

ESCR CAG Meeting -- March 24, 2022
(via Zoom)

CAG Members Present

Ayo Harrington Camille Napoleon Christine Datz Romero Charles Krezell Damaris Reyes Ditashiah Koh Dianne Lake	Dina Elkin Dov Goldman Frank Avila Goldman Michael Marino Martin Barrett Susan Sternberg Sam Moskowitz	Trever Holland Robin Schatell Wendy Brawer
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DDC Presentation of Updates

Desiree Gazzo, HNTB-LiRo

[Link to Slide Deck](#)

- I. Community resources and outreach
 - A. Bilingual CCLs
 - 1. PA1 Joyce (Mandarin) and Sonia (Spanish), ESCRCL1@ddccr.com
 - B. Community presentations
 - 1. DDC willing to present at tenant association meetings, please reach out.
 - C. In-person tabling throughout the neighborhood, especially during spring and summer.
 - D. Community resources
 - 1. [ESCR's home page](#) has a section of quick links for necessary resources related to ESCR.
 - a) Includes an interactive map that shows available park amenities in neighborhoods surrounding ESCR and active closures.
 - E. Community outreach
 - 1. ESCR project panels vandalized.
 - 2. CCLs receiving harassment calls; please be mindful of respecting their jobs.
- II. Section 3/ MWBE quarterly update (*Trang Bui, HNTB-LiRo Sub-consultant*)
 - A. Update on current staff and progress on ESCR project (*slide 8 and slide 9*).
 - B. Majority of staff hired pre-project start and a limited number of new hires for consultant side.
 - C. Contracting side new hires coming from unions making it harder to hire locally.
 - D. Strategy and good faith efforts to meet goals:
 - 1. Outreach to labor unions
 - 2. Continued support from DDC ODIR (Office of Diversity and Industry Relations)
 - 3. Quarterly information sessions
 - 4. Emails and website updates
 - 5. Continuous collaboration with several city and local partners

- E. DDC Design-build forum held March 23, 2022
 - 1. Focused on sub-contracting opportunities and M/WBE contacts.
 - 2. Design-build programs are now more flexible than what is in the ESCR program, a great opportunity to look at other programs to start out on a smaller scale.
- F. Quarterly numbers for PA1 coming soon
- III. Q & A
 - A. Wendy: I noticed on the park map that walking, biking, and jog runs are not included, I hope those can be added. Also, would like to request that the staff person who speaks please turn their camera on.
 - 1. Desiree: We will pass that point over to NYC Parks.
 - B. Martin: When will there be an area where we can do our concert series?
 - 1. Desiree: I will have the slide for Stuy Cove Park later on in the presentation.
- IV. Overview of contracts
 - A. PA1
 - 1. Delancey Street Bridge and Corlears Hook Bridge are the main highlights that are coming up soon.
 - B. PA2
 - 1. Over 800 feet of floodwall installed and first floodgate
 - C. Parallel Conveyance
 - 1. Bid opened on 2/10/2022; preliminary results can be viewed on the DDC website.
- V. PA2 Construction progress
 - A. Stuyvesant Cove Park north of 20th St. - flood wall construction
 - B. E. 23rd St. intersection - utility work and pile installation
 - C. West service road - floodwall construction
 - D. Asser Levy Playground - floodwall construction and park reconstruction
 - E. E. 15th St. between Ave. C and FDR within Con Edison facility - sewer reconstruction/coordination for subsurface investigation
 - F. FDR Northbound exit 8 ramp - ongoing ConEd work in the area and pile installation and ESCR work under the FDR within the fenced area.
 - G. Stuyvesant Cove – we'll be looking to complete the northern part before the end of the year. As of right now it looks like it will be ready to open closer to sometime in the fall instead of December. I will get back to you on the specific date and concert series question.
- VI. February air quality monitoring (AQM) update
 - A. PA2 AQM update
 - 1. Levels of particulate matter surpassed the PEL for 15-min on several occasions in Asser Levy monitors, and did not surpass the 24-hour average
 - B. PA1 AQM update
 - 1. No exceedances on PEL
- VII. PA1 Construction updates
 - A. Shallow clearing and grubbing activity in the closed area of the park
 - B. ConEd utility work near the Ferry landing and at Montgomery St. and South St.
 - C. Corlears Hook Park partial closure to facilitate construction starting the week of April 4th, 2022
 - D. Delancey Street pedestrian bridge overnight center span removal March 27, 2022, 12:01-10 am
 - E. E 10th St. ConEd utility replacements date TBD

- VIII. What We've Heard
- F. More detailed updates can be found in the March CB3 meeting presentation
 - A. CAG air filter request letter received and response coming soon
 - B. PA1 lighting and temporary path improvements are in progress.
 - 1. Any other areas people notice? - please reach out
 - C. Ballfield entrances - NYC Parks is assessing the ballfield issues given the path detour timeline.
 - D. Park security - continued coordination with Parks PEP and NYPD.
 - 1. Patrolling in the park – this is a question for NYC Parks department; waiting for response
 - E. Parallel conveyance stand-alone meeting with DEP to take place in April
 - F. We will provide written responses or responses at the next meeting for additional questions

IX. Q & A:

- A. Michael: I watched the CB3 video and did not see the response to closures at Corlears. Why is the whole FDR path being closed if parallel conveyance work is not starting?
 - 1. Desiree: I think that area is being used for construction access. Also, do not want to create a dead-end area. Will get back to you on that.
 - 2. Michael: Might be beneficial if Joyce can reach out to Chinese gardeners because the message does not seem to be getting to them.
 - 3. Desiree: I will follow up on this. Joyce did speak to gardeners, and they did not seem interested in having a conversation with her.
 - 4. Michael: Corlears Hook Park did invest in planters for guerilla gardeners along FDR. There will be 18 of them instead of 12; three are currently in use.
- B. Frank: I was at a recent 7th Precinct meeting; someone stole someone's phone in the park. The police officers only enter through Houston and only on foot. I thought there would be an entrance on Montgomery near Pier 42. Is that no longer available for police to go into the park via vehicle?
 - 1. Desiree: We are going to have further conversations with NYC Parks and NYPD. Montgomery Street entrance has a gate that is manned by security personnel but not during construction hours. It is our understanding that NYPD, PEP, Parks or other emergency groups can enter at any time.
- C. Frank: There is a lot of messaging going around piles in the park and people claiming they are toxic. I was wondering if you could address known toxicity within those piles.
 - 1. Desiree: In the colder months the piles did not need to be tarped because piles were frozen following DEP protocols. Once the weather starts warming up, piles are covered up but they are not toxic. Several piles are from the earth of the park but not from deep excavation. Other piles are clean materials that ConEd has been using for some backfilling. If a pile is being used, it does not need to be tarped all the time. They're following NYS and NYC regulations.
 - 2. Frank: In situations where there is deeper excavation, would there be toxicity concerns?
 - 3. Desiree: Soil samples were taken as part of FEIS (Final Environmental Impact Statement). There are areas where there are known MGP (Manufactured Gas Plant) products, and extra monitoring when

construction happens in those areas. That is part of air quality and overall monitoring.

- D. Wendy: On Monday at 3:30 you could see big wafts of dust in the tennis court area. Are you thinking of putting an air quality monitor in the Houston gate?
1. Desiree: We have air quality monitors where the work is happening. There is one on the Stanton St. part of the project. I will have to get back to you.
 2. Wendy: What about the request I made for a monitor near Montgomery gate? There is a lot of truck idling.
 3. Desiree: There is no work happening there at the moment. I will have to get back to you on that.
- E. Wendy: You have a new sensor that is solar-powered; what is that a sensor for?
1. Desiree: I believe those sensors are air and noise; not sure if all have noise.
- F. Wendy: On the topic of solar, adding lighting on Stanton and near Corlears can lighting be solar? There was solar lighting in the park before construction began.
- G. Wendy: Instead of buying an expensive temporary bridge at Corlears, why not open up Pier 42? Could be a cheaper option and get people walking.
1. Desiree: Pier 42 is an active construction zone so they cannot have people walking through. The temporary bridge needs to stay on schedule.
 2. Wendy: Could you ask please?
- H. Charles: Does DDC have oversight on ConEd work? Could ConEd come speak at a CAG meeting. concerned with kids playing ball right next to the work
1. Desiree: I will have to get back to you on that, but I believe the monitoring we are doing is inclusive of ConEd work as well. Not sure about the oversight of the work that is happening. We did provide a slide about the work that is happening there in a previous CAG meeting that they are upgrading the oil-o-static lines and providing extra support for the new park fill. We can get back to you on oversight.
- I. Christine: How long was ConEd work scheduled to be? Now going into the summer, what was the previous estimate when that would be wrapped up?
1. Desiree: ConEd work in Shared Use Path was scheduled for a year.
 2. Christine: Does ConEd say it will take them longer than expected?
 3. Desiree: We only asked for the duration for a portion of the park; I am not sure, and I have to get back to you on that. We were told this section of work will continue into the summer.
 4. Christine: My concern is vehicles that have to travel to Stanton St. will affect the esplanade, need to think about that even deeper. Section J will close soon, it is a concern because the vehicles will squeeze on the esplanade.
- J. Christine: I do not feel Wendy's questions were answered in a professional manner. I agree with Wendy that creating areas to walk along the water needs more effort than generalized statements. It is an active construction site.
1. Desiree: I will take this back.
 2. Tara: Desiree did bring this back, and in the last meeting did provide adequate reasons for why this proposal will not work.
 3. Christine: The point is questions are not being answered.
- K. Robin: We are concerned about the temporary bridge. I also brought up concerns about the bridge.
- L. Trever: Clarification points for Pier 42, one section is scheduled to be completed this summer, and the other part is next summer?

1. Desiree: Yes, that is correct.
 2. Trever: The temporary bridge we all approved for many years.
 3. Desiree: Yes, I believe so. The temporary and permanent bridges were in the plans to provide access to the ferries.
 4. Trever: Important to not go back to change plans we have approved for years
- M. Frank: I don't agree why people think when they speak at the CAG they are speaking for the CAG. Moving the bridge would be the closing entrance to the ballfield. Important to figure out how the CAG is conveying messages.
- N. Wendy: I am talking about not having a temporary bridge at all. All ferry users could enter on Montgomery St. and continue on a little gap in the water's edge.
1. Desiree: The Pier 42 deck is scheduled to be completed in the summer of this year, and Pier 42 upland is not scheduled to be completed until the following summer.
 2. Wendy: Have people walk near the water's edge.
- O. Robin: All my opinions are my opinions. There was a vote seven years ago on this park that was changed, if fresh new eyes are questioning the plan, it is worth a discussion. I don't appreciate comments people speaking for the "we."
- P. Frank: The advocacy is limiting access to the park. Equity is an issue in the CAG. Trever had a good point to go to those affected. I live adjacent to Corlears Hook Park, and advocacy to get rid of a temporary bridge is confusing.
- Q. Wendy: This is my idea to come from the south, comes from looking closely at the drawings, and might make the area more accessible to those living in the south.
- R. Frank: I want to point out we already have access by crossing over to Pier 36.
- S. Ophelia: Desiree has already responded to this; we need to table this conversation.