

East Side Coastal Resiliency Community Advisory Group (ESCR CAG)
August 18, 2022 Meeting #24
(via Zoom)

CAG members present

Dov Goldman Susan Steinberg Michael Marino Charles Krezell Wendy Brawer Dianne Lake	Christine Datz-Romero Trevor Holland Dina Elkan Sandy McKee Sam Moskowitz
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DDC Presentation of Updates

Desiree Gazzo, HNTB-LiRo

[Link to Slide Deck](#)

- I. Community Programming & Coordination & Information Delivery
 - A. Community Tabling:
 - 1. Corlears Hook Park - 8/25/22
 - 2. Hamilton Fish Park - 8/30/22
- II. Construction Progress / Approach
 - A. Parallel Conveyance (PC)
 - 1. Contract was awarded in May to NYCC JP JV
 - 2. Scheduled to receive Notice to Proceed (NTP) in September 2022
 - 3. Construction won't begin until NTP has been received—sometime in fall 2022—and will last approximately 4 years.
 - B. PA1 | Construction Timeline
 - 1. Timeline is actual year (not fiscal year) and each quarter spans 3 months.
 - 2. For more detailed East River Park phasing, refer to the PA1 Construction Approach from last year found on the website.
 - 3. Greenway was supposed to be closed as soon as construction started. The full greenway will close by next year as originally planned.
 - 4. The sequencing of the work may change at the discretion of the contractor—this doesn't indicate a shift in overall timeline. The projected completion date and open space requirements will remain.
 - 5. Construction timeline is posted on the website as of August 19.
 - C. PA1 | ESCR ConEd utility work
 - 1. Montgomery Street and South Street
 - a) Q1 2022 - Test pits for utility confirmation are completed
 - b) Q3 2022 - Steam anchor relocation and steam line abatement are currently happening

- c) Q4 2022 – Q1 2023 - Enabling work: utility relocation to avoid conflict with ESCR structures - subject to change
 - 2. Reach A & B
 - a) Q3 – Q4 2022 - Carbon fiber wrapping oil static lines approx. 500 linear feet. This is the day and night work happening now along the greenway at Montgomery Street, where the flood wall is going to be installed.
 - 3. Reach G, H, I
 - a) Q1 2022 – Q2 2023 - Carbon fiber wrapping oil static lines approx. 2000 linear feet going up to East 6th Street.
 - 4. PA1 Project Wide
 - a) Ongoing - as required utility relocations, monitoring Con Ed facilities

III. Environment

- A. PA1 | Amphitheater Asbestos Abatement
 - 1. Asbestos removal from the subbasement will begin on August 22 and will take about 6 weeks. It has been contained and will be disposed of in a careful and safe manner.
- B. PA1 AQM - July 2022 Update
 - 1. PM daily value did not surpass the PEL for the month of July
 - 2. 2 occasions where the PM level passed the PEL for less than 15 minutes.
 - 3. Currently 14 air quality monitors on site as of July; readings were based on these.
- C. PA2 AQM - July 2022 Update
 - 1. 3 occasions where the PM level passed the PEL for less than 15 minutes.
 - 2. Twice this occurred while no activities were on site, the other was while a concrete truck was idling.
- D. What We've Heard
 - 1. Noise (PA1 Montgomery St. Greenway)
 - a) Previous construction required heavy duty equipment to remove larger items. Smaller hammer equipment will be used moving forward at night for demolition.
 - b) Soil Piles (PA1 East River Park closed area)
 - (1) Response to soil piles being covered above and below with tarps
 - (a) Most instances soil is tested prior to excavation. If the contractor needs to excavate before testing, they will put tarp above and below to prevent cross contamination of tested and untested soil.

IV. Q&A

- A. Christine: I have a question about the construction timeline. For Phase II, the demolition removal and excavation start in 2023 in Q4, while at the same time for Phase I, the planting, paving, and furnishings are not complete until the end of

Q3 of 2024. Will the paving, planting, and furnishings be installed while that section of the park is open?

1. Desiree: Phase I is opening in sub-phases. Take a look at the PA1 construction timeline. Once the lower portion of phase I opens, then part of phase II can close. So, there will be parts of phase I open while phase II construction starts to maintain the 42% of open space.
- B. Christine: Will the covering of the amphitheater be installed before it opens?
 1. Desiree: That is still under final design so I do not have an update on that right now.
 2. Christine: I have the same question about the Fireboat House—I'm wondering if the work inside the building will be complete by that time?
 3. Desiree: We are trying to get an answer about this.
 4. Jeff: We've been talking to Parks specifically about the Fireboat House, and I know we owe you an update about that, so that's something we can come back with in the near future.
 5. Jeff: Regarding the amphitheater canopy, it is going through the final design process; it will be incorporated into the project but we will get back to you with more specifics.
- C. Wendy: The pipes that are in the subbasement of the amphitheater—where else do they extend? Where else are you expecting to find asbestos?
 1. Desiree: The pipes within the amphitheater are contained within the amphitheater. I can't speak to where else within the project asbestos is expected, but I can get back to you on that.
- D. Wendy: Does the tarping being underneath as well have anything to do with the asbestos being found?
 1. Desiree: No, that is completely separate. Soil that is not tested before excavation needs to have tarping above and below.
- E. Wendy: There is a big rig up by 18th St just off the water, do you know what that is?
 1. Jeff: It is not related to ESCR. We thought it might be a DEP related rig.
- F. Wendy: You mentioned the smaller machines and getting noise complaints, but are you also getting vibration complaints?
 1. Desiree: No, we have not received vibration complaints.
- G. Wendy: What is the latest story on Pier 42? I see what looks like basketball courts now?
 1. Desiree: Pier Side 42 is not part of ESCR. I think EDC is potentially providing an update regarding that at the next CB3 meeting. You can reach out to their CCL if you want updates on that
- H. Wendy: It's really good that there are now 14 air quality meters, and that they are located closer to where people are in the park and where they live. I hope that as the work extends that more will be added especially as sections are opening and closing.
- I. Michael: Thank you for the explanation about the asbestos. I have a question about tabling in Corlears. What protection or security will be on site during this

event? (References vandalism issues they've had from protestors expressing discontent about the project in the Corlears Hook area).

1. Desiree: Fortunately, the community has been really amiable when we tabled in the past in the street (versus the park, where things had gotten less peaceful in the past). One of the reasons DDC requests that we table during construction hours is that the team is there to support us if we need to leave the area for any reason. That is the security that we will have that day. I'm sorry to hear about the spray painting in Corlears Hook, that's very unfortunate.
- J. Damri: Do you want me to address the concern about the asbestos? It's a subbasement within the building. Those were old pipes that were insulated with asbestos back in that time. It's contained in that specific area. There's no expectation that there will be any asbestos outside of that zone. It's a cleanup operation. I don't see there's a need for any follow up; if that changes, we will let you know.
- K. Charles: I'm curious about the coordination of the Con Ed work being done along the greenway and the phasing of the park itself. How will that be coordinated in the future so that there is some accessibility as the greenway is closed, specifically the 6th street bridge and the 10th street bridge to the running track?
1. Desiree: The greenway wasn't supposed to be open during any part of construction. The contractor has been able to keep most of the greenway open until the Con Ed work was moving forward. As the greenway closes in full moving forward, the contractor will make accommodations to maintain access to amenities that are open.
 2. Charles: So, the 6th street or 10th street bridge would remain open?
 3. Desiree: During phase I, yes. During phase II then they will start to close accordingly as entrances in the southern part of the project open.
- L. Marty: The last time you said around this time the northern part of the park will be open. Where are we in that projection?
1. Desiree: The last time I was here, we had that conversation that the area in the northern part potentially wouldn't open until September.
 2. Damri: We anticipated having the northern portion of the park partly completed where it possibly could have access to the general public use. We are on track to finish most of that portion by the end of September. Solar One and EDC folks are advising that the park doesn't open until all the plantings are completed, which can't happen until October for the planting season. Construction is willing to open the walkway and the open space, however there is concern with planting and opening it to the general public where additional work has to be completed. We just need the consent of the Solar One and EDC folks.
 3. Marty: So probably we are talking about November?
 4. Damri: Probably. We are working with the landscaper. It's all part of the phasing, and everyone needs to be on the same page. Solar One folks

who operate the park need to be comfortable that they have what they need to maintain the park once we turn it over to them.

- M. Sandra: I wanted to note that we're asking that you come again to the CB6 Land Use meeting on September 22, we're hoping to get an update on all of this. Hopefully by then you will have an update on when the park will be open. (Desiree affirmed this).
1. Desiree: And you'll send us an email inviting us now that we know the time?
 2. Sandra: Yes!

CAG-Only Portion

- I. Paula: Tara and I are going to leave it open-end. Any issues that arose from what we heard or anything else you want to bring up?
- A. Michael: Just to follow up on last month's conversation about attendance issues. Do you have an attendance grid for all of the meetings? Is there a group that has not been represented at all that should be reached out to?
1. Tara: Yes, that's in process. We do list all of the attendance members in the notes. Paula and I have had conversations about this. I do think time is a concern—we're still in work hours for people. We are doing outreach to learn more. If we were to move to an attendance requirement (which I don't think we want to do), we would likely need to shift the time. This is something that we are working on with local council member representatives.
- B. Wendy: I'm wondering if there's any concerns about what we heard about the asbestos, the tested piles. There's been a FOIL request since April, the 2019 soil report. Can the CAG get soil test reports?
1. Tara: We would want to make sure that more than 1 CAG member is requesting this.
 2. Charles: I would back that!
 3. Tara: We don't have quorum, but we can put out the question to other CAG members via email.
 4. Wendy: Can you ask them just coming from me and Charles?
 5. Tara: Sure.
 6. Dina: We had initially asked for reports for Stuy Cove a while back. Initially DDC was not sure they wanted to give them to us, but they agreed that they would. I would be happy to vote on that in the future [requesting soil reports for this project].
- C. Dianne: Paula and Tara emailed me about a question I had asked. Could you share the response about what is happening to the sections of the esplanade that are being removed?
1. Paula: ESCR will be reusing the existing piles below the concrete caps. The actual concrete caps are being taken off site to be crushed, once off site it is likely the material will be recycled.

- D. Charles: Last week they closed the 6th street bridge for two days without much public notification. Moving forward they should let people know at least one week in advance. It was more than inconvenient.
1. Michael: I thought they had a standard time in place about when they have to notify about closures.
 2. Christine: They also need to be timelier about taking signs down once they reopen.
 3. Paula: I will reach out to the CCLs about this.
 4. Dianne: Maybe they could supply the team with better ways of attaching the signs than duct tape as well—zip ties, etc.—because the tape didn't hold up well in the heat.

Meeting adjourned approximately 25 minutes early.