

ESCR CAG Meeting Summary – August 5, 2021
via Zoom

CAG members present (in bold)

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| Alberto Roldan Anthony Rivera Ayo Harrington Camille Napoleon Charles Krezell Chris Collins Christine Bookin Christine Datz-Romero Damaris Reyes Daphne Williams Dereese Huff | Dianne Lake Ditashiah Kohn Dov Goldman Felicia Cruickshank Frank Avila-Goldman Freddina Fulton Robin Schatell Martin Barrett Mercedes Harvell Michael Marino | Mike Arnon Kyle Athayde Nancy Ortiz Paul Burke Peter Davis Richard Heitler Robin Schatell Sam Moskowitz Seth Coren Susan Steinberg Trever Holland Wendy Brawer |
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Useful links related to emergency preparedness

Notify NYC

You can sign up by calling 311 or going to [nyc.gov/notifynyc](https://www1.nyc.gov/site/em/notifynyc) to receive text, email and/or phone alerts of important emergency information in your zip code. Notify NYC is available in 13 languages and Chinese and Spanish speakers can also sign up to receive Twitter alerts

Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT)

Volunteer to be trained to provide support to fire safety, light search and rescue, community disaster support, disaster medical operations, and traffic control activity in your neighborhood or across the city.

<https://www1.nyc.gov/site/em/volunteer/nyc-cert.page>

Community Preparedness weekly newsletter and regular emergency management

programming for CBOs and FBOs. For more information, email communityprep@oem.nyc.gov.

Ready NY tabling or preparedness presentations

<https://www1.nyc.gov/site/em/ready/request-event.page> or email readyny@oem.nyc.gov

Ready NY also conducts a Train the Trainer program for local leaders through which they are trained to conduct emergency preparedness presentations for their communities. This training can be requested by CBOs and FBOs by emailing readyny@oem.nyc.gov.

Office of Emergency Management Updates: Suzan Rosen answering questions on behalf of OEM

What is the evacuation plan for NYCHA, what number can be sheltered?

- New Yorkers should make personal plans to prepare for evacuation
- System identifies closest evacuation center, brings individuals to shelters
- There is enough shelter space to meet demand for zones 1-6

Why is overflow right next to the building?

- Show how water could flow through IFPM (Interim Flood Protection Measures)
- Scope of drainage is beyond the scope of IFPM

What is done by Office of Emergency Management (OEM) to prevent displacement?

- ESCR project is a neighborhood project, not for individual buildings
- OEM provide guidance to entities and individuals through guides, websites, social media
 - Group 1 + 3 have had presentations, can request tabling at events
 - CERT volunteers and NYCEM connects with LES Ready! to disperse alerts
- Community based and faith-based orgs

IFPM presentation from last year - confirmed that NYCHA was not consulted

- Could not speak to what their evaluation entailed, but we work closely with them and they have been protected by NYCHA, drainage capacity was reached, was difficult to implement IFPM there
- We work with NYCHA to evaluate which sites needs IFPM
- Expect it to be removed from Riis because permanent boiler room mitigation will be removed by the Fall

Infeasibility of IFPM

- IFPM is not feasible in parts of ESCR area, size and length of project could take up to 3 years
- This portion is out for bid and will be released soon
- Placing temporary measures without addressing drainage infrastructure will not do anything to permanently mitigate flooding
- ESCR was found to be ineligible at all levels, drainage issues were too complex and widespread for IFPM
- Would require immense time, was too complex requiring full reconstruction, would have led to negative effects during ESCR reconstruction project
 - Moving ahead with work is key to protecting neighborhood

What is the OEM doing to prepare the community who will use natural air conditioning?

- Part of heat activations, we activate cooling centers

Air quality monitoring

- OEM does not issue stop work orders for air quality, the city doesn't either

- We measure air quality in general, the monitors are for the potential impacts from construction.
- Has barely breached the minimum level, have been using techniques and preventative measures before an alert has needed to be issued

Q&A

Wendy: Will NYCHA buildings be evacuated before the flood gates are put down?

Suzan: OEM does not handle these questions; they should be submitted directly to NYCHA. Tara mentioned they would follow up with NYCHA. Nancy Ortiz responded that NYCHA is constantly updating their plans.

Nancy: Update on evacuation plan for NYCHA; must be evacuated before floodgates are closed

Suzan: there is room for everyone

Nancy: that is not true

Trever: Point of order: can we refocus on the ESCR CAG portion?

DDC presentation

(Link to presentation slides:

https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/escr/downloads/pdf/20210805_ESCR_CAG_Meeting_12.pdf)

Q&A

Robin: Signage isn't there for biking, coming down towards Avenue C before Stuy Town there is nowhere to go and no signage.

Desiree: detour signs were backwards, thank you and will follow up. Please use the public inquiry tool to send issues like this:

https://pima.ddccr.com/public/comment/project-comment-dynamic?project_id=14047

Vaylateena: So we can expect that a shovel gets in the ground in October?

Jeff (of DDC): yes, but hopefully by end of September.

Frank: For the southbound bike lane approaching 23rd Street, maybe there is a sign but it's not clear and can't figure where to go.

Desiree: The bicycle detour is at 37th to go down First and Second Avenues. On Greenway south of 37th is local only. Technically we are discouraging bikes from using that intersection under the FDR. We will double check signage.

Wendy: Following up on M/WBE, Perfetto said they only hired 1 MWB, what is the project goal they are supposed to be hitting for PA2?

Wayne: we look at availability of firms and set highest goal possible, was looking at 12% which is the floor not the ceiling

Wendy: What about local hiring?

Wayne: there are goals in different areas, tracking and monitoring to ensure that there is a pipeline for local hires and recruiting from within. We want to provide extra trainings, certifications, anything we can to increase jobs.

Trang: the management team came in with a work force, any opening we are recruiting from the local framework to fill the position.

Robin: Did I miss something about the southern part of the park yet?

Desiree: we do not have phasing for the southern part of East River; it will be communicated through Pratt when we know

Christine Datz-Romano: Has the NTP been issued for PA1?

Jeff: it had not been.

Ayo: Hiring clarification: I did not hear a percentage that had been hired at this time as it relates to local residents, what positions has the one local person been hired to fill? 12% is the floor but what is it now? Want the monthly numbers.

Frank: Layers of oversight on the whole project, is DEP involved?

Desiree: there is a chart in AQM and in the letter responses, attachment number 1 is monitoring oversight hierarchy. DEP, DEC, DDC, and OER are all at the top level for oversight. Then Management from HNTB-LiRo and contractors as well as environmental specialists.

Frank: How do we lay people interpret measurements saying that an air quality e exceeded levels for 15 minutes?

Desiree: When oversight agencies measure air quality it is the net value over 24 hours. Net is delta between upwind and downwind. For ESCR, whenever it's over the level for 15 minutes we note it (in the report), and note dust mitigation, but agencies monitor the average over 24 hours.

Wendy: Will the summary of the air quality report come to CAG before it is released for community feedback?

Desiree: If that is something the CAG would like to see we can bring the request back to the agency.

Wendy: Will environmental (wind, etc.) be included in future reports? It is important to be there in a condensed way. And can the weekly bulletin include a line to suggest closing windows during working hours.

Desiree: We heard that those reports have a lot of information, so the intention was to scale back. Reviewed baseline and net which is very low, it is up to the discretion of individuals to close windows. Through the bulletins we let folks know where construction is. It is up to individuals to close windows.

Christine: Was there a notice to proceed issued yet?

Jeff: No, not yet.

Wendy: Question 6, page 6 answer B -question about the bathtub effect in the East Village - Avenue C is listed as outside the scope of ESCR, when was it taken out of the project?

Desiree: we will have to go back to the document to take a look at those. Measures being taken to prevent flooding previous to ESCR project on Ave B + C will have to be directed to DEP; current measures are outside the scope of ESCR.