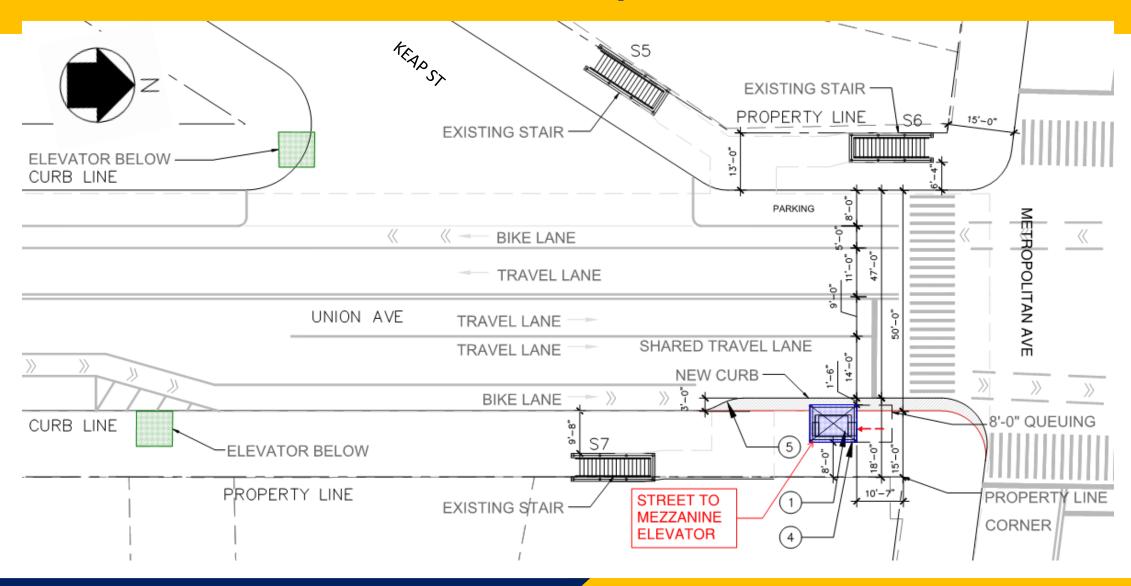
- Grand Street Station
  - Full platform edge update
  - Communication and public address system upgrades
  - Increase in electrical capacity
- Lorimer Street Station
  - Flood resiliency
  - Increase in electrical capacity
  - New public stairs (capacity maintained due to existing emergency stairs
- Metropolitan Avenue Station
  - Flood resiliency



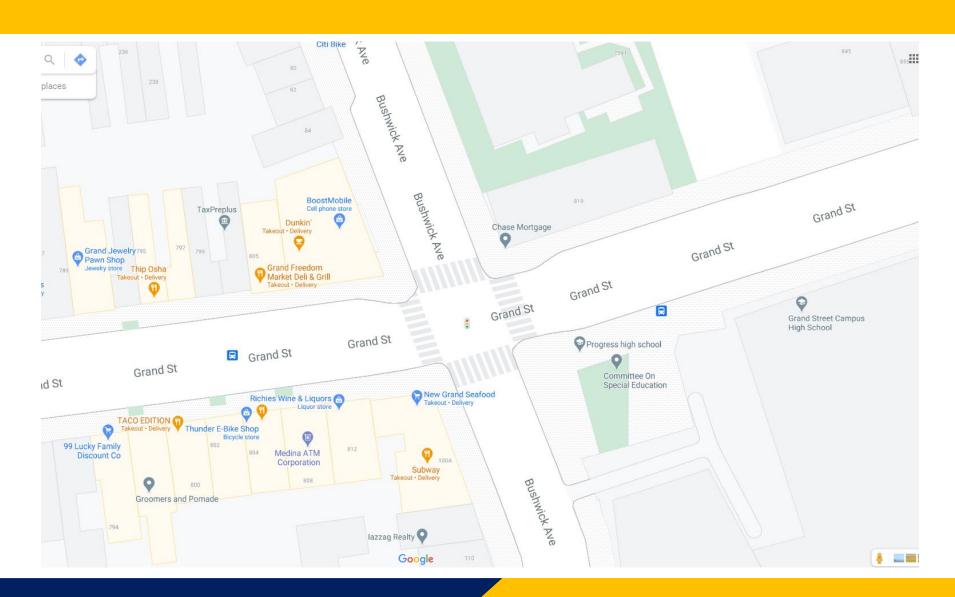
### Elevator Locations – Lorimer Street



### Elevator Locations – Metropolitan Avenue



### Elevator Locations TBD - Grand Street



### Overall Project Schedule

Station	Start Date	Completion Date
Metropolitan Avenue	Late April 2021	July 2023
Lorimer Street	Late April 2021	July 2023
Grand Street	July 2021	January 2023

### Lorimer Street Station Schedule

Location	Activity	Dates
Northbound Elevator Street → Mezzanine → Platform	Utility work	Late May 2021 - End June 2021
	Underpinning, excavation	July 2021 - January 2022
	Structural work	January 2022 - January 2023
	Elevator Installation	September 2022 - July 2023
Southbound Elevator Mezzanine → Platform	Utility Work	June 2021 - July 2021
	Underpinning, excavation	July 2021 - January 2022
	Structural work	February 2022 - January 2023
	Elevator Installation	July 2022 - May 2023
Lorimer St & Metropolitan Ave Intersection	Street/Sidewalk restoration	October 2022 – February 2023

### Metropolitan Avenue Station Schedule

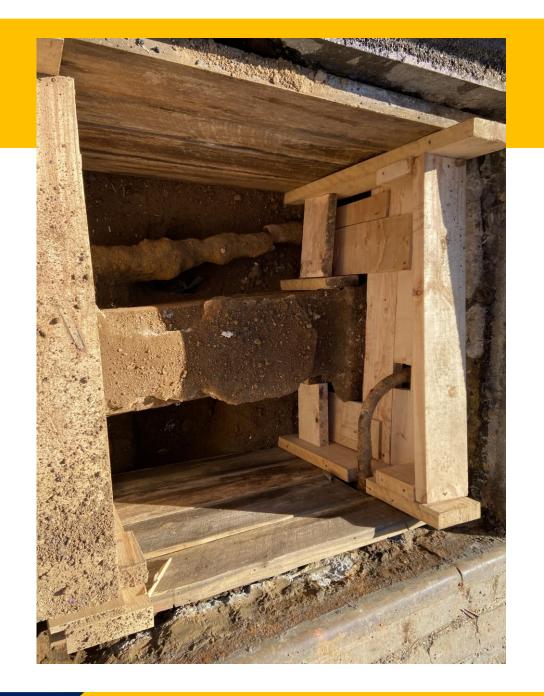
Location	Activity	Dates
Street → Mezzanine Elevator	Utility work	May 2021-July 2021
	Underpinning, excavation	October 2021-December 2021
	Structural work	December 2021-April 2023
	Elevator Installation	April 2022-July 2023
Northbound Elevator Mezzanine → Platform	Utility work	July 2021-August 2021
	Underpinning*, excavation	October 2021-March 2022
	Structural work	March 2022-August 2022
	Elevator Installation	August 2022-June 2023
Southbound Elevator Mezzanine → Platform	Utility Work	August 2021-September 2021
	Excavation	December 2021-November 2022
	Structural work	December 2022-August 2022
	Elevator Installation	May 2022-July 2023
Union Ave/Keap St/Metropolitan Ave	Street/Sidewalk restoration	September 2022-February 2023

### **Grand Street Station Schedule**

Location	Activity	Dates
Northbound Elevator Street → Mezzanine → Platform	Utility work	July 2021-August 2021
	Underpinning*, excavation	August 2021-January 2022
	Structural work	January 2022- June 2022
	Elevator Installation	July 2022-January 2023
Southbound Elevator Mezzanine → Platform	Utility Work	August 2021- September 2021
	Underpinning*, excavation	September 2021-December 2021
	Structural work	December 2021-February 2022
	Elevator Installation	January 2022-November 2022
Grand St & Bushwick Ave Intersection	Street/Sidewalk restoration	January 2022-April 2022

### Ongoing Work

- Test pits to determine utility locations and building foundations
- Street and station surveys
- Design work



### Public Communication

- Project email address: <u>8stations@ohlna.com</u>
  - Distribute Construction Bulletins Newsletters
  - Receive and respond to complaints and issues from the public
- Project Hotline: 929-313-3541
  - Receive and respond to <u>non-emergency</u> complaints and issues from the public
- MTA Community Relations Representative
  - Andrew Inglesby
    - Andrew.Inglesby@nyct.com

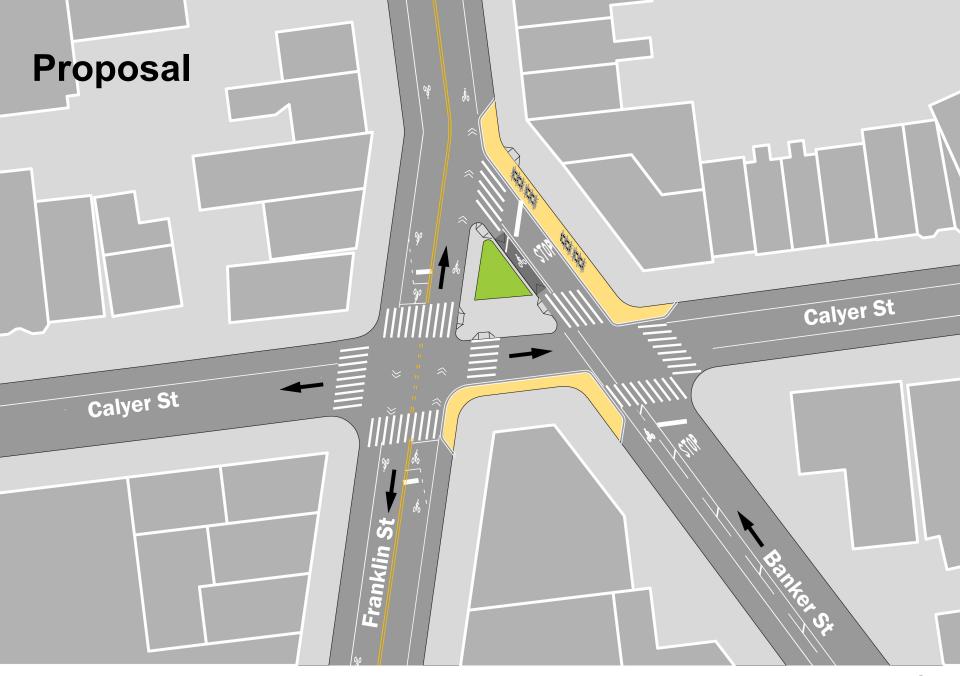
### Questions/Comments?



# Calyer Triangle Pedestrian Improvements

CB1 Transportation Committee 4/6/2021



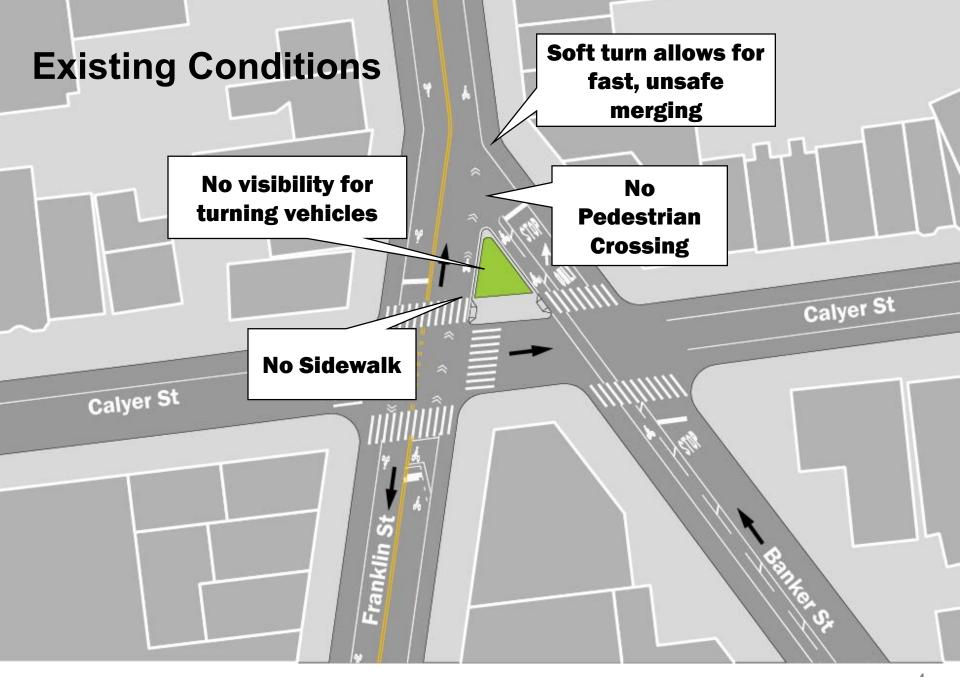


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### **Community Input**

- June, 2019: Dan Keezer proposal
- November, 2019: Dan Keezer proposal w/ CB1 TC+ DOT Public Space
- December, 2019: Site Visit w/ stakeholders + elected official representatives
- June, 2020: CB1
   Transportation Committee
- 2020-2021: ongoing stakeholder outreach + design development
- April, 2021: CB1
   Transportation Committee

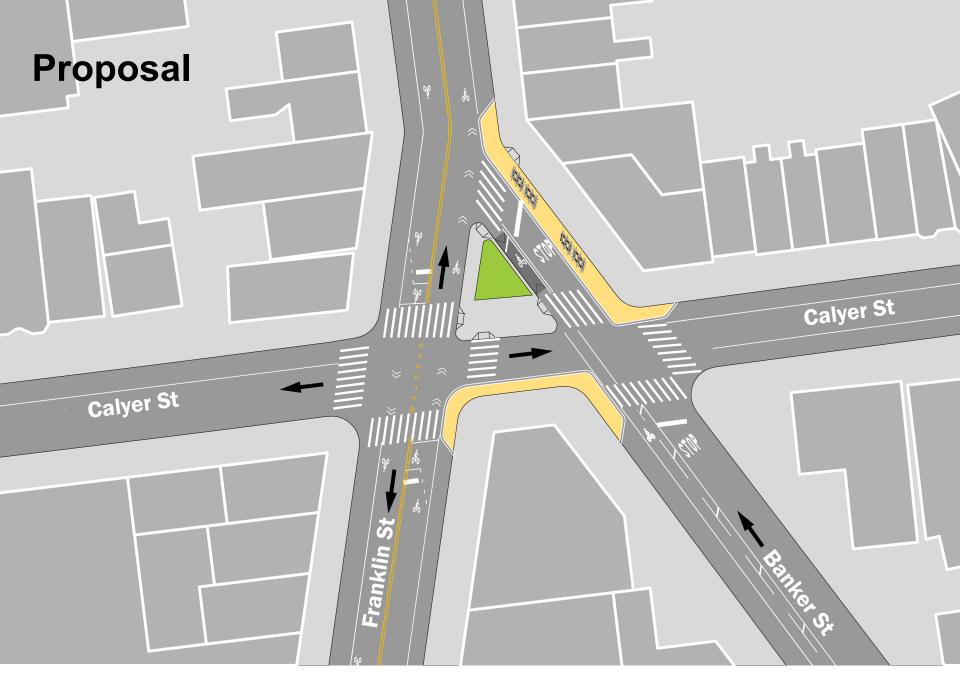




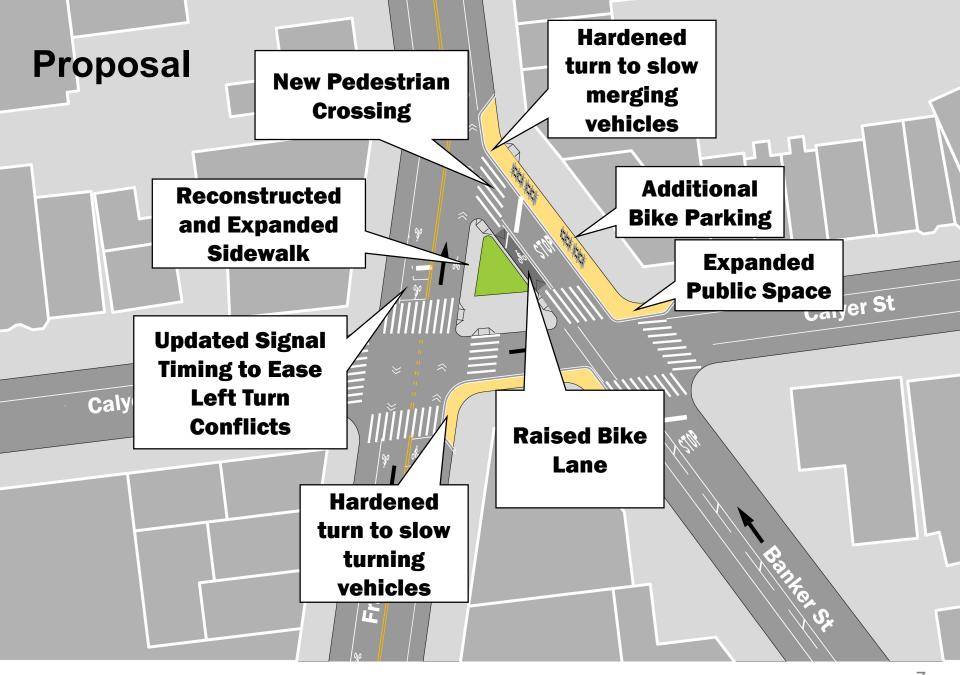
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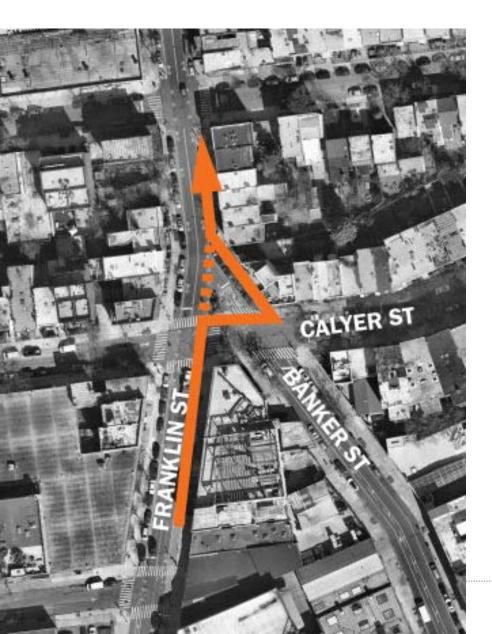


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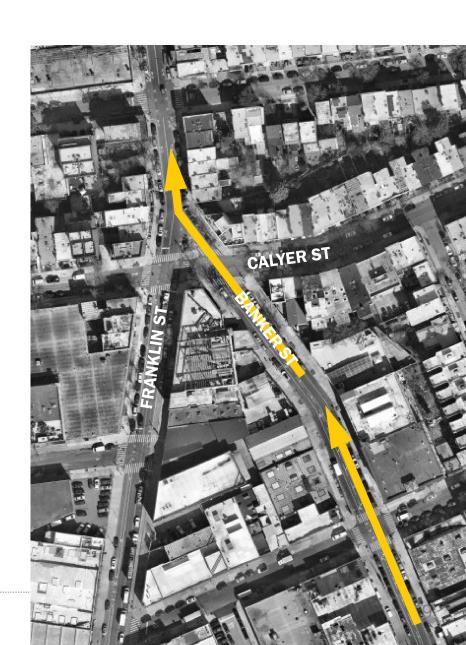
### **Pedestrian Circulation**

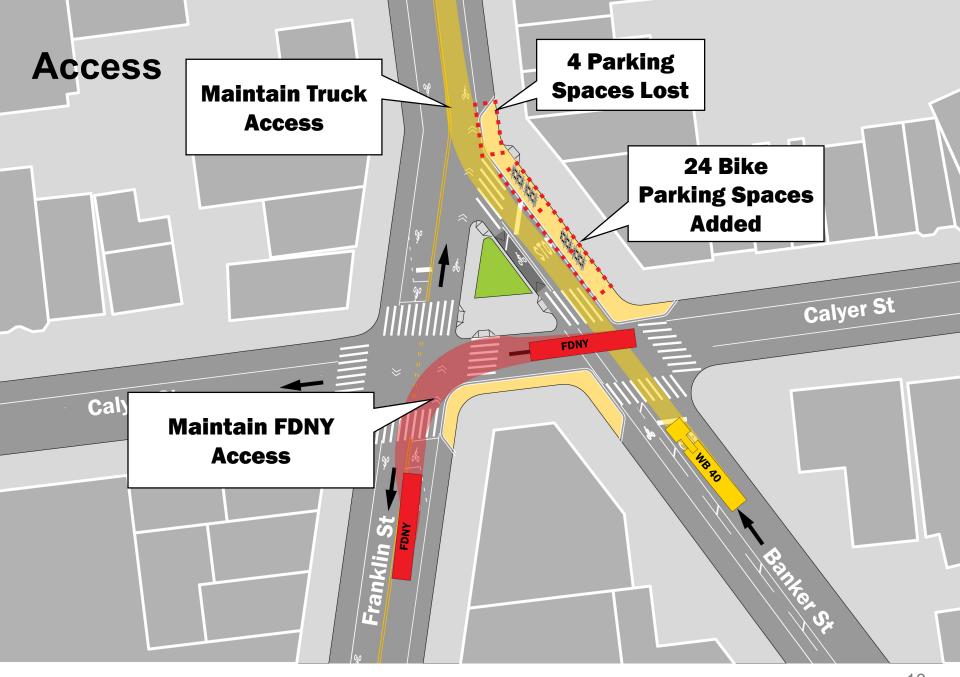




## Maintaining Vehicular Access







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#### **Next Steps**

June, 2019	Community Proposal
November, 2019	Community Proposal at CB1 w/ DOT Public Space
January-April, 2020	Design + Traffic Study
June 17, 2020	DOT Public Space Proposal at CB1 Transportation Committee
July, 2020-March 2021	Ongoing public outreach + design development
April 6, 2021	DOT Public Space Proposal at CB1 Transportation Committee
April 13, 2021	DOT Public Space Proposal at CB1 Full Board
Late Summer, 2021	Potential Implementation

#### **Thank You!**

Questions?











13



April 6, 2021

Mr. Patrick Foye Chairman and CEO of the New York Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) 2 Broadway New York, New York 10004

Dear Mr. Foye,

I am writing to bring your attention to an MTA plan to install a new handicap access for the Lorimer Street station on the L train. As you may know, the MTA is currently progressing to install handicap access at multiple locations along the L train. We all support this effort to provide access to those who are not able to use the stairs to make the system more accessible.

However, this location which is at the intersection of Lorimer Street and Metropolitan has a number of physical limitations. Most importantly Lorimer Street is extremely narrow, a two-way roadway with an even narrower sidewalk. Further that intersection on Lorimer Street is the location of several small businesses who have suffered badly as a result of the COVID-19 virus and these businesses would be destroyed by the current construction plan.

It's our understanding that the MTA plans to install an elevator at this extremely tight location. However, this part of the 4-corner intersection does not support a large above ground elevator. Indeed, we understand the MTA is also planning to reopen another stairwell which descends to a mezzanine below. This stairwell has been closed for years plus build yet another new stair at this same location. Any plan that would both build a new elevator as well as two stairwells needs to be more thoughtfully examined. I have attached two phots that help to illustrate the situation. Moreover, we ask that your transit planners reconsider this approach and find a plan that does not create a financial hardship on the adjoining business, impede access to homes and recognizes the narrowness of the sidewalk and the importance of pedestrian safety at this location.

We thank you so much for your understanding with regard to this matter. Please do not hesitate to call on us if you need further consultation. I can be reached at 718-388-54545 x 102.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

**Board of Directors** 

Joseph K. Robles, Chairman Laura James, Vice Chair John D'Arienzo, Treasurer Pastor Philip J. Waldvogel, Secretary

Nancy Zapata, President Emeritus

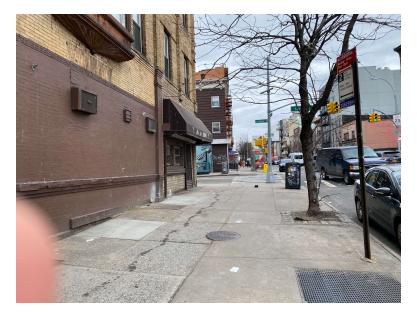
Michael Andrews
Debra Benders
Ed Brittenham
Philip Caponegro
David Fagan
Kim Gabriel
Lisa Gutting
Ray Kairys
Sal Meli
Felicia Pecoraro
Lisa Summa
Bertha Watson
Theresa Womble

Michael F. Rochford Executive Director

Michael Rochford Executive Director

Auchel Michel





#### MR:kt

#### CC:

State Senator Julia Salazar
Borough President Eric Adams
Assemblywoman Davila
Assemblywoman Gallagher
Councilman Reynoso
Councilman Levin
Dealice Fuller, Chairperson of Community Board #1
Gerry Esposito, District Manager
Eric Bruzaitis, Chair of Transportation Committee



#### COMMUNITY BOARD No. 1

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**April 13, 2021** 

greenpoint williamsburg

#### **COMMITTEE REPORT**

TO: Chairperson Dealice Fuller

and CB#1 Board Members

FROM: Sante Miceli, Committee Chairperson

Ad Hoc Committee on Outreach

RE: Ad Hoc Committee on Outreach Committee Report

for March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021 Meeting Via WEBEX

Ad Hoc Committee on Outreach Committee held a meeting on Monday, March 15, 2021 at 6:00 PM. The committee met virtually via WEBEX.

#### ATTENDANCE:

Members: Miceli, Chairperson; Brooks; Chesler; Drinkwater; Foster; Moskovits; Peterson; Sabel

Need for Quorum: 5

Present: Miceli, Brooks, Chesler, Foster, Moskovits, Peterson, Sabel

Absent: Drinkwater

Also, present:

Sophia Campione (The new School "Parson School of Design" - Senior Student)

Board member: Trina McKeever

Community attendees: Elissa Iberti, Anna Sadlek, Jane Clarke, Diana Kokoszka, Erica Matechak, Lawrence Drucker, Margaret, Meryl, Sandra, Christina Zill, Shayne Spencer, Francoise Olivas

Block Associations / Neighbors Associations Represented: Noble Street-Lorimer Street BA, Milton Street-Franklin BA, Kent Street BA, Oak Street NA, West Street BA

#### **Block Associations**

Chair Miceli: why block associations invited to the committee meeting. Stress the importance of associations. Represent the community. Had experience of Polish community members not reached out to robustly. Age and language representation are important through them. Committee should tap into these associations for communication. Have two minutes after four hour wait to speak at full board meetings. Ad Hoc Committee provides easier access to the board. He wants to open the conversation to represented associations.

Anna Sadlek, Milton Street BA: wants better communication regarding Open Streets/Open Culture as it affects its residents.

Lawrence Drucker, Board/Founder of Noble-Lorimer Block Association: concerned about Open Culture Streets and many other issues that are discovered by happenstance. Hears about issues randomly. No structure for communication for issues that affect quality of life on block.

Trina McKeever, Oak Street NA: Small window of receipt and review of board actions such as landmarks, SLA licenses, e.g. Block associations should be notified sooner.

Elissa Iberti, Oak Street NA, West St NA: This committee forum is appreciated. Open Culture Streets in concerning. Committee can help create better outcomes.

Diane Kokoszka, Oak Street NA: Excited to learn more.

Margaret McMann, Milston St BA: Committee is a lifesaver. Meeting in person is tricky. Questions are ongoing. Work schedules require notice. Need more leeway on information on issues. Knowledge is power to help react.

Christina Zill, Kent St. BA: 40-year resident. BA revived recently. Committee is helpful to small historic district and small community. What affects one block may affect others. Planning has high impact for historic district and widespread construction through Greenpoint. Gardening and tree pit care is important. Example of need.

Erica Matechek, 4th Generation GPers, call into CB meetings.

Meryl, south Greenpoint, Kingsland Ave, works with Open Streets in area.

Sandra, lifelong Nobel St 3rd generation Greenpointer, important meeting to listen in on.

Shayne Spencer, West St BA, 3-year resident: wants to get involved with activity outside block.

Chair Miceli: Open Culture Streets & many other things going on. CM Levin lacking in communication and outreach about these items. Lack of OCS notification was problematic. Infrastructure projects, e.g..Community must be part of the conversation.

Elissa Iberti, Noble Street was removed from Open Culture Street list. Meeting with CM Stephen Levin brought up concerns from on-the-ground interaction from local residents. Power of what can be brought to the table. City needs help with creating events from locals. West Street Open Streets starting up again. Opportunity for more people to get involved.

Chair Miceli: without outreach to residents, so much time is wasted battling poorly planned initiatives by the City.

Member Brooks: CB is not notified of many City initiatives.

Member Foster: We (CB) do not find out until the last minute. How are we (CB) going to do outreach? What's the plan? Was president of Cooper Park Houses Tenant Association. CB does not have firsthand knowledge of many things. How can CB back the community? How is the Outreach Committee going to function? Committee must formulate a communication process. Committee has much to do. It is a brand new committee.

Member Peterson: exciting to hear/see BA members. Reorganize things. Ensure notifications go out to FULL list. CDC's (community development corporations, St Nicks, Los Sures) get funds. Could be providing resources. Things could be reorganized and have a bigger impact. Workshops from CB. Reorganize in simple ways. When do BA's meet? Between tenant leaders & BA's big tent of dialogue can occur. Old and new residents need to get together. She has been an organizer for 50 years. CDC's do not come to CB meetings. How can we do things in better and more open way. BA's become monitoring voice would be significant. Don't need paid staff nor run for a campaign. Just sustaining the neighborhood. N Brooklyn Development Corp is N Greenpoint CDC. Head is Rich Mazur, Milton St resident.

Chair Miceli: Janice is like our historian who can provide valuable information.

Member Peterson: CB used to be called Community Planning Board. However faulty CB may be.

Chair Miceli: Many orgs in the neighborhood. Don't have money interests. CB members should represent their community. Currently many don't.

Sophia Campione: City application for participatory democracy. Local organizations data. Lack of knowledge of how people can get involved with board and community orgs. Tool to spread info about the BA's and other orgs.

Member Moskovits: On CB for 4 / 5 years. Chair of Econ Dev Committee. Aligned with Sante's initiative on outreach, especially during Covid. Join CB, at town hall heard about the Firehouse via Felice Kirby. Father had business in GP. Polish Jewish immigrant. Broke disconnect between the community. Stop the Plastic Park good example of mobilization. Webex bad platform. Open Streets brought to her attention by Sante. Complaints heard from Berry St businesses about Open Streets. Crucial we organize around this. Parties around folks' homes. We must organize. Committee critical. Engage with local BA's to create conduits of info when we can't meet in person. Happy to be a part of this committee. Residential developer, Wburg hotel creator. Mentorships available. Cookie lady at CB meetings.

Chair Miceli: Open Street/Culture lacked democratic process during Covid. Super Streets? Taken from other Cities in Span, Holland. Making cities less polluted. Need democratic process, however. Close streets. Need studies. Amsterdam has had open streets for years. Have coalitions for blocks.

Member Chesler: Likes idea of flow of info from board to community and back and forth. Plastic Park is an example for CB and the community working together via communication. Appreciate

board communication improvements, slow but significant. Open Streets was unplanned triage for pandemic relief.

Chair Miceli: Open Streets has set back quality improvement on blocks.

Member Chesler: Upgrade CB notification group lists. Improve emails. Blame rests on agencies sometimes. CB controls what communication they can.

Elissa Iberti: Agrees with Julie. Continue creating a new communication structure.

Chair Miceli: Necessity is the mother of all inventions.

Member Peterson: We don't have a newspaper. Have Greenline & Gazette. Need more articles about how to engage with CB.

ADM Marie Bueno Wallin: who's going to take on these new tasks? Outreach needs to figure out implementation of tasks. Who will implement new communication.

Member Peterson: She can get Greenline & Gazette to write about CB. Steve will handle Greenpointers.

ADM Marie Bueno Wallin: cannot release individual email list names. Confidential. Anyone can sign up on the mailing list. They go through lists. Keep fresh via chart (what is a group's catchment area?). Does BA have a charter? A coalition? Gets refresh from precincts

Member Chesler: Have participating groups send contact updates to Marie/CB.

ADM Marie Bueno Wallin: Have them use the web form.

Member Peterson: Public housing issues not being discussed. Uninviting to those constituents.

Francoise Olivas: 94th precinct should have up to date block association contacts. Bridge communication tech gap on Southside with Los Sures. From Sophia chat comment large scale developments like Two Trees could notify residents.

ADM Marie Bueno Wallin: Can committee prepare/update outreach document.

Member Chesler: Pare down the number of non-meeting emails sent to subscribers. Subscribers are not reading them - sending to trash.

Member Chesler: Next meeting committee could work on real implementable communication improvements.

Chair Miceli: Have a similar meeting for Southside groups like tonight.



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GINA BARROS THIRD VICE-CHAIRMAN

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SONIA IGLESIAS RECORDING SECRETARY

PHILIP A. CAPONEGRO MEMBER-AT-LARGE April 13, 2021

greenpoint —— —williamsburg

Chairman Vincent G. Bradley NYSLA 80 S. Swan Street Albany, New York 12210-8002

**RE: SLA APPLICATIONS** 

#### Dear Chairman Bradley:

Kindly be advised that at the regular meeting of Brooklyn Community Board No. 1 held virtually on April 13, 2021, the board members reviewed the recommendations made by the SLA Review & DCA Committee. The committee had met virtually on March 23, 2021, at 6:30 PM, via WEBEX. Below are the actions taken in regard to the various applications:

#### **LIQUOR LICENSES:**

#### **NEW**:

1) 1&3 on 5th Corp, dba Fabianes Café & Pastry, 142 North 5th Street, (Method of operation change, liquor, wine/beer, cider, rest)

Committee recommends Approval.

The members of Community Board No. 1 voted to support the recommendation to approve this application.

The vote was as follow: 36 "YES"; 0"NO"; 0"ABSTENTIONS"; 0"RECUSALS"

2) 63 Guernsey LLC, dba Spritzenhaus, 33 Nassau Avenue, (Corporate Change, liquor, wine/beer, cider, rest)

#### Postponed.

Applicant advised:

Since the change is to an individual owner committee requests additional information to be included in CB#1 questionnaire and:

- 1. Both owner and planned manager(s) meet with Committee to discuss past concerns with location and how new owner will ameliorate any issues.
- 2. Plan for hours, security and management of outdoor space.
- 3. Resume/Prior experience of owner and manager(s).
- 4. Security Plan.
- 5. Adherence to NYC Nightlife Guidelines.
- 6. Outreach to Guernsey Street residents

The members of Community Board No. 1 vote was as follow: 36"YES"; 0"NO"; 0"ABSTENTIONS"; 0"RECUSALS"

3) 809 Conselyea Realty LLC, dba DeStefanos Dee Brooklyn Steakhouse, 89 Conselyea Street, (Removal, liquor, wine/beer, cider, rest)

Committee recommends Approval.

The members of Community Board No. 1 voted to support the recommendation to approve this application.

The vote was as follow: 36 "YES"; 0 "NO"; 0 "ABSTENTIONS"; 0 "RECUSALS"

4) Ako Bedford Inc., dba Enso Sushi, 117 Berry Street, (New, liquor, wine/beer, cider, rest) Committee recommends **Approval**.

The members of Community Board No. 1 voted to support the recommendation to approve this application.

The vote was as follow: 36 "YES"; 0"NO"; 0"ABSTENTIONS"; 0"RECUSALS"

5) Avant Gardner LLC, dba Avant Gardner, The Great Hall, The Kings Hall, and the Brooklyn Mirage, 111 Gardner Avenue and 140 Stewart Avenue (Corporate Change, Multipurpose event & entertainment Center, liquor, wine/beer, cider, venue) Committee recommends **Approval.** 

The members of Community Board No. 1 voted to support the recommendation to approve this application.

The vote was as follow: 36 "YES"; 0"NO"; 0"ABSTENTIONS"; 0"RECUSALS"

6) Brooklyn Green Golf LLC, 195 Morgan Avenue, (New, liquor, wine/beer, cider, bar with golf venue)

No show, Committee recommends Denial.

The members of Community Board No. 1 voted to support the recommendation to denial this application.

The vote was as follow: 36 "YES"; 0"NO"; 0"ABSTENTIONS"; 0"RECUSALS"

7) CPF Entertainment LLC, dba Haven, 683 Grand Street, (New, liquor, wine/beer, cider, bar)

Committee recommends Provisional Approval.

Prior liquor license at location, LP & Harmony. Applicant to provide **before** next full Board meeting:

- 1. Additional signatures (Buildings next door, behind, and across the street)
- 2. Existing liquor license showing permitted hours of operation.
- 3. Photographs of backyard improvements.

The members of Community Board No. 1 voted to support the recommendation to provisional approval this application.

The vote was as follow: 36 "YES"; 0"NO"; 0"ABSTENTIONS"; 0"RECUSALS"

8) H154 LLC, 154 Scott Avenue (New, catering establishment, food menu, liquor, wine/beer & cider)

No show, Committee recommends Denial.

The members of Community Board No. 1 voted to support the recommendation to denial this application.

The vote was as follow: 36"YES"; 0"NO"; 0"ABSTENTIONS"; 0"RECUSALS"

9) OB Hospitality Inc., 84 Havemeyer Street, (New, liquor, wine/beer, cider, rest.) Committee recommends **Approval.** 

The members of Community Board No. 1 voted to support the recommendation to approve this application.

The vote was as follow: 35 "YES"; 0 "NO"; 0 "ABSTENTIONS"; 1 "RECUSALS"

10) Our Wicked Lady LLC, 153 Morgan Avenue, (Alteration, liquor, wine/beer, cider, bar/tavern)

Committee recommends Approval.

The members of Community Board No. 1 voted to support the recommendation to approve this application.

The vote was as follow: 36 "YES"; 0"NO"; 0"ABSTENTIONS"; 0"RECUSALS"

11) Savoi Latin Bistro Inc., dba Savoi Latin Bistro, 318 Grand Street, (Renotification - New, 3 liquor, wine/beer, cider, rest)

Committee recommends Approval.

The members of Community Board No. 1 voted to support the recommendation to approve this application.

The vote was as follow: 36"YES"; 0"NO"; 0"ABSTENTIONS"; 0"RECUSALS"

12) The Brooklyn Brewery Corporation, dba Brooklyn Brewery, 79 North 11 Street, (New, liquor, wine/beer, cider, bar/tavern)

Committee recommends Approval.

The members of Community Board No. 1 voted to support the recommendation to approve this application.

The vote was as follow: "YES": "NO": "ABSTENTIONS"; "RECUSALS"

13) The Cactus Shop NYC LLC, dba Chikila Bar, 231 Kent Avenue, (New, liquor, wine/beer, cider, bar/tavern)

Committee recommends Approval.

The members of Community Board No. 1 voted to support the recommendation to approve this application.

The vote was as follow: 36 "YES"; 0"NO"; 0"ABSTENTIONS"; 0"RECUSALS"

14) Tony's Pizzeria of Nassau Avenue Corp, dba Tony's Pizzeria, 175 Nassau Avenue (New, wine, beer, & cider, rest)

Committee recommends Approval.

The members of Community Board No. 1 voted to support the recommendation to approve this application.

The vote was as follow: 36 "YES"; 0"NO"; 0"ABSTENTIONS"; 0"RECUSALS"

#### **RENEWAL:**

The Committee reviewed the 8 Renewal applications and both the 90 and 94 Precincts had been provided the list to review and reported no issues or concerns. Committee recommends **Approval** of all Renewal applications.

- 1) Abba Bar and Grill Corp, 492 Grand Street, (Renewal, liquor, wine/beer, cider, rest)
- 2) Brooklyn Lantern Inc. & Box House Events Inc., dba The Box House/Brooklyn Lantern, 77 Box Street, (Renewal, amended to include third party promoter, liquor, wine/beer, cider, hotel with rest)
- 3) Bushwick CC LLC, dba Bushwick Country Club, 618 Grand Street, (Renewal, liquor, wine/beer, cider, bar)
- 4) Dom Incorporated, dba Polish National Home Warsaw, 261 Driggs Avenue, (Renewal, liquor, wine/beer, cider, dance hall)
- 5) Floc Ltd, dba Bahia Restaurant & Café, 690 Grand Street, (Renewal, wine/beer, cider, rest)
- 6) OHNO, INC., dba Samurai Mama, 205 Grand Street, (Renewal, liquor, wine/beer, cider, rest)
- 7) Pizzati Ltd., dba Surf Bar, 139 North 6th Street, (Renewal, liquor, wine/beer, cider, rest)
- 8) Rex Juno Inc., dba Acqua Santa, 556 Driggs Avenue, (Renewal, liquor, wine/beer, cider)

The members of Community Board No. 1 voted to support the recommendation to approve this application.

The vote was as follow: 36 "YES"; 0"NO"; 0"ABSTENTIONS"; 0"RECUSALS"

#### **PREVIOUSLY POSTPONED:**

1) Elite BK Inc., dba Elite, 128 Metropolitan Avenue, (Change of Operations, liquor, wine/beer, cider, rest)

At prior Committee meeting applicant was advised to do additional outreach to neighbors regarding their operating hours and obtain additional signatures. Additional outreach was undertaken, and neighboring Community Board members spoke of the good operation and good neighbor relations of the applicant. It is also understood that all outdoor space may only be open until 11:00pm Sunday to Thursday, and 1:00pm, Friday & Saturday.

Committee recommends Approval.

The members of Community Board No. 1 voted to support the recommendation to approve this application.

The vote was as follow: 22 "YES"; 1"NO";10"ABSTENTIONS"; 0"RECUSALS"

2) 113 Franklin Dining LLC, TBD, 113 Franklin Street, (New, liquor, wine/beer, cider, rest)
At prior Committee meeting applicant was advised to do proper posting of notice
of their application for a liquor license at the location, obtain additional signatures
from residents of neighboring buildings including across the street and to meet
with the Milton Street Association.

Applicant reported that:

- 1. Did outreach and met with Neighborhood Association.
- 2. Will not be taking advantage of Open Streets
- 3. Will not have roadway seating.

Mr. Miceli addressed the Committee regarding Milton Street Association meeting with the applicant and that they had a 'contract' that was with their lawyer. At first the Committee did not have an actual completed application from the applicant and when finally provided the Milton Street Association recommended revisions to the CB1 questionnaire in addition to the contract they were negotiating with the applicant. The CB1 questionnaire was developed in its present form after Committee rewriting and approval of the full Community Board. The applicant is agreeing to the stipulations as contained in the CB1 application and will be entering into a 'contract' with Milton Street Association.

Committee recommends Approval with abstention by the chair.

The members of Community Board No. 1 voted to support the recommendation to approve this application with abstention by the chair.

The vote was as follow: 22 "YES"; 1"NO"; 10"ABSTENTIONS"; 0"RECUSALS"

3) 620 LOR LLC, dba TBD, 620 Lorimer street, (New, liquor, wine/beer, cider pizzeria) Applicant is scheduled to appear on the next SLA Review & DCA Committee Meeting on April 27, 2021.

The Committee Recommends to postponed till next SLA Review & DCA Committee Meeting on April 27, 2021.

The members of Community Board No. 1 voted to postpone this application.

The vote was as follow: 22 "YES"; 1 "NO"; 10 "ABSTENTIONS"; 0 "RECUSALS"

#### The next meeting of the SLA Review & DCA Committee is scheduled as follows:

WHEN:

Tuesday, April 27, 2021

TIME:

6:30 PM

WHERE:

Via WEBEX

Attendee Meeting Link:

https://nyccb.webex.com/nyccb/j.php?MTID=m3a6c63864fcd731a56a9b87634e6b942

Attendee Password: Meeting Number:

CJxNAbXa257 129 632 6393

Working for a Better Williamsburg/Greenpoint.

Sincerely,

Dealice Fuller Chairperson

DF/

Attachment: 1



#### COMMUNITY BOARD No. 1

435 GRAHAM AVENUE - BROOKLYN, NY 11211-8813

PHONE: (718) 389-0009 FAX: (718) 389-0098

Email: bk01@cb.nyc.gov

Website: www.nyc.gov/brooklyncb1

HON. ERIC L. ADAMS BROOKLYN BOROUGH PRESIDENT greenpoint — williamsburg

SIMON WEISER FIRST VICE-CHAIRMAN

DEL TEAGUE SECOND VICE-CHAIRPERSON

GINA BARROS THIRD VICE-CHAIRMAN

MARIA VIERA FINANCIAL SECRETARY

SONIA IGLESIAS
RECORDING SECRETARY

PHILIP A. CAPONEGRO MEMBER-AT-LARGE DEALICE FULLER CHAIRPERSON

GERALD A. ESPOSITO DISTRICT MANAGER HON. STEPHEN T. LEVIN COUNCILMEMBER, 33rd CD

HON. ANTONIO REYNOSO COUNCILMEMBER, 34th CD

April 15, 2021

Chairman Vincent G. Bradley NYSLA 80 S. Swan Street Albany, New York 12210-8002

> RE: BABA Cool LLC, dba Baba Cool 47 Withers Street

#### Dear Chairman Bradley:

Kindly be advised that at the regular meeting of Brooklyn Community Board No. 1 held virtually on April 13, 2021, the board members reviewed the recommendations made by the SLA Review & DCA Committee. The committee had met virtually on March 23, 2021, at 6:30 PM, via WEBEX.

We are writing to you about a new liquor license application that was considered on a prior date by Brooklyn Community Board #1. At the meeting on January 26, 2021, the CB#1 SLA Review Committee reviewed the application of Baba Cool LLC, dba Baba Cool, 47 Withers Street, (New, liquor, wine/beer, cider, rest). The applicant presented to the Committee virtually through WebEx.

The location is a small, primarily residential building with a small commercial space on the ground floor. The applicant wants to use the backyard in conjunction with the indoor space. The property directly behind this location has an occupied rear house that is very close to the rear property line. There are small residential buildings on either side of the applicant.

After consideration of the application, testimony of the applicant and neighbors, the SLA Committee recommended to the Full Community Board #1 Approval with stipulations. In addition to the standard stipulations included in the CB#1 application the applicant was advised to:

- 1. Prepare an architectural plan for the rear outdoor space.
- 2. Provide an 8'wall/fence around the rear outdoor space.
- 3. Provide sound proofing/sound reduction for the rear outdoor space.
- 4. Reduce operating hours for the rear outdoor space.
  - a. 10:00pm, Sunday Thursday
  - b. 11:00pm, Friday & Saturday

The neighbor in the residence directly to the rear of the applicant presented to the SLA Committee his and other neighbors' concerns regarding the noise of conversations, the clattering of dishes and flatware and other noise that would impact upon their quality of life. Plantings, soft surfaces, umbrellas, and canvas flies were discussed with the applicant as methods to reduce noise. The applicant was advised by the Committee to work with her neighbors to mitigate any issues that might be caused by the outdoor space.

The Full Board did vote to follow the recommendation of the SLA Committee. However, since the full board meeting of February 9, 2021, it has been brought to the Committee and the Board's attention through letters and emails from both the rear neighbor and other residents in proximity to the applicant that the applicant has NOT worked with the neighbors to ameliorate the impact of an eating and drinking establishment in the backyard in a residential area. The entire rear yard has been covered in concrete. There has been no discussion of plantings, shrubbery or softening of the hardscape. We have learned that the applicant has plans to install a petanque court in the outdoor space which will further impact on noise through cheering of players and observers and the clacking of balls. This yard space had been described to be planned as a quiet, relaxing space.

In reviewing the application for Baba Cool Inc., it is respectfully requested that the SLA Commission seriously consider the representations made by the applicant to the Community Board of making this a quiet, relaxing space and developing a plan with neighbors and her present plans and perhaps limit the alcohol consumption to the interior of the space and/or strictly limit the hours in the rear yard.

In light of the increasing conversion of residential units in small buildings in commercial space with backyards and the requests for alcohol licenses for these small spaces and their yards, Community Board #1 asks that in the review of future license applications of this type, the SLA Commission seriously consider the impact of alcohol consumption in backyards in residential areas and consider a policy of either denying or strictly reducing the hours of alcohol consumption in these backyard spaces.

Please be advised that the members of Brooklyn Community No. 1 Voted to support the SLA Review & DCA Committee recommendation.

The vote was as follows: 30 "YES"; 1 "NO"; 0 "ABSTENTIONS".

Working for a Better Williamsburg/Greenpoint.

Sincerely,

Dealice Fuller Chairperson

DF/

Attachment: 1



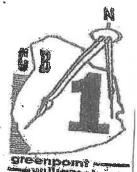
## COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 1

435 GRAHAM AVENUE – BROOKLYN, NY 11211

PHONE: (718) 389-0009 FAX: (718) 389-0098

Email: bk01@cb.nyc.gov

Website: www.nyc.gov/brooklyncb1



greenpomi — williamsburg

Applicant: Baba Cool Toc	36
Location: 47 Withers St.	U OFFICIAL USE ONLY
Date Submitted: / /	Date Received:
A Principal of the Paris of the	

#### Who should fill out this form?

(Check which one you are applying for)

- Any owner, or prospective owner of an establishment seeking. A new liquor license
  - An alteration or an existing liquor license
  - A transfer of an existing liquor license
  - A new sidewalk café consent for an: Denclosed I unenclosed sidewalk café \*
  - An alteration of an existing sidewalk café license
  - Cabaret License/Amusement Arcade \*

If this questionnaire is for a LIQUOR LICENSE it should be filled out completely and returned to the Community Board Office not less than 30 days before your application is submitted to the State Liquor Authority. Deadline date for the Public Safety Committee's review meeting will be provided. Without these attachments, and 10 copies of this questionnaire completely filled out and presented to CB #1's Public Safety Committee for the Board's monthly meeting, your application will not be considered by the Committee and that CB #1 will write to the SLA notifying the agency of your failure to

If this questionnaire is for a \* SIDEWALK CAFÉ, \* CABARET LICENSE, or an \*AMUSEMENT ARCADE application if should be filled out completely and returned as soon as possible to the Board's office with 50 copies to be distributed

### When you return this form you should include the following attachments:

- Photographs of the inside and outside of your establishment. Photos of the exterior should include context photos showing the buildings on each side of the premises. Applications for rear yards should include context photos of all surrounding buildings.
- Schematics/floor plans of the inside of your establishment and sidewalk café schematics (if applicable); If a restaurant, please include proposed menu.
- Petition signatures from residents of the premises and all surrounding buildings (must include date signature person signed).
- Posting of notice to file must be done at least 10 days before meeting. Posting should be prominently displayed on the premises, where it will be visible to passersby at all times. It must include all permits being sought and be accompanied by a layout/plan/sketch of proposed use(s). Posting must remain displayed until
- Copy of the Certificate of Occupancy for the space (C of O), including rear yard/outside space if applied for. Maps/Street Schematic - Include an accurate map of what is in the area: Neighborhood map (i.e. Googlemap, OASIS NYC) with 5 block radius, showing schools and churches and other licensed establishments (RE: 200 ft. and 500 ft. rules)

Page 1

## Brooklyn Community Board #1

## Liquor License Application Questionnaire

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- Martin Marie Control of the Party Street, or other Party Street, o	Baba	Cool Inc	Baba Cool				
		thers St.	CROSS ST	Mion Que + Corimers			
OWNER	Direnier	abriella Mann 14 484-0914	LAWYER	MIChael Kelly  PHONE: 914 632-6036  FAX: 914 632-6034			
WANAGER	£:	414 484-0914	Landlörd	NAME: WITHERS RESIDENCE LLC PHONE: 347 809-0836. FAX:			
	Gabi	when the establishment is operating rella Maun ment:OWNET	):				
ontact Nu		114 484-0914					
ontact Nu Dittional VNER(S)	mber: 4	NAME:					

Please describe the	nature of your	In the latest and the
		Destaviant
LICENSE TYPE		nt Wine & Beer On-Premises Liquor Eating Place Beer O Hotel Beer O Club B iquor OClub Wine & Beer O Tavern Wine OCatering Establishment
	New	Has applicant owned or managed a similar business?  What was the name of former premises?  Existing name?  What was the address of the business.
		What was the address of the former premises?  What were the dates the applicant was involved with this former  What is the prior license #?
APPLICATION TYPE		
	( ) Transfer	What is the expiration date on the prior license?  Are you making any alterations or operational changes?  YES  NO
		If elterations or operational changes are being made, please ettach the plans to this form.  What is the current license #?
	O Afteration	What is the expiration date on the current license?
		Please describe the nature of the alterations and attach the plans
PD & COMMUNITY DARD RECORDS PROVED DOB PLICATION	C) Letters	Please provide letters from the NYPD and the respective Community Board about prior history of the proposed focation and any other establishments that the applicant has operated.  Please provide copy of the Department of Buildings approved application.
he 500 Foot Rule Trigg provided map) Show a ablishments on your ma	III YES	NO DATE OF SLA MEETING:
ne 200 Foot Rule Trigge your map)	YIES	(NO) ATTACH YOUR MAP
your plans filed with Double copy of plan)	YES	NO ATTACH COPY OF PLAN
Public Assembly permitired?	t YES	NO ATTACH PERMIT INFORMATION

HOURS	and the implemental property of the last o	MONDAY	TUESDAY WEDNESDAY								
	Operation	DAIA			WEDNESDA	MODA		FRIDAY		SATURDAY	SUND
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REMINDER: Hours for sidewalk cafes	Music	8-2	8-24		8-2	A CA.	A	0	1 A 2	5-Z	£
are per the NYC DCA guidelines unless	Kitchen	8-14	8-	T A	A 1	CA	A	A	A -	f-2	8-
stipulated differently.	Outdoor Space	8-10	8-	P 10.	6- 10	A	P	8- A	P	( P	8+1
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<b>D</b> 000	Capacity	Maximu	T		8.	AR		OU	TSIDE		
OCCUPANCY	(Certificate o Occupancy)	Persons	cipute pying	Number of Seats	Number of Tables	Number of Service Only Bars	Star	iber of nd-Up ars	Number of Seats	Number of Seats	Numbe
1	74	C	10	24	0	-		uns	at Bars	W Seats	of Table
Will you be applyi	ng or do you in	tend to apply for		-	1 7	0	1		9	31	10
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agraige brottle	mers be used?			'S? 		YES		N	07		
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/ill you be using d	lelivery bicycles	s iecolul	rendatio	ons be foll	lowed?	YES		NO	=		
/ill applicant have	music?					YES	1	NO	-		
you plan to have		And and the same				YES	)	NO			
tach your security	Dian Wa	e(s)(				BACKGROUN	ID )	LIVE M			

The French doors, garage doors				/ · ·
The French doors, garage doors, retractable roofs and sliding windows will be closed when any amplified music is played (per law) and in the event of on all other days.	YES	NO	) N/A	
Will the kitchen exhaust system be designed to be compliant with NYC building codes and be constructed to not disturb neighboring tenants?				
additionation)	YES	NO	N/A	
Will you follow the reach the residence to the neighboring residents and buildings, including placing speakers on the floor of the establishment?	YES	NO	N/A )	
Storm enclosure and DOB rules concerning and				
project more than 18 inches from the store front)	YES	NO	N/A	
1 the avertal	_			
pplicable), I agree to reappear before CB#1 to describe these alterations.	YES	NO	N/A	

#### **OUTDOOR ITEMS**

STIPULATIONS FOR OUTDOOR USAGE - For any applications that have plans to use outdoor space for food or beverage service or for patrons to congregate must meet the following:

- A.) Close 11PM Sun. Thurs.; 1AM Fri. & Sat.
- B.) No speakers or live music in backyard. No background music.
- C.) Only ambient lighting is to be used
- D.) Self closing mechanism is to be used on every door leading to the backyard.
- E.) Umbrellas and/or soundproofing to be installed.
- F.) 8 Ft. fence to be installed at the perimeter of backyard.
- G.) Must observe NYC Fire Dept. Codes (no open flame, no fire pits, no BBQ); No Smoking regulations; Department of Health Codes and Building Department Codes (C of O) and Public Assembly Codes; and the NYC Department of Consumer Affairs regulations H.) Quidoor spaces must have seated food service.
- 1.) Petitions must include all information about intended use and state what permits are being
- J.) Signatures on the petition(s) must include immediate neighbors. The owner/operator of the proposed establishment must secure the signatures of those abutting them.
- K.) Sidewalk caré furniture must be put away (stored inside) at night.
- L.) Sliding doors, windows, French doors, garage doors/windows that open/slide, rollups and retractable roofs: If installed, have hours to close: Sun. - Thurs. at 10pm & Fri. - Sat. at
- M.) Observe NYC Department of Health & Mental Hygiene regulations on smoking, including

Will you use the rooftop, rear yard or any outdoor space?  Do you agree to no smoking in outdoor space?	YES	) NO	N/A	Rearyard
The rear years work	YES	NO	N/A	1-00 900
vacated by 1 AM on Friday & Saturday and 11 PM on all other days.	YES	NO	N/A	
The service and consumption of alcohol in the rear yard, on the receiver. Must be a full menu service.	FES	NO	-	
The rear yard roof-		160	N/A	
The applicant will de	YES	NO	N/A	STIPULATIONS; No more than 25% of designated space.
The applicant will do everything in their power to provide an effective sound baffling or sound controlled environment through landscaping or some type of enclosure, where possible; provided they do not violate any fire or building code regulations? This includes working with soundproofing tenants apartments (such as installing soundproofing windows, acoustical tiles, etc.).	(ES)	.NO	NJA	ATTACH INFORMATION ON WHAT WILL IMPLEMENTED
The applicant will enforce a quiet environment in the outdoor space, so us not to disturb nearby residents (e.g. finere will be no amplified nusic, as per the law, and windows and doors to areas that play obscible to limit the noise emanating from patrons by posting signs and peace. The staff will also encourage a peaceful environment	YES	NO	NZA	STIPULATIONS
Ill applicant have a lighting plan that will allow safe usage of the				

Primary Zoning District:		MI	-2/R60	3 m.k	P	-		
Anti harassment Zone:		14			Overlay	(If Applic	cable):	NIA
Does the building have a (Please attach copy)	Certifi	cate of C	ecupancy ("C of (	)")?	6			
Is the proposed occupand	Dy pern	litted wit	hin the current C o	f 0?	YES	NO	ATTAC	H COPY WITH APPLICATION
If not determined, please	attach	objection	sheet from NYC	ров.	YES	) NO	ATTACH	COPY WITH APPLICATION
Building Type	Building Type				ked Use (	Other,	describe	2
Adjacent Buildings	O Re	sidential	Commercial	<b>W</b> ylix	ed Use	) Other,	describe:	
OTIFICATION:	mind a william for grown p	#1		*	***************************************			:
hat organizations / community oups, if any, have you notified garding your application?		#2						*
	#3							
		E .	Asset Control of the					

Brooklyn Community Board No. 1 reserves its right to deny any application that negatively impacts the neighborhood and quality of life.

		nates 4. % alankaparan	_ Page 6
STIPULATION AGREEME	ENT (Print name and address here):	and the	
W 446	, and	a 'any access into the outdoors' you must me	et the
TIPUI ATIONS FOR OUTPOR	new tractions that have	a 'any access into the outdoors you the	
olloving:	K USAGE - For any apparation		
	and the Contract of Contract o		
E.) No eneakers or	line music in Dackyard. The bound	JENG.	
C.) Only ambient lig	thing is to be used. chanism is to be used on every door leading thanism is to be used on every door leading.	to the backyard.	
D.) Self closing med	chanism is to be do be installed		
			a localor
C) Must observe N	YC Fire Dopt. Codes (no open flame, no in	re pits, no BBO); No Smoking apariment Codes (C of O) and Public Assem s regarding sidewalk cafes.	bly Codes.
nemulations, and	parallel of the same of the resultation	s regarding accurate	
and the NICO	have ceated food service.	the comits are being applied for.	
H.) Outdoor spaces	dude all information about intended use a e petition(s) must include immediate neigh ablishment must secure the signatures of	and state what participant of	
I Senatures of the	the exemplared Pi	HEATER STATISTICS ALCOHOL	
the proposed co	as a second ingida 2	t night	nofst if
K.) Sidewalk cate lui	Track doors garage doors/wind	was that open/slide, rollups and to be to be	ut all night.
L) Sliding coors, we	ous to close them Sun Thurs, at 10pm	& Fri Sal. at Tipital Technology designated s	moking areas
th Among hive De	martment of Health & Mental Hygiene reg	& Fri Sat. at 11pm. Tables are not to be a ulations on smoking, including designated s	_
in outdoor space	S		
rsuant to these stipulations, t	WITH THE COMMUNITY his applicant agrees to have these p	rovisions incorporated in the method of	operation of
eir liquor license. Additionally pporting this application. The tusion with the application.	the applicant agrees to the commu- se stipulations are to be signed and	rovisions incorporate in the passis for the co- notarized and submitted to the Board's	Office for
SIGN HERE	Yalmulla -	Gabriella Mann	1/25/2
SIGN HERE	SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT OR ATTORNEY	Print Name	DATE
TARY orn to programe on this	of language 2021	NICOLE E, REID Notary Public, State of New York Reg. No. 01RE636540 Qualified in Kings County Commission Expires Oct 30, 2021	
OOKLYN CB#1 REPRE	SENTATIVES		

## APÉRO

Sweet Potato Tortilla

sweet potato, onions, egg, black pepper | \$7

Spanish Anchovies

toasted stirato, fresh herb butter | \$12

Aged Manchego

green apple, fig jam, toasted strato | \$10

## SALADS & BOWLS

Check our add- ons to make these even better!

Baby Kale Salad

green apple, manchego, roasted almonds, white balsamic vinaigrette | \$12

Pretty Raw Salad

arugula, brussels sprouts, celery, cucumber, rainbow carrots, watermelon radish, chamomile buds, sunflower seeds, lemon vinaigrette | \$12

Baba Bowl

roasted butternut squash, sautéed kale, pickled beets, rosemary mushrooms, wild rice, sunflower seeds, green goddess dressing | \$13.5

Choux Bowl

coasted brussels sprouts, French lentils, armeric, cauliflower, purple cabbage, red quinoa, coconut curry dressing | \$13.5

b Bowl

charred sweet plantains, black beans, sautéed tale, coconut curry slaw, red quinoa, sesame jerk tressing | \$13.5

Asada Bowl

low-cooked brisket, white cheddar scrambled iggs, avocado, wild arugula | \$16.5

# baba cool

## TOASTS

Avocado

lemon, cumin, sea salt, chili flakes, toasted bianca | \$9.75

blueberries, coconut flakes, bananas, almonds,

Warm Chia Pudding

SWEET BOWLS

pineapple, blueberries, strawberry cardamom

am, gluten free granola | \$9.75

Strawberry Chia Pudding

pepita, cinnamon | \$9.75

Egg & Toast (sub toast for salad) cheddar scrambled eggs, toasted bianca, chili flakes, E.V.O.O. | \$7

SANDWICHES

avo smash or bacon + \$2 gluten free bread +\$2

Carny Breakfast

white cheddar scrambled eggs, bacon, chili flakes, toasted brioche | \$8

Vegetarian Breakfast

white cheddar scrambled eggs, rosemary mushrooms, wild arugula, toasted brioche | \$8

made with seasonal market vegetables | \$8

Soup of the Day (served with bread)

beef bones, chicken bones, fresh ginger,

turmeric | \$7

Sipping Bone Broth

SOUP

Brisket

slow-cooked brisket, coconut curry slaw, toasted stirato | \$12

Peanut Butter Cookie (gf & v) | \$3

Chocolate Chip Cookie | \$3

**PASTRIES** 

Tahini Granola Bar (gf & v) | \$4 Lemon Ricotta Biscuit | \$3.25

Olive Oil Pumpkin Bread (v) | \$4

Oven-Roasted Turkey caramelized onions, green apple, manchego, fig jam, toasted strate | \$12

Jerk Chicken

fresh ginger, shaved purple cabbage, spicy mayo, toasted stirato | \$12

SID

ADD ONS Brisket | \$5

Half Avocado | \$4 Bacon Stack | \$5 Brussels Somonto | \$5

Oven-Roasted Turkey | \$4

Jerk Chicken | \$4.5

Roasted Salmon | \$7

Sunny Side Up Egg | Smoked Salmon | \$5

Steak | \$7

Brussels Sprouts | \$5 Cheddar Scrambled Eggs | \$4 Sweet Plantain | \$4

Side Salad | \$4 Toast with jam + butter | \$4 Turmeric Cauliflower | \$5





#### Certificate of Occupancy

**CO Number:** 

321165270F

This certifies that the premises described herein conforms substantially to the approved plans and specifications and to the requirements of all applicable laws, rules and regulations for the uses and occupancies specified. No change of use or occupancy shall be made unless a new Certificate of Occupancy is issued. This document or a copy shall be available for inspection at the

Α.	Borough: Brooklyn  Address: 47 WITHERS STREET  Building Identification Number (BIN): 32	59677 Bul	ck Number; Number(s): Iding Type: red to comply	38	Certificate Type: Effective Date:	Final 12/28/2017		
Ī	This building is subject to this Building Co	ode: Prior to 19	968 Code					
	For zoning lot metes & bounds, please see							
B.	Construction classification:	1-B	(1	968 Code des	esignation)			
	Building Occupancy Group classification: Multiple Dwelling Law Classification:	R-2 HAEA	(2	014/2008 Cod	e)			
	No. of stories: 4	Height in feet:	50	]	No. of dwelling units	. 6		
C.	Fire Protection Equipment: None associated with this filing.				and and an analysis of the second			
D.	Type and number of open spaces: None associated with this filing.							
E.	This Certificate is issued with the following None	g legal limitatio	ns:					
E	Borough Comments: None		-					

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321165270F

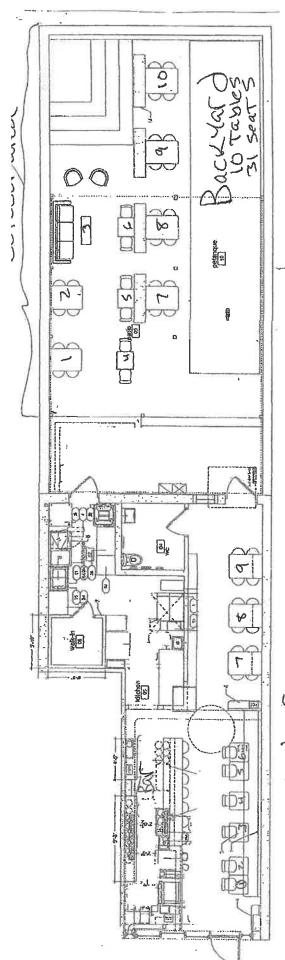
				Perm	issible Us	e and Oc	cupancy
		All E	uilding C	ode occupa	ncy group de	esignation	s below are 2008 designations.
	n To		Live load lbs per sq. ft.	Duliging	Dwelling or Rooming Units		
CEL			100	R-2		2	OPEN CELLAR AREA ACCESSORY USE TO FIRST FLOOR
001	001		40	В	and the same of th	6	STORE AND RESIDENTIAL ENTRANCE TO UPPER FLOORS
002	002		40	R-2	2	2	TWO (2) CLASS 'A' DWELLING UNITS
003	003		40	R-2	2	2	TWO (2) CLASS 'A' DWELLING UNITS
004	004		40	R-2	2	2	TWO (2) CLASS 'A' DWELLING UNITS
EN	<del></del>	4	40	R-2	ground the designed to grade and an employer, or the broad	2	_TWO (1/2) OF DWELLING UNITS IN CONJUNCTION WITH FOURTH FLOOR.

<sup>1. -</sup> TOTAL NUMBER OF DWELLING UNITS: 6 PLUS ONE COMMERCIAL 2. CELLAR IS NOT PERMITTED TO BE OCCUPIED AS HABITABLE, SLEEPING, OR COOK ING AREAS. 3. ZONING EXHIBITS HAVE BEEN FILED/RECORDED UNDER CRFN# 2015000187721 & 2015000187720 4. NO ROOF STRUCTURE PERMITTED ON ROOF DUE TO AREA OF PENTHOUSE.

**END OF SECTION** 

Tale

Fin Chandley



Modoof Q Tables 24 Seats 9 Bar Stools 1ST Floor

E1E Vation

100 × +50

e2)

#### BABA COOL 47 WITHERS ST. BROOKLYN, NY

WE THE RESIDENTS AND NEIGHBORS OF THE ABOVE RESTAURANT, SUPPORT IT IN ITS APPLICATION FOR AN ON PREMISE LIQUOR

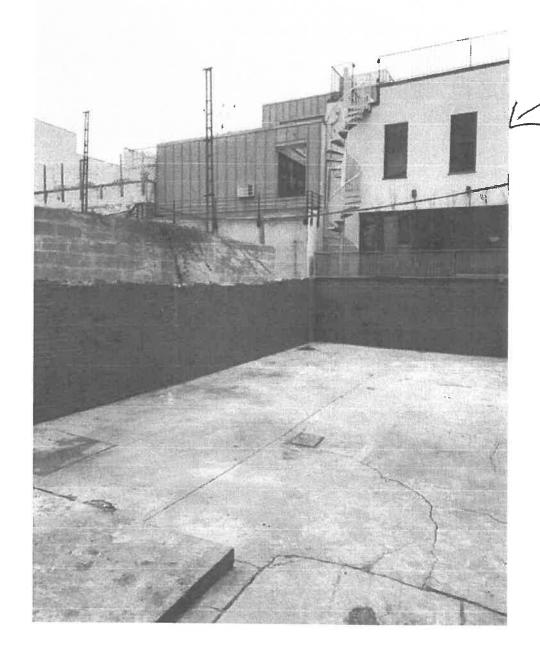
LICENSE WITH USE OF THE BACKYARD.

CICCINGE WITH USE OF THE BACKY	
NAME AND SIGNATURE	ADDRESS
Jusse Counce	295 Leonal st #3/3
Christa Greatli	47 withers St get 25
Cayla Guzensky	47 Withers ST CIPT OF
nexa panen Alexa	47 WITHTORGUT ANT UD
Kate Finlayton late	"A7 William St Apt 4B"
42 AKOPIAN PIN	"47 withers stapt 4B"
Sames Smith 1990 Gr	45 Wither St DR
7 Janea	47 W. then St 3B
JUS a Corrected	Go withers se.
If I MAN	50 Withers St. Fa
Danfela dilen Inter	SO Withen St #2
Paola Romein 82	50 withers st #2
MATT BRINICUORTH	SU WITHERS ST LIZ
KADIRMATRAMANI	SO WITHER C H3
Charles Waters AL	2714 Nassan Ave
Steph Koylman Jel-	73 Devoe St
V. Pozuein	140 Jackson 34. 36
V.MOZURINO	140 factor st 1/2/1
ADAM MENRY	714 TLIKEMER ST # 3
Ty faulowski	657 Woodward Ale #26
WATTHAN THELL	216 NST CF 22 11211
Levih milam gotest	216 N 8" St TR 1/211
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Matthew Quinn	
allera Borkshirts	45 CONTREAS ST. 28
John Chendrell	295 Graham Ave april 11211
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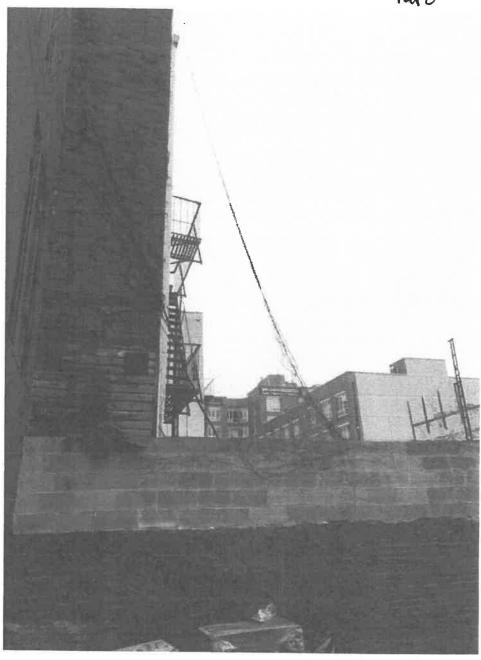
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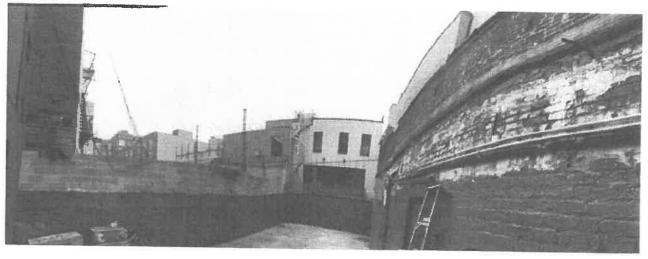
NAME AND SIGNATURE	ADDRESS
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KEES 7'SAS	Up withere 2nd FI
Ahastasia Golovina	44 withers 84, Apt. 3
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Taro









# Google Maps 45 Withers St



Image capture: Nov 2019 @ 2021 Google

New York



Street View



# Gogle Maps 45 Withers St



Image capture: Nov 2019 © 2021 Google

New York



Street View



# Google Maps

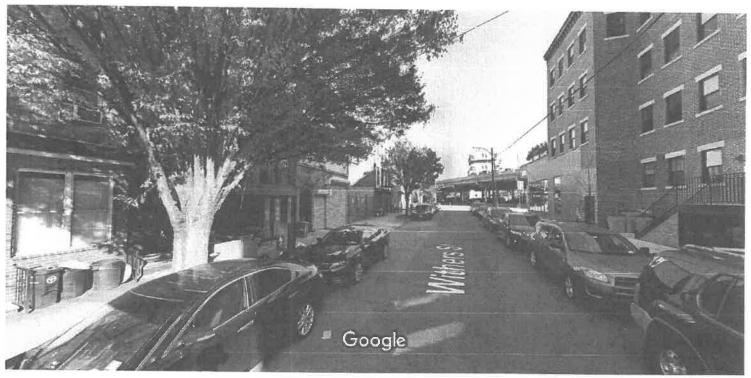


Image capture: Nov 2019 @ 2021 Google

Street View



# Google Maps 45 Withers St

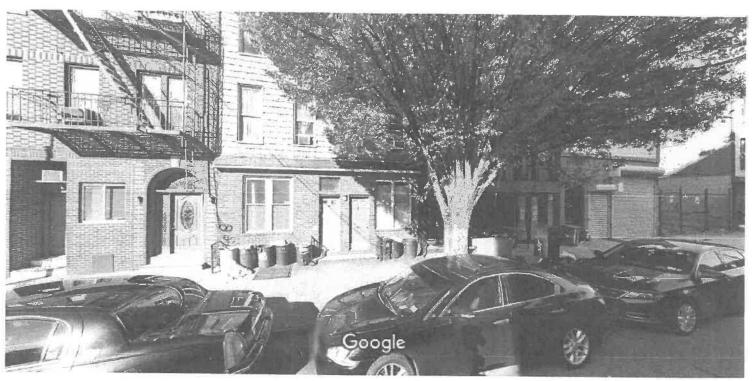


Image capture: Nov 2019 @ 2021 Google

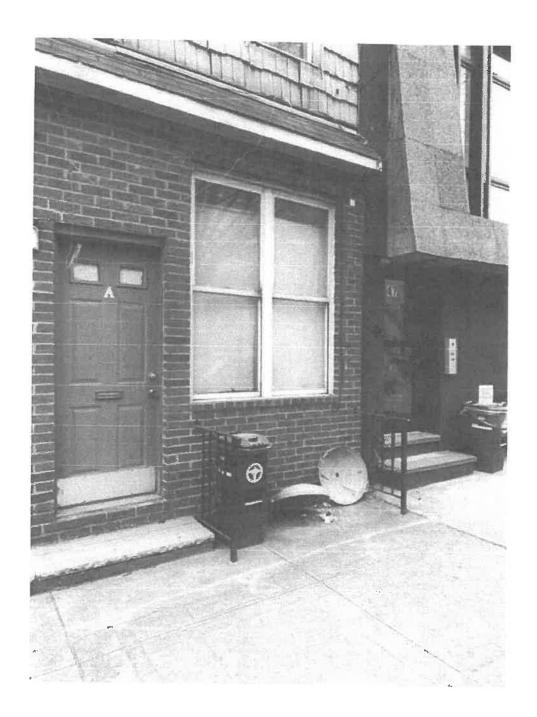
**New York** 



Street View













## COMMUNITY BOARD No. 1

435 GRAHAM AVENUE - BROOKLYN, NY 11211-8813

PHONE: (718) 389-0009 FAX: (718) 389-0098 Email: bk01@cb.nyc.gov

Website: www.nyc.gov/brooklyncb1

HON. ERIC L. ADAMS BROOKLYN BOROUGH PRESIDENT

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SONIA IGLESIAS RECORDING SECRETARY

PHILIP A. CAPONEGRO MEMBER-AT-LARGE April 14, 2021

greenpoint —— — williamsburg

Mr. Jacques Jiha, Budget Director Mayor's Office of Management and Budget 255 Greenwich street New York, NY 10007-2146

RE: Statement on Preliminary Budget (FY) 2022/Letter of

#### Comments

Dear Budget Director Jiha:

Please be advised that at the regular meeting of Brooklyn Community Board #1, held via WEBEX on April 13, 2021, the members voted unanimously to send this letter.

Brooklyn Community Board One appreciates the opportunity to submit our comments on Mayor de Blasio's 92.28 billion preliminary budget for the Fiscal Year 2022.

As we all know it has been a painful year in our City's history due to the Covid 19 pandemic that has had a massive impact on our budget. We, therefore, recognize that now more than ever the importance of working together with the city council, community agencies and Mayor's office, to address the needs of our district.

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District funding needs: This Statement/letter of comments, as per your request, is organized by agencies, but is also numbered to designate our priorities.

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A firehouse is greatly needed to serve the Northside and Waterfront community as a result of closure of Engine 212 in 2003. There must not be additional closures or reduction in manning.

- #1. Creation of a new firehouse in the Northside area. (Capital Budget.)
- #2. Fund the operations of a newly created firehouse (FDNY) in the Northside. (Expense Budget.)

#### **Department of Parks and Recreation**

Parks and open space are critical needs for our district. We support expense and capital funding that will increase our green spaces and maintain them.

Capital Budget for Parks and Recreation

- #3. Funding for development of parkland per Greenpoint -Williamsburg waterfront rezoning and the Administration's Points of Agreement.
- #4. Funding to continue the development of Bushwick Inlet Park (including additional construction of the park itself/remediation of the Bayside Fuel Oil site).
- #5. Renovation of the artificial turf field used for soccer and other sports at the Bushwick Inlet Park.

A written comment requesting improvement to the artificial turf at the park facility at Kent Avenue/the East River was submitted to the Community board. The Capital Budget committee at March 10<sup>th</sup> supported this improvement.

- #7. New Comfort Station for the WNYC Transmitter Park.
- #10. Redevelop NYCHA Playground on Roebling & South 9th Street.

#### #25. Renovation of McCarren Park Handball Courts.

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- #26. Restore and fund redevelopment of "Sand Park" under the Williamsburg Bridge.
- #27. Improved lighting at the Mt. Carmel Triangle Park and Monument (BQE Park).
- #28. Improvements for the concrete triangle at Williamsburg Street & Rodney Street to make sidewalks safer for pedestrians to walk, and include the installation of much needed lighting.

## Expense Budget for Parks and Recreation

- #4. Increase significantly park maintenance funds and increase operations/recreation staffing at specific CB #1 parks and playgrounds (including support equipment). Include additional hours for women's swim time at Metropolitan Pool.
- #13. Expand the park enforcement patrol project to incorporate McCarren Park (including Park Rangers).
- #21. Increase funding of the "Green Street Program" for projects in CB #1, including the much-needed improvements, and replace fencing of park triangles.

## Continue Support Items:

- We support the needed improvements for McGolrick Park.
- Expand Neighborhood Park and Playground Restoration Programs
- Install Lighting for the Tennis Courts at McCarren Park
- Support needed improvements for Cooper Park
- Complete all phases of development and improvements for the waterfront

area/parkland at: (a.) the foot of Freenpoint Avenue – WNYC Transmitter Park (Old WNYC Tower Area); (b.) Division Avenue Ferry Park.

#### Housing

Housing is a critical issue for our district and we support efforts to fund affordable development and implement programs to meet the many needs of our residents.

Capital Budget for Housing

#2. Fund construction & rehabilitation of subsidized/affordable housing, including waterfront and upland areas, in the CB#1 area.

**Expense Budget for Housing** 

- #6. Funding to support subsidies to lower rents for senior citizens, to reduce an increase in homelessness.
- #7. Increase funding of Homecare Services and the Homebound Meals, especially providing these services for the frail and elderly during the COVID-19 Pandemic. The elderly have relied on their local senior citizen centers for daily social interaction, meals, counseling and easy access to programs to combat depression and social isolation.
- #8. Create a new fund for the Affordable Housing and Infrastructure Fund (\$10 million) created under the Administration's Points of Agreement regarding the Greenpoint-Williamsburg waterfront rezoning.

## **Community Board Budget**

Community boards provide a vital function for the districts they are designated to serve and consequently stand as valuable assets to the City as well.

#1. Increase funding for Community Boards.

## **Department of Legal Services**

Expense Budget

# 3. Reinstate funding for the Greenpoint – Williamsburg Tenant Legal Fund (\$2 million), including anti- harassment provisions per the Administration's Points of Agreement regarding the Greenpoint-Williamsburg waterfront rezoning.

#### **Public Health**

#### Expense Budget

#15 Fund a comprehensive air quality study/anti-asthma initiative for Greenpoint and Williamsburg; (b) funding of a comprehensive study of the environmental health hazards and its cumulative effect on CB #1, including DEP wastewater treatment plant.

# 20. Increase the staffing of outreach programs that handle education, testing and counseling for COVID-19 and other infectious diseases (i.e. TB/AIDS/ZIKA), nicotine cessation (smoking/vaping), and drug abuse. Address the needs of women arising from the COVID-19 Pandemic, including thwarting a rise in cases of domestic violence.

#### **Senior Services**

#17. Establishment of a senior citizen center to serve southwest area of Williamsburg, central to Division Avenue and Clymer Street (continued funding).

## **Education and Department of Buildings**;

## Capital Budget

- #9. Department of Education projects scheduled in SD-14 to start or complete (i.e. renovations to include Automotive Trades HS, 850 Grand Street Campus, Van Arsdale Campus).
- #11. Construct a new schoolyard at PS 18.
- #12. Advance construction proposed for a new school (P.S./I.S.) at the Dupont Street site.

## Expense Budget

#9. Provide safe street crossing/continued presence (NYPD Crossing Guard Post) at Jackson Street & Kingsland Avenue for children attending various local schools/after school programs (St. Francis Developmental School, PS 132, St.

Nicholas/Rosary Academy, IS 49 Campus, Grand Street Campus/Beacon Program, IS 126/Beacon Program, School Settlement House Association).

- #11. Fund new science labs for schools (including middle school grades) in District 14/Region 8 located within the confines of Community Board No. 1's district.
- #12. Establish additional daycare or head start programs to serve Greenpoint/Williamsburg that are now under- served. Continue these services during the COVID-19 Pandemic, and well into the future.
- #14. Fund improvements for local schools: including a new school library for PS 250, installation of air conditioning in the district's schools, and create/maintain healthy classroom environments.

#### Infrastructure:

#### Resurfacing and Reconstruction and Transportation

Capital Budget for Infrastructure:

We urge that the budget for resurfacing of streets be fully funded and expanded if possible. Our streets are overburdened with traffic and we seek relief from the constant resultant wear and tear on our roadway. It is vital that our reconstruction projects are kept "on target and support funding for our district's bridges.

- #13. Trench Restoration/Reconstruction for Withers Street, between Humboldt Street and Woodpoint Road.
- #14. Reconstruct Grand Street from Grand Street Bridge to River Street.
- #15. Reconstruct Metropolitan Avenue from Varick Avenue to Scott Avenue.
- #16. Reconstruct Meserole Street between Bushwick Avenue and Union Avenue.
- #17. Reconstruct Driggs Avenue from Lorimer Street to Division Avenue.
- #18. Reconstruct Montrose Avenue from Union Avenue to Bushwick Avenue.
  - #19. Reconstruct and widen Grand Street Bridge (aka the Penny Bridge).

- #20. Reconstruct Scholes Street from Morgan Avenue to Union Avenue.
- #21. Reconstruct Lorimer Street from Broadway to Nassau Avenue.
- #22. Replace sidewalks on Frost Street (NYCHA Development/Cooper Park Houses) from Debevoise Avenue to Morgan Avenue. Expand improvements to adjacent sidewalks that also surround the development.
- #23. Replace sidewalks around Williams Plaza (aka Jonathan Williams Development/NYCHA) from Division Avenue/South 9th Street/Broadway/Marcy Avenue/Roebling Street/Havemeyer Street)
- #24. Reconstruct Maspeth Avenue, from Vandervoort Avenue to the Newtown Creek.

#### **Transportation**

Capital Budget for Transportation

We support the Department of Transportation in the improvement of our train stations in our district.

#8. MTA/NYCTA – Continuation of the Station upgrading program (G, L, J, M lines) to also include surveillance cameras for "L" (Bedford Avenue station) and the "G" lines, which are the (Metropolitan/Grand/Lorimer Street Station). Also, a public address system on the "G" – Greenpoint Avenue Station. Identify/fund subway train stations in CB#1 that are to be upgraded with elevator access.

#25. Acquisition of a replacement site for relocation of the MTA facility (Emergency Response Unit & Depot of cross-town buses) at 65 Commercial Street.

Expense Budget Transportation

We encourage the Department of Transportation to continue implementing measure for improvement of traffic in our district. We have urged a study of this matter so that our residents and the monitoring public have safer streets to travel.

- #16. Fund a comprehensive traffic "Blue Print Study" for Greenpoint-Williamsburg.
- #18. Fund a Greenpoint/Williamsburg Water Transportation Study, including ground/land-based connections.
- #19. Surveillance Cameras for the Williamsburg Bridge (roadways, walkway and bikeway).
- #24. Increase funds of street signage for designated truck routes.

#### **Department of Youth and Community Development Agency**

#5. Increase significantly the Department of Youth and Community Development Agency's community board fair share, after school, and summer and recreation funding for CB #1. Address the myriad of needs for children during the COVID-19 Pandemic, including educational choices (i.e. remote learning, blended learning).

#### Library

Community board one supports requests by the Brooklyn Public Library to keep intact funding for improvements to its branches located in Greenpoint and Williamsburg. We urge that the libraries have increase funding so that they remain open for the public's use and have adequate budgets for books, technology and other circulation material. We support extended library hours, including Saturday openings and we urge that these hours are not reduced in the budget.

# 10. Expand funding for library operations – Brooklyn Public Library, including branches within CB #1; fund extended days/hours; fund computer catalogue and increase book budget.

## **Sanitation Department**

#19. Expand the refuse collection program for NYCHA and other large housing developments (to include the Board of Education and Senior Citizens facilities).

## **Department of Small Business Services**

Capital Budget

Community board one supports the Plaza Project at Moore Street Market.

#### **Department of Buildings**

#23. Continue/expand the building inspector training program; increase the number of inspectors (DOB) for CB#1.

Thank you for what has been done in support of our community's needs, although much remains to be done. These priorities will help to continue to address the needs of our community.

The vote was as follows: 31 "YES"; 0 "NO"; 0 "ABSTENTIONS".

Working for a Greener Williamsburg-Greenpoint.

Sincerely,

Dealice Fuller Chairperson

Dealice Fulle

DF/

cc: Tania Uddin, Mayor's Office of Management and Budget



## COMMUNITY BOARD No. 1

435 GRAHAM AVENUE - BROOKLYN, NY 11211-8813

PHONE: (718) 389-0009 FAX: (718) 389-0098 Email: bk01@cb.nyc.gov

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April 14, 2021

greenpoint — —williamsburg

Honorable Bill de Blasio Mayor City of New York Brooklyn, NY 10007

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**Comments** 

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Sincerely,

Dealice Fuller Chairperson

DF/



## COMMUNITY BOARD No. 1

435 GRAHAM AVENUE - BROOKLYN, NY 11211-8813

PHONE: (718) 389-0009 FAX: (718) 389-0098 Email: bk01@cb.nyc.gov

Website: www.nyc.gov/brooklyncb1

HON. ERIC L. ADAMS BROOKLYN BOROUGH PRESIDENT

DEALICE FULLER CHAIRPERSON

Hon. Stephen T. Levin Councilmember, 33rd CD

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SIMON WEISER

FIRST VICE-CHAIRMAN
DEL TEAGUE

April 14, 2021

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williamsbura



Brooklyn Borough President Eric L. Adams Brooklyn Borough Hall 209 Joralemon Street Brooklyn, NY 11201

RE: Statement on Preliminary Budget (FY) 2022/Letter of

#### **Comments**

Dear Brooklyn Borough President Adams:

Please be advised that at the regular meeting of Brooklyn Community Board #1, held via WEBEX on April 13, 2021, the members voted unanimously to send this letter.

Brooklyn Community Board One appreciates the opportunity to submit our comments on Mayor de Blasio's 92.28 billion preliminary budget for the Fiscal Year 2022.

As we all know it has been a painful year in our City's history due to the Covid 19 pandemic that has had a massive impact on our budget. We, therefore, recognize that now more than ever the importance of working together with the city council, community agencies and Mayor's office, to address the needs of our district.

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area/parkland at: (a.) the foot of Fig. Greenpoint Avenue – WNYC Transmitter Park (Old WNYC Tower Area); (b.) Division Avenue Ferry Park.

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April 14, 2021

Williamsburg

FILE COPY

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MEMBER-AT-LARGE

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**DEL TEAGUE** 

**GINA BARROS** 

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435 GRAHAM AVENUE - BROOKLYN, NY 11211- 8813

PHONE: (718) 389-0009 FAX: (718) 389-0098 Email: bk01@cb.nyc.gov

Website: www.nyc.gov/brooklyncb1

HON. ERIC L. ADAMS BROOKLYN BOROUGH PRESIDENT

DEALICE FULLER CHAIRPERSON

GERALD A. ESPOSITO DISTRICT MANAGER HON. STEPHEN T. LEVIN COUNCILMEMBER, 33rd CD

HON. ANTONIO REYNOSO COUNCILMEMBER, 34th CD

SIMON WEISER FIRST VICE-CHAIRMAN

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MARIA VIERA FINANCIAL SECRETARY

SONIA IGLESIAS RECORDING SECRETARY

PHILIP A. CAPONEGRO MEMBER-AT-LARGE FILE COPY

April 14, 2021

eenpoint

williamsbura

Council Member Antonio Reynoso 34<sup>th</sup> CD 244 Union Avenue-#1A Brooklyn, NY 11211

RE: Statement on Preliminary Budget (FY) 2022/Letter of

### **Comments**

Dear Council Member Reynoso:

Please be advised that at the regular meeting of Brooklyn Community Board #1, held via WEBEX on April 13, 2021, the members voted unanimously to send this letter.

Brooklyn Community Board One appreciates the opportunity to submit our comments on Mayor de Blasio's 92.28 billion preliminary budget for the Fiscal Year 2022.

As we all know it has been a painful year in our City's history due to the Covid 19 pandemic that has had a massive impact on our budget. We, therefore, recognize that now more than ever the importance of working together with the city council, community agencies and Mayor's office, to address the needs of our district.

Capital and Expense Budget Priorities for Fiscal Year 2022

Brooklyn Community Board One district comprises Brooklyn's two most northern communities: Greenpoint and Williamsburg. The 2010 census reported a diverse population of over 179,000 people. This figure is an undercounted, as our Board continues to see more and more people moving into the district.

District funding needs: This Statement/letter of comments, as per your request, is organized by agencies, but is also numbered to designate our priorities.

### Fire Department

A firehouse is greatly needed to serve the Northside and Waterfront community as a result of closure of Engine 212 in 2003. There must not be additional closures or reduction in manning.

- #1. Creation of a new firehouse in the Northside area. (Capital Budget.)
- #2. Fund the operations of a newly created firehouse (FDNY) in the Northside. (Expense Budget.)

## **Department of Parks and Recreation**

Parks and open space are critical needs for our district. We support expense and capital funding that will increase our green spaces and maintain them.

Capital Budget for Parks and Recreation

- #3. Funding for development of parkland per Greenpoint -Williamsburg waterfront rezoning and the Administration's Points of Agreement.
- #4. Funding to continue the development of Bushwick Inlet Park (including additional construction of the park itself/remediation of the Bayside Fuel Oil site).
- #5. Renovation of the artificial turf field used for soccer and other sports at the Bushwick Inlet Park.

A written comment requesting improvement to the artificial turf at the park facility at Kent Avenue/the East River was submitted to the Community board. The Capital Budget committee at March 10<sup>th</sup> supported this improvement.

- #7. New Comfort Station for the WNYC Transmitter Park.
- #10. Redevelop NYCHA Playground on Roebling & South 9th Street.

### #25. Renovation of McCarren Park Handball Courts.

A written comment requesting improvement to the handball courts in McCarren Park was received at the community board. The Capital budget committee agreed that these handball courts are frequently used by the community, as many people enjoy playing handball. It was also noted that playing handball games has been a large part of the culture for those who grew up in Brooklyn and remains so today. Furthermore, it is affordable to both adults and children.

#26. Restore and fund redevelopment of "Sand Park" under the Williamsburg Bridge.

#27. Improved lighting at the Mt. Carmel Triangle Park and Monument (BQE Park).

#28. Improvements for the concrete triangle at Williamsburg Street & Rodney Street to make sidewalks safer for pedestrians to walk, and include the installation of much needed lighting.

Expense Budget for Parks and Recreation

#4. Increase significantly park maintenance funds and increase operations/recreation staffing at specific CB #1 parks and playgrounds (including support equipment). Include additional hours for women's swim time at Metropolitan Pool.

#13. Expand the park enforcement patrol project to incorporate McCarren Park (including Park Rangers).

#21. Increase funding of the "Green Street Program" for projects in CB #1, including the much-needed improvements, and replace fencing of park triangles.

Continue Support Items:

- We support the needed improvements for McGolrick Park.
- Expand Neighborhood Park and Playground Restoration Programs
- Install Lighting for the Tennis Courts at McCarren Park
- Support needed improvements for Cooper Park
- Complete all phases of development and improvements for the waterfront

area/parkland at: (a.) the foot of Greenpoint Avenue – WNYC Transmitter Park (Old WNYC Tower Area); (b.) Division Avenue Ferry Park.

### Housing

Housing is a critical issue for our district and we support efforts to fund affordable development and implement programs to meet the many needs of our residents.

Capital Budget for Housing

#2. Fund construction & rehabilitation of subsidized/affordable housing, including waterfront and upland areas, in the CB#1 area.

**Expense Budget for Housing** 

- #6. Funding to support subsidies to lower rents for senior citizens, to reduce an increase in homelessness.
- #7. Increase funding of Homecare Services and the Homebound Meals, especially providing these services for the frail and elderly during the COVID-19 Pandemic. The elderly have relied on their local senior citizen centers for daily social interaction, meals, counseling and easy access to programs to combat depression and social isolation.
- #8. Create a new fund for the Affordable Housing and Infrastructure Fund (\$10 million) created under the Administration's Points of Agreement regarding the Greenpoint-Williamsburg waterfront rezoning.

## **Community Board Budget**

Community boards provide a vital function for the districts they are designated to serve and consequently stand as valuable assets to the City as well.

#1. Increase funding for Community Boards.

## **Department of Legal Services**

Expense Budget

#3. Reinstate funding for the Greenpoint – Williamsburg Tenant Legal Fund (\$2 million), including anti- harassment provisions per the Administration's Points of Agreement regarding the Greenpoint-Williamsburg waterfront rezoning.

### Public Health

## Expense Budget

#15 Fund a comprehensive air quality study/anti-asthma initiative for Greenpoint and Williamsburg; (b) funding of a comprehensive study of the environmental health hazards and its cumulative effect on CB #1, including DEP wastewater treatment plant.

# 20. Increase the staffing of outreach programs that handle education, testing and counseling for COVID-19 and other infectious diseases (i.e. TB/AIDS/ZIKA), nicotine cessation (smoking/vaping), and drug abuse. Address the needs of women arising from the COVID-19 Pandemic, including thwarting a rise in cases of domestic violence.

### **Senior Services**

#17. Establishment of a senior citizen center to serve southwest area of Williamsburg, central to Division Avenue and Clymer Street (continued funding).

## **Education and Department of Buildings:**

## Capital Budget

- #9. Department of Education projects scheduled in SD-14 to start or complete (i.e. renovations to include Automotive Trades HS, 850 Grand Street Campus, Van Arsdale Campus).
- #11. Construct a new schoolyard at PS 18.
- #12. Advance construction proposed for a new school (P.S./I.S.) at the Dupont Street site.

## Expense Budget

#9. Provide safe street crossing/continued presence (NYPD Crossing Guard Post) at Jackson Street & Kingsland Avenue for children attending various local schools/after school programs (St. Francis Developmental School, PS 132, St.

Nicholas/Rosary Academy, IS 49 Campus, Grand Street Campus/Beacon Program, IS 126/Beacon Program, School Settlement House Association).

- #11. Fund new science labs for schools (including middle school grades) in District 14/Region 8 located within the confines of Community Board No. 1's district.
- #12. Establish additional daycare or head start programs to serve Greenpoint/Williamsburg that are now under- served. Continue these services during the COVID-19 Pandemic, and well into the future.
- #14. Fund improvements for local schools: including a new school library for PS 250, installation of air conditioning in the district's schools, and create/maintain healthy classroom environments.

### Infrastructure:

### Resurfacing and Reconstruction and Transportation

Capital Budget for Infrastructure:

We urge that the budget for resurfacing of streets be fully funded and expanded if possible. Our streets are overburdened with traffic and we seek relief from the constant resultant wear and tear on our roadway. It is vital that our reconstruction projects are kept "on target and support funding for our district's bridges.

- #13. Trench Restoration/Reconstruction for Withers Street, between Humboldt Street and Woodpoint Road.
- #14. Reconstruct Grand Street from Grand Street Bridge to River Street.
- #15. Reconstruct Metropolitan Avenue from Varick Avenue to Scott Avenue.
- #16. Reconstruct Meserole Street between Bushwick Avenue and Union Avenue.
- #17. Reconstruct Driggs Avenue from Lorimer Street to Division Avenue.
- #18. Reconstruct Montrose Avenue from Union Avenue to Bushwick Avenue.
  - #19. Reconstruct and widen Grand Street Bridge (aka the Penny Bridge).

- #20. Reconstruct Scholes Street from Morgan Avenue to Union Avenue.
- #21. Reconstruct Lorimer Street from Broadway to Nassau Avenue.
- #22. Replace sidewalks on Frost Street (NYCHA Development/Cooper Park Houses) from Debevoise Avenue to Morgan Avenue. Expand improvements to adjacent sidewalks that also surround the development.
- #23. Replace sidewalks around Williams Plaza (aka Jonathan Williams Development/NYCHA) from Division Avenue/South 9th Street/Broadway/Marcy Avenue/Roebling Street/Havemeyer Street)
- #24. Reconstruct Maspeth Avenue, from Vandervoort Avenue to the Newtown Creek.

## **Transportation**

Capital Budget for Transportation

We support the Department of Transportation in the improvement of our train stations in our district.

#8. MTA/NYCTA – Continuation of the Station upgrading program (G, L, J, M lines) to also include surveillance cameras for "L" (Bedford Avenue station) and the "G" lines, which are the (Metropolitan/Grand/Lorimer Street Station). Also, a public address system on the "G" – Greenpoint Avenue Station. Identify/fund subway train stations in CB#1 that are to be upgraded with elevator access.

#25. Acquisition of a replacement site for relocation of the MTA facility (Emergency Response Unit & Depot of cross-town buses) at 65 Commercial Street.

**Expense Budget Transportation** 

We encourage the Department of Transportation to continue implementing measure for improvement of traffic in our district. We have urged a study of this matter so that our residents and the monitoring public have safer streets to travel.

- #16. Fund a comprehensive traffic "Blue Print Study" for Greenpoint-Williamsburg.
- #18. Fund a Greenpoint/Williamsburg Water Transportation Study, including ground/land-based connections.
- #19. Surveillance Cameras for the Williamsburg Bridge (roadways, walkway and bikeway).
- #24. Increase funds of street signage for designated truck routes.

## **Department of Youth and Community Development Agency**

#5. Increase significantly the Department of Youth and Community Development Agency's community board fair share, after school, and summer and recreation funding for CB #1. Address the myriad of needs for children during the COVID-19 Pandemic, including educational choices (i.e. remote learning, blended learning).

### Library

Community board one supports requests by the Brooklyn Public Library to keep intact funding for improvements to its branches located in Greenpoint and Williamsburg. We urge that the libraries have increase funding so that they remain open for the public's use and have adequate budgets for books, technology and other circulation material. We support extended library hours, including Saturday openings and we urge that these hours are not reduced in the budget.

# 10. Expand funding for library operations – Brooklyn Public Library, including branches within CB #1; fund extended days/hours; fund computer catalogue and increase book budget.

## **Sanitation Department**

#19. Expand the refuse collection program for NYCHA and other large housing developments (to include the Board of Education and Senior Citizens facilities).

## **Department of Small Business Services**

Capital Budget

Community board one supports the Plaza Project at Moore Street Market.

## **Department of Buildings**

#23. Continue/expand the building inspector training program; increase the number of inspectors (DOB) for CB#1. [step]

Thank you for what has been done in support of our community's needs, although much remains to be done. These priorities will help to continue to address the needs of our community.

The vote was as follows: 31 "YES"; 0 "NO"; 0 "ABSTENTIONS".

Working for a Greener Williamsburg-Greenpoint.

Sincerely,

Dealice Fuller

Chairperson

DF/



250 Broadway, 29<sup>th</sup> Floor New York, NY 10007

Phone: (212) 386-0009 Web: www.nyc.gov/bsa

BSA APPLIC	ATION NO.:_	2020-85-BSA
COMMUNIT	Y BOARD NO	).: <u>1</u>
BOROUGH:	Brooklyn	

## **Community Board Recommendation Report**

Applicant(s) Information:	Property Information:			
Eric Palatnik	Address: 114 Kingsland LLC	Address: 114 Kingsland LLC		
Eric Palatnik PC	Block: 2840 Lot(s): 3			
Project Description				
Variance (72-21) to permit the development building, contrary to ZR 42-00, M1-2		idential		
Recommendation of Community Board	Date of Recommend	ation: 04/13/2021		
Recommendation submitted by: Brooklyn Commun	nity Board 1			
Recommendation	Vote			
Approve	In Favor			
Approve with Modifications/Conditions	3 Against			
Disapprove	O Abstaining			
Recommendation Waived	31 Number of Community Board Members			
		AND PARTY OF T		
Conditions/Comments				
Conditions/Comments  Summarize the reasons for the Community Board	Recommendation or attach a copy of the full rep	ort, if necessary		
Summarize the reasons for the Community Board				
	llow the presenter to speak to th	e applicant and		
Summarize the reasons for the Community Board  The Board voted to recommend that we as	llow the presenter to speak to the ither with an offer of affordability	e applicant and		
Summarize the reasons for the Community Board  The Board voted to recommend that we all to come back to discuss a compromise es	llow the presenter to speak to the ither with an offer of affordabilities and a residence of the control of the	e applicant and ity or an ential overlay		
Summarize the reasons for the Community Board  The Board voted to recommend that we all to come back to discuss a compromise el agreement to request a change to commend	llow the presenter to speak to the ither with an offer of affordabilities of the residence	e applicant and ity or an ential overlay		

Return completed form to the Board of Standards and Appeals and any attachments by either:



250 Broadway, 29<sup>th</sup> Floor New York, NY 10007

Phone: (212) 386-0009 Web: www.nyc.gov/bsa

BSA APPLICATION NO.:_	2020-88-BSA
COMMUNITY BOARD NO	).: <u>1</u>

BOROUGH: Brooklyn

## **Community Board Recommendation Report**

I. Id	I. Identification (Information from the application)							
	Applicant(s) Information:	Property Information:  Address: 315 Berry Street						
	Richard Lobel							
	Sheldon Lobel PC	Block: 2430 Lot(s): 2						
II. I	Project Description							
	315 Berry Street, BK Lobel GP 73-14: To utility substation (UG 6D)on the roof o	-	n of an electric					
III.	Recommendation of Community Board	Date of Recomm	nendation: 04/13/2021					
-	Recommendation submitted by: Brooklyn Community Board 1							
	Recommendation	Vote						
	Approve	In Favor						
	Approve with Modifications/Conditions	1 Against						
	Disapprove	1 Abstaining						
	Recommendation Waived	Number of Community Board Members						
IV.	V. Conditions/Comments							
			T.					
	Summarize the reasons for the Community Board Recommendation or attach a copy of the full report, if necessary  Please see attached recommendation.							
Is there a minority report?  NO YES (If yes, summarize on attached copy)								
Name o	of CB officer completing this form	Title	Date					
Dealice Fuller		Chairperson	04/16/2021					

Return completed form to the Board of Standards and Appeals and any attachments by either:



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GERALD A. ESPOSITO DISTRICT MANAGER

HON. ANTONIO REYNOSO COUNCILMEMBER, 34th CD

April 16, 2021

greenpoint williamsburg

SIMON WEISER FIRST VICE-CHAIRMAN

DEL TEAGUE SECOND VICE-CHAIRPERSON

GINA BARROS THIRD VICE-CHAIRMAN

MARIA VIERA FINANCIAL SECRETARY

SONIA IGLESIAS RECORDING SECRETARY

PHILIP A. CAPONEGRO MEMBER-AT-LARGE

# Brooklyn Community Board #1's Recommendation -315 Berry Street, BSA Application No. 2020-88-BSA

The Board voted to disapprove the project at this time until the landlord and the company can do better outreach with the tenants, working with them to resolve the issues and involve the tenants in the process. The Board encourages the city and the applicant to look to the installation of Energy Storage Systems in manufacturing districts at this time. Once they are in installed and functioning in those areas, we will be able to evaluate whether the systems are appropriate for installation in a residential area.



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FIRST VICE-CHAIRMAN
DEL TEAGUE

SECOND VICE-CHAIRPERSON

SIMON WEISER

SONIA IGLESIAS RECORDING SECRETARY

PHILIP A. CAPONEGRO MEMBER-AT-LARGE

April 15, 2021

eenpoint williamsburg

Ms. Olga Abinader
Director, Environmental Assessment and Review Division
New York City Department of City Planning
120 Broadway, 31st Floor
New York, New York 10271

RE: River Ring (formerly River Street)
Comments for Scope of Work
Draft Environmental Impact

Statement (CEQR No. 21DCP157K)

#### Dear Ms. Abinader:

Please be advised that at the regular meeting of Brooklyn Community Board No. 1 (held virtually via WEBEX on Tuesday, April 13, 2021) the board members received a report from the Land Use, ULURP and Landmarks (subcommittee) Committee. The report is attached.

CB#1's board members voted to endorse the Land Use, ULURP and Landmarks [subcommittee] Committee report.

The vote was as follows: 21"YES" 0"NO" 8 "ABSTENTIONS" "RECUSALS".

Brooklyn Community Board No.1 Submits the following comments:

### **Recommendations for Scoping Meeting**

Under City Environmental Review, a Positive Declaration, that requires the developer to prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement, has issued. A scoping meeting has been scheduled for Monday, April 26, 2021 at 2:00 pm. Our comments are due by Thursday, May 6, 2021.

It would be ideal if the committee could view the scoping meeting and formulate recommendations for comments afterwards. However, as we will not have another full board meeting between the scoping meeting and the comment due-date, the committee reviewed the items listed on the Positive Declaration and agreed to present the following recommended comments.

The committee also agreed to ask the full board if the members want to give the committee the authority to view the scoping meeting, tweak the comments at our May committee meeting, and submit them to the City on or before the due date.

CPC has determined that the proposed actions may result in significant adverse impacts related to land use, zoning, public policy, socioeconomic conditions, community facilities, open space, shadows, historic and cultural resources, urban design and visual resources, natural resources, hazardous materials, water and sewer infrastructure, transportation, air quality, greenhouse gas emissions and climate change, noise, public health, neighborhood character, and construction.

CPC has determined that the proposed actions would <u>not</u> result in significant adverse impacts related to historic and cultural resources, and solid waste and sanitation services, and energy. The committee's recommended comments seek inclusion of issues regarding solid waste, sanitation services and energy in the EIS analysis.

### Socioeconomic conditions:

The Board agrees these issues should be analyzed using the required tools. The committee specifically asks for an analysis of the effect that the additional market rate residential units and corresponding commercial facilities will have on displacement of lower income residents, racial equity, and displacement of existing commercial facilities. This analysis must be made taking into consideration the impact of this development in conjunction with other large-scale development already in existence and as projected from recent re-zonings. The Board also asks for a study on the impact of the Domino development on neighborhood residential and commercial rents prior to 2021.

Furthermore, as the 421-a law will sunset in 2022, and as the applicant has not yet met its affordable commitment in the Domino Project, the Board is concerned about whether the applicant will be able to meet the affordable commitment it is projecting for River Ring.

### **Community Facilities:**

The Board agrees these issues should be analyzed. However, the Board disagrees with the CPC finding that a detailed analysis of police/fire and health care services is not needed. An in-depth analysis of police/fire and health care services is warranted to determine the effect on these already over-burdened services by the projected increase in residential and commercial density, outdoor and in-water activity, and influx of people drawn to the proposed outdoor facilities. In addition, the Board feels there is a need to analyze the need for additional fire-fighting resources to deal with a mega-high-rise building.

The Board also asks for an analysis of the alternatives for holding the developer accountable for providing the promised community facilities, including a method for over-sight and enforcement.

### Open Space:

The Board agrees these issues should be analyzed. More specifically, there should be an analysis of the ratio of the proposed increase in residential/commercial density and expected influx of people drawn to the proposed facilities with the size and planned use of the proposed open space to evaluate the actual benefit to the community in which it is situated.

The Board also asks for a study of the effect of the nearby combined sewer overflow point or wet weather discharge point on the plans for use of the water in its open space.

The developer should highlight on a map all of the area that it is considering open space in order to clarify its what constitutes 3.2 acres.

### **Energy:**

The Board agrees these issues should be analyzed. In addition, a study should be done to determine the possibility of providing additional power to the neighborhood via its power grid.

### Transportation:

The Board agrees these issues should be analyzed. The Board asks for a breakdown of the expected modes of transportation to be used by residents, on- site businesses, and visitors, and how such usage will affect currently available mass transit and the traffic congestion we are already experiencing.

Alternative or additional transportation services, such as increased bus service and water-borne transportation, should be explored to accommodate the likely increase in residential / commercial density and the influx of visitors, The city should explore the means of entering into a binding contract with the developer whereby the developer would accept financial responsibility for creating or maintaining water-borne transportation.

#### Public Health:

In addition to the standard analysis, there should be a study of the effect of the proposed outdoor activities near the power plant.

### **Neighborhood Character:**

In light of the Board's recognition of the importance of protecting our industrial and manufacturing sites, an analysis is needed of the possible manufacturing, industrial and

commercial uses of the site, and how the loss of those potential uses is a significant benefit to the neighborhood.

In addition, a study of the impact of the development on the neighborhood must be done taking into account the over-all effect when looked at together with the other large-scale developments already in existence and as projected from recent re-zonings.

Furthermore, when a developer purchases property that is zoned for manufacturing, but pays speculative residential prices, their inflated purchase price should not qualify as a factor in considering their financial burden.

### Environmental:

Wind study should be done to consider whether there will be an increase in winds/wind tunnel effect.

Working for a Better Williamsburg/Greenpoint.

Sincerely,

Dealice Fuller Chairperson

Dealice Fuller

DF/

Attachment: 1



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GERALD A. ESPOSITO DISTRICT MANAGER

April 14, 2021

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GINA BARROS THIRD VICE-CHAIRMAN

MARIA VIERA FINANCIAL SECRETARY

**SONIA IGLESIAS** RECORDING SECRETARY

PHILIP A. CAPONEGRO MEMBER-AT-LARGE

> Honorable Sarah Carroll Chair and Commissioner NYC Landmarks Preservation Commission (LPC) David N. Dinkins Municipal Building 1 Centre Street, 9th Floor North New York, NY 10007

> > **RE:** Williamsburg Houses

### Dear Commissioner Carroll:

Please be advised that Brooklyn Community Board No. 1 held its regular board meeting virtually via WEBEX in the evening on Tuesday April 13, 2021. The board members received a report from the CB#1's Landmarks Subcommittee. The report is attached.

The committee voted unanimously to recommend that the Board vote the site plan presentation for the Williamsburg Houses Appropriate with the following suggestions:

- Replace proposed benches with more period appropriate benches
- Avoid removing mature shade trees, prune the trees where needed obtain community member consensus as far as any removal deemed necessary.
- Involve community members in curating decisions with regards to the public art.

The Members of Brooklyn CB#1 voted unanimously to support the committee's recommendations.

The vote was as follows: 30 "YES"; 0 "NO"; 0 "ABSTENTIONS".

Working for a Better Williamsburg-Greenpoint.

Sincerely,

Dealier Fuller

Dealice Fuller Chairperson

DF/ Attachment: 1



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SONIA IGLESIAS RECORDING SECRETARY

PHILIP A. CAPONEGRO

April 19, 2021

greenpoint williamsburg

Commissioner Keith Bray Brooklyn Office NYC Department of Transportation 16 Court Street Brooklyn, NY 11241

Dear Commissioner Bray:

Brooklyn Community Board No. 1 held is regular board meeting virtually via WEBEX in the evening on Tuesday, April 13, 2021.

Please be advised that at the meeting, CB#1 board members received a report from the Transportation Committee recommending that the bike corral on the section of Banker Street Eastside between Calyer and Franklin Street be approved.

Please be advised that the members of Brooklyn Community No. 1 Voted to support this recommendation.

The vote was as follows: 25 "YES"; 0 "NO"; 2 "ABSTENTIONS".

Working for a Safer Williamsburg and Greenpoint.

Sincerely,

**RE: Calyer Triangle Bike Corral** 

Dealice Fuller Chairperson



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FINANCIAL SECRETARY
SONIA IGLESIAS
RECORDING SECRETARY

PHILIP A. CAPONEGRO MEMBER-AT-LARGE

April 19, 2021

williamsburg

Ms. Sarah Feinberg Interim President NYC Transit/MTA 2 Broadway New York, NY 10004

RE: Construction for Stairwell in Front of 577-579 Lorimer Street

## Dear President Feinberg:

At the April 13th, 2021 meeting of Brooklyn Community Board 1 (CB#1), the Board voted overwhelmingly to oppose the planned construction of an additional stairwell immediately in front of 577 -579 Lorimer Street, and ask that the Metropolitan Transit Authority and New York City Transit (MTA/NYCT) remove the above referenced stairwell from the plan for the intersection of Metropolitan Avenue and Lorimer Street as part of its ADA accessibility project.

The construction of, and obstruction resulting from this stairwell will present immediate undue hardships on the Pomp & Circumstance restaurant, Agua De La Vida Spa (577 & 579 Lorimer Street respectively). These businesses have suffered significant losses due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and the timing of this project threatens to destroy their existence at a time when they were expecting a return to their pre-pandemic business. These are women owned and operated businesses, and the MTA's decision to create this additional hardship undermines the efforts of the city and state to support these types of owners.

The property owners and residents of 575 Lorimer Street, 577 Lorimer Street and 579 Lorimer Street will also be seriously impacted by the construction and existence of the planned stairwell as it will threaten their aging foundations, increase the amount of vermin during construction, create sanitation problems due to excess litter and completely change the use dynamics of this sidewalk.

This section of the Lorimer Street sidewalk is quite narrow. CB#1 is concerned for the safety of people with disabilities, parents with strollers and the elderly will need to use this sidewalk to access the ADA elevator and forcing them to navigate additional pedestrian volume resulting from the stairs will make the area more dangerous.

In addition, CB#1 believes that the stairwell to be constructed at the site of the B24 bus shelter on Metropolitan Avenue will provide sufficient access to accommodate post-pandemic rider volume into the foreseeable future. This additional stairway makes the Lorimer Street planned stairwell unnecessary.

Finally, CB#1 is also concerned about the effects this project will have on traffic congestion at this location. Due to the neck-down of Lorimer Street at Metropolitan Avenue, there are already negative traffic issues that create dangerous conditions for all road and sidewalk users. The encroachment into the roadbed to accommodate this project has the potential to make a bad situation worse. CB#1 believes that the current traffic study by the New York City Department of Transportation mandated as part of this project will show that the additional encroachment by a stairwell will exacerbate traffic congestion.

CB#1 has long advocated for additional Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant subway stations within the district, and we commend the MTA for siting so many new elevators within our Community District. The residents, business owners and our board are united in our support for the addition of two elevators to service the Lorimer Street L Train/Metropolitan Avenue G Train station complex. While the community believes that a wider sidewalk would be more appropriate to site the elevator, there is an understanding that because of technical and infrastructure constraints the project managers have determined this to be the most functional location. Therefore, CB#1 supports this elevator site location. However, we strongly oppose the additional stairwell, which does not conform to ADA accessibility and will have serious and negative consequences for the residents and subway riders at this location.

Please be advised that the members of Brooklyn Community No. 1 vote was as follows: 27 "YES"; 0 "NO"; 0 "ABSTENTIONS".

Working for a Safer Williamsburg and Greenpoint.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Dealice Fuller

Chairperson

DF

cc: Commissioner Keith Bray, DOT



### Community Board 1 Monthly Parks Update - April 2021

### **50 Kent Construction Start**

Construction at the 50 Kent parcel of Bushwick Inlet Park began on April 12, 2021. Construction of the park, which will include an elevated lawn, spray shower, seasonal plantings, and views of the East River and Manhattan, will take a year.

### **USGS Work in McCarren Park - Update**

USGS drilling work in McCarren Park has been completed and the lawn area has been closed and reseeded.

### **GreenThumb Gardens Seeking New Members**

A few community garden sites in Brooklyn Community Board 1 are looking for new members. They are:

- 1. Berry Street Garden they have a <u>Facebook</u> page here
- 2. Scholes Street Children's Garden this garden is affiliated with the NY Restoration Project and has info <a href="https://example.com/here">here</a>
- 3. Powers Street Garden they have an <u>Instagram</u> page here
- 4. Sunshine Community Garden
- 5. La Casita Verde Garden they have a website here and Instagram

GreenThumb and GrowNYC are in the process of rebuilding Olive Street Garden, which is expected to host public meetings in late April.

### **COVID-19 Testing**

Free COVID-19 testing is now available in New York City at more than 100 locations across the city. Visit the City's COVID-19 Testing page for more information.

#### **Facility Re-Openings**

Please visit Parks' <u>COVID-19 information page</u> to track various parks openings and continued closures.

#### **Special Events Permits**

Please visit Parks' <u>COVID-19</u> information <u>page</u> to learn more about service changes. NYC Parks is once again reviewing <u>permit applications for special events</u>. No permits will be granted for applications with an expected attendance of more than 50 people at any one time.

#### **Sports Permits**

Ballfield permits for both youth and adult sports permitting began on Friday, December 4, 2020. Currently we are only permitting low-to-moderate risk sports. **All permit applicants must fill out the COVID-19 Athletics Safety Plan and Checklist Affirmation.** Please send the completed document to the permit office in the borough that you are requesting permits for review. Please note *-Parks will not move forward with review of your application until this is received and approved.* 

### **Programming**

Visit our list of <u>Virtual and Online Programs</u> to find upcoming events presented by NYC Parks and our friends and partners.



### **Partnerships for Parks Volunteer Projects**

Delancey Nelson is the PfP Outreach Coordinator for All It's My Park! projects in Community Board 1. Please contact <a href="Delancey.Nelson@parks.nyc.gov">Delancey.Nelson@parks.nyc.gov</a> if you have any questions or would like to schedule a project. We ask that everyone who plans a clean up in a NYC Park to please coordinate with our PfP team.

### CB1 currently has the following projects under construction:

- Bartlett Playground construction began fall 2020 and will be complete spring 2022;
- Bushwick Inlet Park, 50 Kent construction began April 12, 2021 and will be complete spring 2022;
- Sternberg Synthetic turf and basketball lights –began fall 2020 and will be complete fall 2021.

### We have several projects awaiting construction start:

- Box Street Park in design. Demolition of structures on site anticipated to begin after the relocation of the MTA Paratransit vehicles;
- Bushwick Inlet Park: Motiva –construction estimated to begin fall 2021 and be complete fall 2022;
- Cooper Park Comfort station –construction to begin spring 2021 and be completed fall 2022;
- Epiphany Playground construction to start fall 2021 and be complete fall 2022;
- Ericsson Playground in design;
- Frost Playground basketball in design, to be competed spring 2022;
- LaGuardia Playground phase 2 playground Construction anticipated to begin spring 2021 and will be complete spring 2022;
- Marcy Green construction anticipated to begin spring 2021 and be complete spring 2022;
- McCarren Park natural turf softball fields —construction delayed, now anticipated to begin spring 2022 and completed spring 2023;
- McCarren Recreation Center reconstruction of roof and exterior masonry walls to begin fall 2021 and be completed spring 2023;
- McGolrick Park Paths to begin fall 2021 and completed fall 2022;
- Middleton Playground design began fall 2020. Construction estimated to begin fall 2022 and be complete fall 2023;
- Ten Eyck Plaza construction anticipated to begin spring 2021 and be complete spring 2022;
- William Sheridan Playground construction likely to begin fall 2021 and be complete fall 2022.

There are no projects awaiting design start.

There are no projects awaiting a scope meeting.

Optional supplies to have on hand to build your first low-cost bee house which may include: Washed out Gatorade/soda/water bottle, natural reeds (Phragmites preferred) cardboard from paper towel or toilet paper rolls, brown shopping bag, scissors, tape, soil. *Facilitated by Ashley Whited, NYC Urban Park Ranger* 

### **Design Your Garden To Attract Pollinators**

### Thursday, April 22, noon - 1:00 p.m.

This webinar focuses on the capacity of gardens to provide habitat for beneficial insects. Participants will learn and discuss elements of design, habitat requirements, and options for native plants for an effective pollinator garden. Enjoy a brief overview of pollinators in NYC, learn design tips for structuring a pollinator garden with horticultural and habitat recommendations. Workshop will show examples of pollinator gardens. *Facilitated by Ursula Chanse (Bronx Green-Up of The New York Botanical Garden) and Chrissy Word (Butterfly Project NYC)* 

### **Making Herbal Teas & Infusions with Pollinator Plants**

### Thursday, April 22, 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Herbs make great teas - and also help feed pollinators! Join herbalist H. Stephen Reid to learn about making teas and infusions with fantastic household medicinal herbs that you can also grow in your community garden as excellent pollinator habitats. Facilitated by H. Stephen Reid, community gardener at Maple Street Community Garden

#### **GreenThumb Webinars**

Join us for an ongoing series of online workshops to dig in, grow food, and keep your community garden going while following health and safety protocols.

Did you miss the 2021 GreenThumb GrowTogether Conference? Are you looking for past workshops, and other tutorials from GreenThumb? They are all available on our new NYC Parks GreenThumb YouTube channel! Click here for all the videos. Please subscribe to our channel to be notified of new videos and stay up to date.

### **Organizing for Garden Success: Bylaws**

#### Thursday, April 8, 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

This two-part workshop series is designed to help your garden group build a strong foundation to deal with the many issues that arise in a community space. In this workshop, we will discuss writing garden bylaws that outline processes for decision-making and garden governance, and that will satisfy the GreenThumb requirement for bylaws.

#### Saving Seeds in NYC: Garden Planning

#### Thursday, April 29, 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Start planning now for saving seeds later this season! Saving the seeds from the crops you grow can help save money, preserve heirloom varieties, and more. Join seed farmers Julia Aguilar and Owen Taylor from Truelove Seeds to discuss tips and strategies you can incorporate into this year's garden plan if you wish to save your seeds. Facilitated by Julia Aguilar and Owen Taylor, Truelove Seeds. This webinar is part of a 3-part series on seed saving. RSVP for Part 2, a panel on seed saving, seed keeping, and seed rematriation efforts in the NYC Region, and Part 3, a webinar on the basics of saving dry and wet seeds.