

East Side Coastal Resiliency Community Advisory Group (ESCR CAG)
November 17, 2022
(via Zoom)

CAG members present

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| Ayo Harrington Wendy Brawer Dov Goldman Sandra McKee Seth Coren Trevor Holland Christine Datz Romero | Michael Marino Dianne Lake Robin Schatell Frank Avila-Goldman Susan Steinberg Dina Elkan |
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DDC Presentation of Updates

Desiree Gazzo, HNTB-LiRo

[Link to Slide Deck](#)

- I. Hiring Compliance
 - A. PA2 Hiring Summary (**presented by Trang Bui**)
 - 1. Total Staff on Project Area 2
 - 2. Project Management/Construction Management (PMCM) total staff: 93
 - a) Existing staff: 87%
 - b) Gender diversity is ahead of industry average
 - 3. General Contractor (GC) total staff: 382
 - a) Existing staff: 62%
 - b) Working on outreach to get more interest and have more exposure to local workforce
 - 4. M/WBE Goals: on track to meet PMCM goal; GC utilization rate exceeds goal
 - 5. Strategy and good faith efforts to meet goals
 - a) Ongoing efforts:
 - (1) GC continued outreach to Labor Unions to assign local individuals to ESCR
 - (2) Working with DDC's Office of Diversity and Industry Relations (ODIR)
 - (3) Quarterly information sessions
 - (4) Emails & weekly updates about open positions
 - b) City and local partners
 - (1) Still coordinating with NYC Dept. Small business Services

- (2) Actively coordinating with Henry Street Settlement
- (3) NYCHA recruitment programs
- (4) DDC's ODIR
- (5) Labor unions

II. Q&A:

- A. Frank: I'm curious about the recent workforce development outreach event last month; do you have any numbers on attendance and how many people you were able to onboard to other job services or within ESCR project?
1. Trang: I don't have the total number of attendees; anecdotally, one person submitted his resume, and we referred him to a client for a different project with a need for his specific skills, and we're waiting to hear back. A similar thing happened when we did the Henry Street Settlement outreach event.
 2. Frank: My question is also because a number of us do individual outreach and postings within our developments, and we want to know how successful that is. It'd be good to get more specific numbers to inform whether we change our outreach strategy.
 3. Desiree: I think there were about 20 people who attended the first in-person event. Some people were just learning about the ESCR project, some people came with resumes. We will continue to have events like this and do outreach in advance, and if you all know folks within your communities who are seeking jobs, they can submit their resume to the ESCR website or to the Community Construction Liaisons (CCLs) anytime—they don't have to wait for a job opening.
 4. Frank: That's really helpful, knowing we can submit to the CCLs because it can be a challenge to refer people to the website. Do you know when the next workforce development session will be?
 5. Desiree: Yes, in the new year. If you know people who are looking to know more about jobs, we can have a session in house at different buildings who are interested in hosting.
 6. Trang: To clarify, that last in-person meeting was about career pathways. The job fair hosted in October with Henry Street Settlement was specifically about job opportunities at ESCR and other programs, and we interviewed more candidates than we had positions to fill.
- B. Robin: A lot of jobs on the website are skilled jobs—like inspector—but not many unskilled jobs. Are there also jobs listed that are more seasonal (like positions through Parks) or that don't require you to be licensed or a part of a union?
1. Desiree: We are referring folks to jobs related to construction. On our website, we don't include jobs like Parks Department jobs. You have to apply through the city for Parks jobs. As far as other openings that are less skill-based, we could reach out to the contractors to see if there are any other openings. That's not to say that currently if a resume comes in and they could be of use, that person won't be hired. We encourage all folks to submit their resumes.

C. Wendy: When will PA1 numbers be ready?

1. Trang: We should have it for the next quarter. There are many more numbers and more subcontractors for PA1 since it's a bigger project.
2. Wendy: Do you mean by March or December?
3. Desiree: I'm not sure. If we don't have something by the end of the year, it'll be by the beginning of next year. But we're working on it.

III. Construction Progress/Approach

A. Project Area Overview

1. PA2 Construction Progress

- a) Asser Levy Playground is open, Stuyvesant Cove Park and Murphy Brothers Playground are closed.
- b) Anticipated opening schedule for Stuyvesant Cove Park: (check out [CB3 meeting presentation](#) for more details around this)
 - (1) Phased opening as some of site elements are delivered and installed
 - (2) Area 1 Solar One temporary restoration
 - (3) Area 2 is scheduled to open around Thanksgiving
 - (4) Area 3 is scheduled to open early 2023
 - (5) Area 4 is scheduled to open in 2024
 - (6) The ferry terminal will remain open at all times

IV. Access/Signage/Safety

A. PA2 Current Greenway Access

1. North of E. 20th St. opened; the area between E 18th and E 20th is closed.
2. Access between PA1 and PA2 (south of E.18th) will not close until the beginning of next year when the northern area of the park opens (but ferry access will remain).

V. Construction Progress/Approach

A. PA1 Construction Progress

1. The phasing approach presentation that's online has updates listed by summer (e.g., Summer 2022, Summer 2023). We want to note that this could mean the beginning or the end of summer. Right now, the project is still on schedule for southern portions of the park to open next year.
2. We'll provide more updates as they happen.

B. PA1 | 2022 - Early 2023 Construction Activities

1. For full details, see the [CB3 presentation](#)
2. Construction activities remain the same - soil stabilization activities and esplanade dismantling along the waterfront
3. New Corlears Hook Bridge and Delancey Bridge will start, and floodwall construction will continue into 2023
4. ConEd and shared use path is scheduled to complete this year

5. E. 10th Street utility work has started and will continue
- C. PA1 Montgomery Greenway Floodwall Activities
 1. We have had to do night work this week and next week (excluding Thursday and Friday for Thanksgiving). If there are outstanding work activities, it might spill over into the next week; we will keep you updated.

VI. Access/Signage/Safety

A. PA1 Access and Signage Updates

1. Delancey Street: we're speaking with the contractor to get additional requested signage, including community engagement signage and construction signage (e.g., "bridge closed ahead")
2. Outreach to Google Maps to update access per ESCR closures, we've received a new contact through NYCDOT
3. Site signage: CCLs have been working to update access and wayfinding signage throughout the park and will continue in these next few weeks. We're always open to suggestions about signage.

VII. Environment

A. PA1 AQM (Air Quality Monitoring) October 2022 update

1. The PM daily value (24-hour TWA) did not surpass the PEL for October.
2. Most exceedances were in the 15–30-minute range. Some were overnight, and many were due to construction activities but alleviated when dust suppression techniques were applied.
3. Note that this slide shows monitors by location bases—the bolded sections with asterisks indicate net exceedances, which is what is typically measured (net = difference between upwind and downwind)
4. We have received concerns about dust on site. The contractor is aware and working to mitigate it with suppression techniques.

B. PA2 AQM October 2022 update

1. The PM daily value (24-hour TWA) did not surpass the PEL for October.
2. Only 1 four-minute exceedance after work hours.

VIII. Project Information Delivery

A. [The Inquiry Tool](#)

1. Overview to remind everyone how to use it. It is helpful for HNTB-LiRo and DDC to track inquiries.
2. You can zoom in and out and drop a pin to locate where your complaint is—extremely helpful for noise complaints and traffic to geolocate the issues.

IX. Q&A:

- A. Frank: We were made aware in advance about the overnight work, but I'm hoping you could pass along a request to shift the very loud noise activities to be earlier rather than later. I know it might be a hard ask, but it is very loud.

- B. Frank: Second question is about readings of particulate matter. I'm not clear how you separate the work being done in Pier 42 versus the work done in for ESCR. I've been concerned that some of the readings that go past on Montgomery entrance to the FDR area might actually be from work done on Pier 42 and not this project.
1. Desiree: I think you're absolutely correct about the Montgomery Street readings. Since many of our trucks are now using the slip ramps, much of the readings of fine particulates due to emissions are just due to backups getting onto the FDR, or other types of machinery or equipment for other projects. For PA2, the monitors are right along Avenue C, and you can't tell exactly what it's from. Contractors assess what is happening on site, so you can tell when it's a construction activity versus a delivery. The contractor's assessment is critical.
 2. Frank: That's what I suspected. I realize it's not within your purview, but Pier 42 construction is a whole different beast, and it seems like that construction is doing whatever they want, and it's hard to articulate the difference between their work and yours to my residents.
- C. Wendy: Yesterday I went to the Urban Soil Symposium, and I learned that for fill coming from NJ and other states, it's up to the project lead to do testing on incoming fill. Who is responsible in our case for testing the incoming fill?
1. Desiree: Typically, the contractor or a third party subconsultant of the contractor tests the soil, and the program management construction management team reviews those tests. But I'll get back to you on who specifically is doing the testing in this project.
 2. Wendy: I'm wondering also if these results would be public about the content of the fill.
 3. Desiree: I'll have to take that question back.
- D. Wendy: At the Houston Street ramp, they've extended the ramp almost all the way to the gate at Stanton Street. It's even longer and narrower, and I've seen almost near crashes. Why did they extend that, and will they take it away when ConEd leaves? And when will they be able to open the shared use path?
1. Desiree: They need to be able to control pedestrians coming down the ramp when vehicles come in and out of the construction gate. The northern part of the shared use path (SUP) might be able to open. Houston to 6th will remain closed because that is where the slip ramp is. It's a safety concern.
- E. Dina: Regarding the plan to open the northern portion of Stuyvesant Cove Park, we had a task force meeting with the construction manager and DDC, and that was the first time we heard there was not going to be any access out of the park except at 23rd St. We feel this is a huge public safety and quality of life hazard; we want park access to be closed until the 20th access/entrance can be opened. It's susceptible to graffiti and other safety concerns. Thinking about how to manage a park with one entrance is extremely stressful, and the fact that we found out about this just a week and a half ago is a problem.

1. Ophelia Rivas (DDC) - We understand your and Solar One's position, and we're going to reach out to EDC and Solar One. For now, we are going to proceed as planned with opening, but will let you know if anything changes. We are aware of the issue, and we'll get back to you about the final verdict. Graffiti can be removed.
 2. Dina: We've also been asking what products are used to remove graffiti because we've been trying to operate as an urban food forest; we need to know what products are being used to remove the graffiti if it's going into the soil.
 3. Ophelia: We can follow up with you on that.
- F. Sandra: I want to note that Solar One did contact the Community Board (6), and we fully support their position.
- G. Wendy: I support Solar One. I just made a Bitly for the inquiry tool
1. Desiree: We have a QR code so we can share that as well.

CAG-Only Portion

- I. Paula: Tara and I don't have a big agenda, but we did want to preview what we want to talk about in December. We think it would be a good time to revisit the commitments that the city made. I sent you all a google doc with these commitments listed; please weigh in about where you think they are (if progress is being made) before the next meeting.
 - A. Dianne: Do you have an update about where we stand with updating the bylaws?
 1. Paula: Thanks for the reminder! We reached quorum, and they passed. They will be posted on the ESCR website.
 - B. Dov: It would be nice on the presentations to always have the sheet that gives the timeline. I know the timeline that we finally did get they said they don't want to do anymore, but at least if we have it, we could compare to prior presentations; just always having that in front of us instead of having to go looking for it in other presentations would be helpful
 1. Paula: We can bring that up with DDC.
- C. Wendy: I'm looking at the commitment tracker you sent, and it doesn't have all of them.
 1. Paula: Correct. These were cross referenced with the top categories of concern (based on the survey I sent you over the summer). I can add the other commitments to this list.
- D. Robin: It'd be great to hear more from the CCLs—what they've been doing and who they're hearing from, what issues they're addressing. Maybe they could come to Parks community meetings, as I'm not sure how many people know about that outlet to communicate.
 1. Paula: We can ask DDC about that.
 2. Dov: I just wanted to mention, when there was an issue, the CCL was right on top of it and quickly helped resolve the situation.

3. Frank: The Community Liaison team was really helpful dealing with ConEd; they've been responsive via the liaison. Robin, what specifically were you looking for that person to do?
 4. Robin: It'd be great to hear what issues have come up and how they've resolved them, just a little report (just out of curiosity, not questioning their work). It would be nice to have more contact with them.
 5. Tara: We can clarify that the "what we've heard" is coming up from the CCLs; I think that's what they're trying to do with that portion of these meetings.
- E. Wendy: Going back to the issues Frank mentioned regarding Pier 42—I know Pier 42 has its own CCL. Would it make sense to ask them to join one of these meetings, or CB3?
1. Paula: I have a feeling that DDC will say that because it doesn't relate to the ESCR project, it would be out of scope for a CAG meeting.
 2. Tara: The CCL for Pier 42 is Rick Fogarty; we can redistribute his contact info.
- F. Wendy: Dina, your points were really important and poignant. It would be terrible if someone were to quit. I don't know if this group as a whole could make a statement to support Solar One?
- G. Dina: Yeah. They aren't recognizing the strain that they're putting on us after the trauma of having the park destroyed. The need for open park space in the dead of winter is not nearly as important as maintaining safe and usable public space. I have a meeting with EDC tomorrow; afterwards I will email Tara and Paula if a letter from the CAG would be helpful and supportive.
1. Paula: Good luck with that meeting tomorrow, and definitely reach out.
- H. Tara: Please take a look at the document that Paula sent out earlier, we will add the additional commitments and please add your comments. We'll see you next month on December 15th!

Meeting adjourned approximately 35 minutes early.