### Welcome . Bienvenido . Byenvini

### Flatbush African Burial Ground Remembrance and Redevelopment Community Workshop #3

Remembranza y reurbanización del cementerio de Flatbush Avenue . Taller n.º 3

Komemorasyon ak reyamenajman simityè Flatbush Avenue an . Atelye # 3





June 30th 2021

## **Interpreters in Spanish & Haitian Creole**

•• 3

Participants

#### Para el taller de hoy, tenemos intérpretes en español.

Para acceder a este servicio en una **computadora**, seleccione el icono de interpretación en la parte inferior de la pantalla de Zoom. Se abrirá una pantalla emergente. Elija el idioma preferido.

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## **Zoom 101**

#### Please use the chat box.

Use el cuadro de chat. *Tanpri itilize espas pou tchat la.* 

#### Please stay on mute.

Permanezca en silencio (con la función "Mute" activada). *Tanpri rete sou "mute"* 

#### • We love seeing you! If comfortable, keep your video on.

¡Nos encanta verlo! Si se siente cómodo, mantenga el video encendido. Nou renmen wè ou! Si ou santi ou konfòtab, tanpri kite kamera ou a ouvè.



#### IN FULL TRANSPARENCY

- The full-group presentation and Q&A will be recorded and shared on fabgtaskforce.nyc following the workshop.
- Breakout discussions will be recorded for internal notetaking purposes only and will not be shared.



## **Introduce Yourself in CHAT**

If you feel comfortable, introduce yourself through CHAT:

- 1. First name
- 2. Your pronouns
- 3. Share your favorite spot in Flatbush

We encourage you to **rename yourself** in zoom: First name only, pronouns and neighborhood affiliation *(if appropriate)* 



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## **Goals of Today's Workshop**

To frame the intentions of this project and process



- A presentation from the Department of City Planning (DCP) on the considerations of site planning and building design, including the review of key concepts.
- To hold meaningful discussions on the contextual design of the future project including site footprint, open space / memorialization and building design priorities.







These workshops will inform the future project of a City-owned site at 2286 Church Avenue, at the intersection of Bedford and Church Avenues.







**This process is to identify recommendations** to be included in the Affordable Housing Request for Proposals (RFP) for the future project.

Honoring of the site recommendations:

- Memorialization
- The sensitive treatment and handling of human remains, if discovered in the future

Affordable housing recommendations:

- Populations served
- Non-residential amenities including youth programming
- Site layout and urban design



# **Project Timeline**



## **Project Timeline**





## **Project Timeline**





### **Recommendations Timeline**





# Remarks



## **Community Workshops**

**Previous Workshop:** Wednesday, May 5<sup>th</sup>

Focus on honoring and memorializing the site's history and archaeological findings. **Previous Workshop:** Wednesday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>

Focus on the future affordable housing and nonresidential amenities. **Today's Workshop** 

The meeting will focus on the site and building's design.





## **Community Workshop #1 Overview**

#### Workshop Agenda:

- To build our knowledge of the site's history, archaeological findings, and the ongoing descendant community research being conducted by HPI.
- To hold meaningful discussions on the recommendations that honor the historical significance of the site & the archaeological findings

#### WORKSHOP DETAILS

- Wednesday May 5<sup>th</sup> from 6-8p
- Over 70 attendees
- The full-group recordings, presentation and Q&A from the meeting can be accessed through the project website: fabgtaskforce.nyc





Please be advised that the nature of this content involves some disturbing information that we strive to handle and share sensitively and with respect.



## **Enslavement in the North, 1790**





### **Records of the Flatbush African Burial Ground**

"One of the most potent reminders of the horrors of the enslavement of Africans and individuals of African descent in New York City's history is the lack of documentation of their burial places."

- Elizabeth Meade, Archaeologist



### 1855 Map





Avenue







## **2001 Archaeological Testing**





## **Descendant Community Research**

#### Who Was Buried There?

- Two names:
  - Phyllis Jacobs twin sister of Sarah Hicks. From Hicks's account in an 1881 book, *Historical Sketch of the* Zabriskie Homestead.
  - Eve died 1810. From her obituary in the Long Island Star.
- A public notice was posted on Ancestry.com for relatives of anyone buried at the burial ground.

#### **Ongoing Research**

- This phase of Historical Perspectives' research is wrapping up summer 2021
- Research is encouraged to continue about the Flatbush African Burial Ground and the people buried there
- Comments and information can be shared through the project website: <u>fabgtaskforce.nyc</u>



## **Community Workshop #1 Discussions**

To hold meaningful discussions on the recommendations that honor the historical significance of the site and the archaeological findings.

**Discussion Topic 1:** 

Honoring of the Site

**Discussion Topic 2:** 

Memorial Themes, Location & Design Elements **Discussion Topic 3:** 

Sensitive Handling of Human Remains

All insights are currently being analyzed alongside the insights from the community questionnaire and Task Force to support the development of the community visioning recommendations.



## **Community Workshop #2 Overview**

#### Workshop Agenda:

- To build knowledge on data and key factors HPD considers in creating new affordable housing for New Yorkers.
- To hold meaningful discussion regarding types of households that need affordable housing opportunities most in Flatbush.
- To hold meaningful discussion on the different community services and programming the development could include (including youth programming and ground floor uses).

#### WORKSHOP DETAILS

- Saturday May 22<sup>nd</sup> from 10a -12:30p
- Over 75 attendees
- The full-group recordings, presentation and Q&A from the meeting can be accessed through the project website:
  fabgtaskforce.nyc



## **Affordable Housing Overview**

#### New York's Affordable Housing Crises

NYC's housing crises have made finding and keeping quality affordable housing difficult for New Yorkers, especially those with low incomes

- Low and stagnant incomes
- Limited supply and under investment of affordable housing
- Homelessness
- Legacy of housing discrimination



## **Affordable Housing Overview**

#### **Flatbush Housing Data**

- Answered the question: What is affordable housing? And to whom is it affordable?
- Flatbush Incomes and Rent Burden
- Neighborhood Demographics
- Flatbush Housing Stock



#### **Rent Burdened Populations**



## **Community Workshop #2 Discussions**

To hold meaningful discussions regarding affordable housing needs and different nonresidential programming the building could include for youth and the community at large.

#### **Discussion Topic 1:**

#### Flatbush Housing Needs

(including response to Neighborhood data)

**Discussion Topic 2:** 

Prioritized Population for the Affordable Housing Program **Discussion Topic 3:** 

### Non-Residential Amenities

(including ground floor& youth programming)

All insights are currently being analyzed alongside the insights from the community questionnaire and Task Force to support the development of the community visioning recommendations.



## **Honoring & Affordable Housing Recommendations**

For anyone who was not able to join us for the workshops on May 5th and 22nd, we are looking to capture insights in the following ways:

### Site History Breakout Room

In that room, we will be reviewing the full Site History Presentation and discussing how the site's history should be honored.

If you would like to be in the Site History room, please request this in CHAT.

### **Community Questionnaire**

Please fill out the community questionnaire.

### https://bit.ly/3gKydTe



## **Interpreters in Spanish & Haitian Creole**

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Interpretation

2)

Reactions

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### FABGRR PUBLIC WORKSHOP #3 SITE PLANNING AND DESIGN

June 30, 2021





### Presentation Purpose and Goals

- Clarify the process and key considerations for site analysis and design.
- Inform you all on site considerations to inform community feedback









Greenpoint Library, BK



Joseph T



Should the building go to the sidewalk? Who is using the sidewalk?







Joseph Y





Joseph T



How many homes are possible in a building?



prosting 7
#### Basic considerations to building and site design concepts



What kind of open space is possible between buildings? How much open space is possible next to a building?



prosting 7

#### Basic considerations to building and site design concepts





prosting 7

• 2286 Church Avenue





Josef T



• Honoring the site's history





and the second



- Proximity to public transit and relationship to commercial corridors
- Street and sidewalk width





 Recognizing the adjacent landmark building; Erasmus High School







#### **Designing the Site: Site Conditions & Context**





Approximate locations of human remains found during 2001 archaeological testing



Approximate 1855 boundaries of burial ground



2286 Church Ave

Joseph T

# Questions

Please submit your questions for DCP or HPD through the Zoom CHAT



#### **Breakout Rooms**

#### We are going to divide us all into smaller groups.

If you would like to be in a Spanish- or Haitian Creole-speaking room, please indicate your language of choice in CHAT.

# Vamos a dividirnos en grupos más pequeños.

Si quiere estar en una sala de hispanohablantes, indique el idioma de su elección en el CHAT.

#### Nou pral divize an gwoup ki pi piti.

Si ou ta renmen nan yon gwoup ki pale kreyòl ayisyen, tanpri endike lang ou chwazi a nan CHAT la.



### **Guidelines for Productive Conversation**



- Be open and show respect toward learning about the different perspectives that we have in the room this evening.
- Speak from your own lived experience and no one else's.
- Do not make assumptions about others in the room.
- Try to be comfortable with uncomfortable conversations around the history of slavery in Flatbush and be aware of language that may be triggering to others.



#### **Breakout Rooms**

If you would like to be in a Spanish- or Haitian Creole-speaking room, please indicate your language of choice in CHAT.

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#### To join your discussion group, a pop-up box will appear on your screen. Please select JOIN.

If you have not been assigned a room after 1 minute, please indicate through chat or voice and we will be available to support.



# **Breakout Discussions**

If you would like to be in a Spanish- or Haitian Creole-speaking room, please indicate your language of choice in CHAT.

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Si ou ta renmen nan yon gwoup ki pale **kreyòl ayisyen**, tanpri endike lang ou chwazi a nan CHAT la.

**If you would like to be in the Site History Breakout Room, please indicate in chat.** *This room will not be a repeat of May 5th workshop, but a space to build awareness and answer questions.* 





# **Community Workshops**

**Previous Workshop:** Wednesday, May 5<sup>th</sup>

Focus on honoring and memorializing the site's history and archaeological findings. **Previous Workshop:** Saturday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>

Focus on the future affordable housing and non-residential amenities. **Today's Workshop** 

The meeting will focus on the site and building's design.



### The Site and Its Surroundings







aligning with historical known boundary of the burial ground and human remains Erasmus HS to allow an interior secluded memorial open space



#### Possible building location

- Prominent memorial space opportunity
  - Outdoor memorial and open space

Locations of human remains

Burial ground







#### **Diagram Details:**

- Opened corner space for prominent memorial space opportunity
- The memorial in this location could draw people into the site and support awareness and education.



#### Possible building location

- []]
  - Prominent memorial space opportunity



Locations of human remains

Burial ground







#### **Diagram Details:**

- Open space wrapping around building.
- This open space allows for a memorial space on the portion of the site known to be part of the Burial Ground boundaries and the locations where human remains were found.
- This location is a bit smaller but could build awareness and draw people in.



#### Possible building location

- Prominent memorial space opportunity
  - Outdoor memorial & open space

Locations of human remains

Burial ground







#### **Diagram Details:**

- A larger open space between the building and Erasmus Hall High School, and along Bedford Avenue.
- The memorial in this location could support a quiet and secluded space, creating a reflective environment.





aligning with historical known boundary of the burial ground and human remains Erasmus HS to allow an interior secluded memorial open space





Building Design Considerations may include:

- Maximize Open Space and Outdoor Memorial -Should the building be taller to allow for more of the site to be reserved for open space and outdoor memorial?
- Maximize Housing Units Should the building be designed to accommodate a higher number of affordable housing units, which may result in a chunkier building that covers more of the site?
- The Contextual Design Should the building height and shape reflect the scale of the neighborhood?





#### **Diagram Details:**

- Within existing height limitations
- Number of affordable housing units are flexible for all priority populations
- Minimal open space that may not be directly accessible or visible from the street



Possible building

Locations of human

location

open space

**Burial ground** 

remains



#### **Diagram Details:**

- Within existing height limitations
- Least number of affordable housing units
- Small amount of public open space that is directly accessible and visible from the street



location

open space

remains



#### **Diagram Details:**

- Above existing height limitations
- Number of affordable housing units are flexible for all priority populations.
- Opportunity for additional affordable housing units
- Maximized public open space (estimate at 40% of the site footprint)



Possible building

location

open space

**Burial Ground** 

remains



- Maximized units under height limitations
- Less open space (access through the building)
- Within existing height limitations



- Minimized units under height limitations
- More open space
- Within existing height limitations (same as diagram 1)



- Opportunity for additional affordable housing units
- Most open space (estimated at 40%)
- Taller than existing height limitations



#### **Public Space Amenities**









What is important we keep in mind as we develop the recommendations for ensuring this future project supports the needs we discussed?



### Questionnaire



#### Please complete the Community Questionnaire

https://bit.ly/3gKydTe (link in chat)

This questionnaire will give you a chance to share all your ideas for all recommendations including honoring the site, the development of new affordable housing, youth and neighborhood services and the building's design priorities. The recommendations will be based on your input from the workshops, the Task Force meetings and this questionnaire.



# **Thank You!**





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Chat

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### What Happens Next

Next Task Force Meeting | Wed, July 21st

The meeting will be livestreamed on the project website: **fabgtaskforce.nyc**  Community Visioning Report | Fall 2021

The report will be based on insights collected during the three Public Workshops, seven Task Force meetings and the Questionnaire. Report Back Public Meeting | Fall 2021

The event that will be open to the public to share the findings and discuss opportunities for ongoing community involvement in forthcoming years.



# **Group Share-out**

A volunteer from each breakout room will have 2 minutes to share key themes discussed as a group.



# Questions



### Questionnaire



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