

East Harlem Neighborhood Study

The City's East Harlem Neighborhood Study is **more than just zoning**. We're taking a **comprehensive approach to neighborhood needs** that will include investments in a wide range of City programs, services, infrastructure and amenities to help foster a thriving community.

Engagement with the East Harlem Neighborhood Plan (EHNP)

Community Engagement

- Extensive community engagement effort led by the **City Council Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito**.
- **21-member Steering Committee** comprised of community organizations and neighborhood representatives.
- Approximately **1,500 East Harlem residents** participated in **8 public visioning workshops** and **over 40 meetings**.
- Process resulted in the **East Harlem Neighborhood Plan (EHNP)**, which provided **200+ recommendations** to the City based on **12 key neighborhood topics** ranging from open space to housing to zoning and land use.



Interagency Coordination

After the release of the EHNP, the East Harlem Steering Committee subgroups and City agencies met on numerous occasions to discuss the following neighborhood topics:

- **Arts and Culture**
- **Open Space and Recreation**
- **School and Education**
- **Pre-K, Daycare & Afterschool**
- **Health and Seniors**
- **Housing Preservation**
- **Affordable Housing Development**
- **Small Businesses, Workforce & Economic Development**
- **Transportation**
- **Landmarks**
- **Zoning and Land Use**
- **Public Housing Developments**

These conversations with the Steering Committee and City Council will be continuing as the process progresses.

Responsiveness to the East Harlem Neighborhood Plan (EHNP)

Housing

- HPD released draft East Harlem Housing Plan on May 1; additional details at <http://www1.nyc.gov/assets/hpd/downloads/pdf/community/east-harlem-housing-plan-draft.pdf>
- Piloting a **Landlord Ambassadors Program** to provide technical assistance to East Harlem property owners.
- Providing **\$4.6 million annually in legal services to low-income tenants** in East Harlem, including those facing harassment, through fiscal year 2021; working with the Tenant Harassment Prevention Task Force to investigate and act against landlords who harass tenants.
- Prioritizing the **surveying of distressed properties** in East Harlem; 283 buildings were surveyed between August 2016 and April 2017.
- **Prioritizing development of over 2,400 affordable homes** on publicly-owned land including at least 20% of units affordable to households below 30% of AMI on sites including Lexington Gardens II, Sendero Verde, and the 126th Street Bus Depot.
- Awarding **\$500,000** for the development of the **East Harlem / El Barrio Community Land Trust**
- Studying feasibility of a **Certificate of No Harassment** program in target areas
- Implementing **new term sheets** that reach deeper levels of affordability, and **new RFP policies** that make it easier for community development organizations to compete.

Learn more about the City's East Harlem Neighborhood Study at

<http://www1.nyc.gov/site/planning/plans/east-harlem/east-harlem.page>

Responsiveness to the East Harlem Neighborhood Plan (EHNP) – *Continued*

Public Health

- DOHMH has **opened a new Neighborhood Health Action Center in East Harlem** with co-located health and social services. The Action Center will include a new Federally Qualified Health Center and community kitchen.
- DOHMH, in partnership with the New York Academy of Medicine, NYS Health Foundation and Mount Sinai Hospital, provided a total of **\$275,000 in small grants and support to 11 local organizations** to implement health recommendations in the EHNP.

Education

- As part of the 2018 Fiscal Year Executive Budget, the administration has committed to **ensuring every classroom has air conditioning** by FY22. This will ensure that schools in East Harlem are able to address this critical facility need.
- **Three new community schools** will be coming to East Harlem for the 2017 – 2018 school year to expand comprehensive services provided to East Harlem students:
 1. PS. 83 Luis Munoz Rivera (City Year)
 2. P.S. 108 Assemblyman Angelo Del Toro Educational Complex (The Leadership Program)
 3. Esperanza Preparatory Academy School (Union Settlement)
- Administration for Children’s Services (ACS) has converted vacant Head Start seats into **new Early Head Start seats** to serve toddlers in East Harlem.

Workforce / Economic Development

- **\$1.49M in Neighborhood 360 grants to local nonprofit partners** to staff, plan, and implement customized commercial revitalization programs informed by the Commercial District Needs Assessment of major East Harlem Commercial corridors over the next 3 years.
- As part of the East Harlem rezoning, the NYC Dept. of Small Business Services (SBS) has committed to opening a new **satellite Workforce1 Center** in the neighborhood.

Open Space

- NYC Parks, with funding through the New York State Department of State Local Waterfront Revitalization Program, has begun a **design process for the Harlem River Park Greenway Link esplanade** site, located between E125th and E132nd streets. Hosted first public meeting in July; will present alternative concept designs in Sept.
- Through its Community Parks Initiative, NYC Parks has **4 capital projects that are either completed or under way** in and around East Harlem.
- NYC Parks will kick off the **East Harlem Resiliency Study** to develop a plan for coastal and social resiliency that will reduce the risk of coastal flooding, improve upland drainage, and improve publicly-accessible open space. Study area includes the waterfront, from East 92nd to 154th St, as well as upland areas within the floodplain.
- The Randall’s Island Park Alliance (RIPA) continues to support EHNP efforts through engagement with local stakeholders and the development of a **strategic plan** for redevelopment, stewardship and programming of the **Esplanade**.

Public Realm / Transportation

- The city is in the midst of reconstruction of a **new 125th Street Plaza** under the Park Avenue viaduct between 124th and 126th Streets to provide a newly constructed plaza and expanded sidewalks surrounding the MTA MNR station building between 125th and 126th streets. In addition to public space enhancement, the project includes changes to traffic signal timing and crosswalks to enhance pedestrian safety and add street lighting on Park Ave. sidewalks. Construction expected to commence Summer 2018.
- DOT implemented Vision Zero **pedestrian safety improvements** along the Park Avenue viaduct, most recently at East 110th St. These changes enhance the visibility and sight lines for pedestrians and motorists while creating shorter, safer and more accessible pedestrian crossings to and from the stone section of the viaduct.
- DDC, in cooperation with DOT, will begin constructing **two new bus bulbs for Select Bus Service at Lexington Ave. and 125th St.** This work includes bus pads and a new bus shelter.

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