

RESOLUTION

Date: February 2, 2021

Committees of Origin: Preservation Joint with Parks & Environment

Re: The Metropolitan Museum of Art, 1000 Fifth Avenue (East 82nd Street). Application to the Landmarks Preservation Commission to replace the curtain wall/sloped glazing of the Michael C. Rockefeller Wing of the Museum.

Full Board Vote: 41 In Favor 0 Against 0 Abstentions 0 Present

Joint Committee Members: 13-0-0-0; Non-Committee Board Members: 3-0-0-0.

This application is based on the following facts:

- The Metropolitan Museum of Art (the “Met”) is an individual landmark designated in 1967.
- This application concerns the replacement of the glazing and curtain wall of the Michael C. Rockefeller Wing of the Met Building (the “Rockefeller Wing” or the “Wing”), which houses its displayed collection of the Art of Africa, Oceania and the Americas (the “AAOA Collection”). The Wing was constructed ca. 1982 by architects Kevin Roche John Dinkeloo Associates pursuant to a master plan created by that firm ca. 1967-70.
- The Rockefeller Wing is located on the southern face of the Met Building, facing into Central Park. It is situated in between two limestone edifices of the Met - the current main façade of the McKim, Mead & White Met Building facing Fifth Avenue to the east, and a modern wing also designed by Roche and Dinkeloo to the west.
- The existing glazing on the curtain wall, installed in a previous renovation approximately 15 years ago, has outlived its useful life in that the coating applied to it to redress the harmful effects of direct sunlight on the AAOA Collection has deteriorated to a point that its functionality is compromised, and its appearance from the exterior is mottled and inconsistent with the design and the individual landmark it serves.
The existing glass curtain wall measures approximately 200’ wide by 60’ tall, and stands at an angle of 70 degrees, with a surface area of approximately 12,000 square feet. It is composed of 9 rows of glass panels measuring 2’6” by 5’.
- The existing curtain wall framing includes pressure caps on the exterior on top of the mullions separating the glass panels. The failure of the pressure caps is believed to be the source of the moisture penetration of the glazing.
The proposed new curtain wall will consist slightly larger individual triple-glazed panels, measuring 3’7” by 7’, arranged in 8 rows.
- The proposed framing will employ smaller mullions mounted on the interior, and will eliminate the use of or need for pressure caps with the result that the individual panels will identify as distinct units and yet will appear as if flush rather than as housed in a grid framework, improving the appearance from the exterior.
- The new glazing will incorporate “frits” – barely visible polka-dots embedded into the glazing (rather than applied as a coating) that will be read by birds as a solid wall to be avoided rather than the current reflective glazing which birds misinterpret as open space, leading to multiple

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crashes and losses of birds. Frits will be required by the New York City Building Code as part of bird-friendly materials effective later in 2021.

- The proposed new glazing will be transparent at the bottom rows to create a view zone permitting a clearer view of Central Park, and successive rows will increase in opacity, creating a daylighting zone and a limited daylighting zone in each higher row of glazing, in order to diffuse the harmful effects of natural sunlight on fragile elements of the AAOA Collection.

The new glazing system is designed to achieve the following goals: (a) Eliminate the water penetration and condensation in the curtain wall, threatening the Collection and corroding the curtain wall system; (b) Improve energy efficiency; (c) Provide more translucent and opaque glazing to reduce or eliminate the need for internal shades to protect the Collection; (d) Allow greater thermal controls within the Wing; and (e) Greatly improve bird safety.

The proposed project, including its design, materials, color, appearance and configuration, is thoroughly appropriate to the character of the individual landmark, and is sensitive and deferential to the original Roche and Dinkeloo master plan.

The firm of Beyer Blinder Belle is commended for the thoroughness and clarity of their presentation, and the painstaking research and analysis it embodies.

THEREFORE, Community Board 7/Manhattan resolves to **approve** the application as presented as thoroughly appropriate to the character of this individual landmark.

Directed by the City Charter mandate that Community Boards review matters prior to consideration by the Landmarks Preservation Commission, the Preservation Committee reviews the "appropriateness" of proposed changes to individually designated landmarks as well as to properties listed within the Upper West Side's Historic Districts.

RESOLUTION

Date: February 2, 2021

Committee of Origin: Parks & Environment

Re: Department of Parks & Recreation plan to reconstruct the existing asphalt paths in Riverside Park at West 82nd to West 83rd Street and at West 97th Street near the Dinosaur Playground.

Full Board Vote: 45 In Favor 0 Against 0 Abstentions 0 Present

Committee: 5-0-0-0. Non-Committee Board members: 3-0-0-0.

This resolution is based on the following facts:

Many of the paths in Riverside Park are in severely deteriorated condition, with impaired drainage, collapsed, crumbling or missing asphalt, etc. The Department of Parks and Recreation proposes to reconstruct sections of such asphalt paths in two areas: at West 82nd to West 83rd Street and at West 97th Street near the Dinosaur Playground. The West 82nd to 83rd Streets work area is in two sections, one to the east and one to the west of the River Run Playground.

The budget for the project is \$920,000, the majority of which will come from NYC funds, supplemented by a substantial contribution by a private donor to the Riverside Park Fund.

The work on the pathway to the east of the River Run Playground, and the work near the Dinosaur Playground, which will be paid for by NYC funds, and will be performed as part of a DPR "State of Good Repair" ("SOGR") program for reconstructing paths and other park features to that standard. The work to the west of the River Run Playground will be paid for by the private donation, and it will be a less extensive restoration than the work in the other areas. The privately funded work will be done sooner, and without as many administrative requirements, as the public funded work.

Community Board 7/Manhattan finds that the proposed pathway restoration projects are appropriate to their locations in Riverside Park, a New York City Scenic Landmark.

CB7 regrets that a more permeable surface is not practical for the reconstructed paths, but recognizes, as advised by the DPR Landscape Architect, that any different material from asphalt would be both impractical and too costly.

CB7 commends DPR for its thoughtful and thorough presentation.

Therefore, be it resolved that Community Board 7/Manhattan **approves** the proposed path restorations at the designated locations.

RESOLUTION

Date: February 2, 2021

Committee of Origin: Health & Human Services

Re: Covid-19 vaccine distribution – Access and Equity.

Full Board Vote: 41 In Favor 0 Against 0 Abstentions 0 Present

This resolution is based on the following information and facts:

- 1) Since November, the Test & Trace Corps from the NYC Health and Hospitals Corporation, working in coordination with a group from DoHMH and the Mayor's Community Affairs Unit have convened briefings and presented to Community Boards and numerous other community groups across the city, both about trying to keep the rates of infection low and more recently on how to distribute the vaccine.
- 2) At present, there is no single official who can determine the vaccination strategy and coordinate the work of city agencies to implement a comprehensive vaccine distribution strategy
- 3) New York City is unique as a city because it receives its own vaccine supply from the federal source rather than receiving it from the state allocation.
- 4) The scheduling of vaccines has been problematic due to qualified recipients' difficulties in navigating the various portals, disparities in information access and above all, a lack of central coordination for scheduling appointments. A single central citywide website and a call-in center with adequate customer service for vaccine appointments that incorporates technology of private sector strategies, such as *Priceline* is needed.
- 5) There is not at present an effective supply chain task force to track and redistribute vaccine supplies in real time away from sites that are struggling with vaccine delivery to higher performing sites, as well as provide capacity building and technical assistance to lower performing sites to increase their vaccine delivery performance.
- 6) Surveys have shown that during the pandemic, most people have been receiving their information about Covid -19 and the vaccines via television and radio, rather than online. Utilizing public address TV and radio announcements, taxi cab screen videos and LinkNYC kiosks to answer questions about the vaccines for one minute every hour and calling it, "The Vaccine Fact Minute", may prove effective.
- 7) Studies have shown that seniors and people of color are underrepresented in the numbers of people receiving vaccinations in relation to their representation in the population. There is a need for diverse voices and perspectives in management and leadership of the vaccination program and for the use of culturally-tailored messaging and educational material for groups hesitant to be vaccinated. To increase participation, incentives may be offered for community influencers to sign up large numbers of people in the hardest hit communities.
- 8) At the beginning of vaccine distribution in New York City there was no plan for vaccinating NYCHA residents. At present there is no plan for vaccination sites in Douglass Houses or Amsterdam Houses in our district.
- 9) There is no vaccine distribution plan for people who are homebound and people, who are homeless, like the use of mobile vans.

- 10) Access to information has been inadequate among certain essential employees, particularly those working in the home health care agencies and supermarket chains, particularly information about how and where to get vaccinated with their workforces. .
- 11) The Test & Trace Corps is an initiative to stop COVID-19 infections in New York City and help the city open back up. The Test & Trace Corps is led by NYC Health + Hospitals, working with other agencies, including the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, the Department of Information Technology and Telecommunications, the Mayor's Office, and the Economic Development Corporation. They have ongoing reporting online of percentages of people infected by Covid-19 by zip codes.
- 12) The Test & Trace Corps has been partnering with local community groups to provide information on Covid and to outreach to diverse communities including providing material in 13 languages. Data needs to be tracked by age, disability, race, ethnicity, and medical conditions to inform access effectiveness as well as fairness and equity.
- 13) Researchers from the CUNY Graduate School of Public Health and Health Policy (CUNY SPH) and Emerson College are collaborating on an ongoing COVID-19 Tracking Survey to assess how New Yorkers are responding to the pandemic. Data emerging from the survey provides regular snapshots of the pandemic's impact on the lives of New Yorkers, and is intended to provide policymakers, health professionals, business and community leaders, and the public with a gauge on the adoption of preventive behaviors, and which communication strategies can help individuals and communities prevent the spread of COVID-19.
- 14) CONVINCENCE (**COVID-19 New Vaccine Information, Communication, and Engagement**) is a global initiative to promote vaccine literacy generally, and confidence in COVID-19 vaccines in particular. Its mission is to encourage sufficient global vaccine acceptance to achieve the level of population immunity needed to curb the COVID-19 pandemic. The CONVINCENCE initiative was established to coordinate and foster collaboration among existing networks, partnerships, and activities that support vaccine literacy efforts worldwide.
- 15) CUNY School for Public Health is home to CONVINCENCE USA, coordinating research and communication strategy development for United States audiences. Working at the national, state and local level, across the public, private and NGO sectors, CONVINCENCE USA includes both independent and collaborative programs to create support for COVID-19 immunization and the science behind it.
- 16) CONVINCENCE is developing the Global COVID-19 Workplace Challenge. It is a challenge for organizations to sign a pledge to protect the health of their employees. It includes a pledge to address employees' needs and concerns about the prevention of COVID-19 infection and the need to vaccinate against it and to promote the best available scientific evidence and guidance on vaccine benefits, risks and acceptance.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT CB7 urges Mayor De Blasio to assign a citywide executive officer - a single point person (with a staff) - who can determine the vaccine strategy in each zip code, especially those hardest hit by Covid -19. That person – perhaps called the “Vaccine Czar” – should oversee the development of mechanisms for outreach, tools for vaccine appointments and serve as the voice and represent the New York City vaccine initiative internally and externally, in New York City's dealing with the state and federal governments. That individual will be charged with planning and implementing a plan of robust and equitable vaccine distribution in New York City.

FURTHERMORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT CB7 urges Mayor De Blasio's “Vaccine Czar” to consider our rationales and recommendations in items 1-13 above, as well as the ongoing research of CONVINCENCE, in developing a more accessible and equitable comprehensive Vaccine Distribution program for New York City.