

PARKS & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

DRAFT RESOLUTION*

Date: April 17, 2023

Re: 79th Street Boat Basin

The following facts and concerns were considered in arriving at our conclusion:

- The 79th Street Boat Basin is operated by NYC Dept. of Parks and Recreation (NYC DPR). It is located near W 79th Street and the Henry Hudson Parkway, NY, NY, adjacent to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)-listed Riverside Park and Drive Historic District (NRHP No.90PR03411). Riverside Park and Drive is historically significant for its landscape architecture designed by Frederick Law Olmsted and Calvert Vaux.
- NYC DPR has applied to FEMA for Public Assistance grant funding under DR-4085 Sandy New York. As such, FEMA must consider effects to historic properties under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA).
- NYC DPR has proposed construction of a two-story dock house elevated on an additional story in a location south of the existing dock house. The new dock house will be within the Riverside Park and Drive viewshed, impacting views to the Hudson River.
- FEMA determined with concurrence from the NY State Historic Preservation Office that the proposed undertaking would constitute an Adverse Effect to Historic Properties.
- On the afternoon of Monday, April 17, 2023, CB7 received notice from FEMA in a letter dated April 12, 2023 seeking public input and comments on this project reflecting any knowledge of, or concerns with, this historic property or those within the project area.
- The comment period for the undertaking detailed above will end 15 days from the date of this publication or from the posting of this notice in [newspaper, website, etc.], whichever date is later.
- Written comments can be mailed to: DHS-FEMA Region 2, Office of Environmental Planning & Historic Preservation, 26 Federal Plaza, Suite 1802, NY, NY 10278-0002 or via email, at FEMAR2COMMENT@fema.dhs.gov. FEMA will respond to any substantive comments in the format they are received. If no substantive comments are received, FEMA will proceed with the Section 106 Adverse Effect process outlined under the NHPA.
- MCB7 will be applying for an extension for the public comment period based on receipt of the letter on April 17, 2023.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 7/Manhattan **opposes** the current 79th Street Boat Basin plan in light of FEMA's ruling of Adverse Effect to Historic Properties. We respectfully request that EDC and DPR modify the project as currently configured to remedy the Adverse Effect on the Historic Properties.

**Subject to vote of the Full Board on May 2, 2023*