

White Plains Road Neighborhood Plan Kickoff

Date: 05/21/2025

Location: Bronx Community District 12 Office

What Happened

At Councilmember Kevin Riley's Community Conversations, NYC Planning gave the first public presentation on the White Plains Road Neighborhood Plan. This presentation included an overview of the White Plains Road Neighborhood Plan planning process, including the plan geography, the purpose of the planning process, and timeline for key activities. As moderated by Planning staff and members of Councilmember Riley's team, community members asked questions and shared comments about the neighborhood today and opportunities for the future.

Event Summary

Community members deeply value the neighborhood's strong tradition of homeownership, especially among Black and Brown families, viewing it as a key asset for building generational wealth and preserving the community's character [1], [2]. [4]. Challenges include the strain on infrastructure from increased housing density, leading to parking shortages, traffic congestion, fewer bus stops, and utility limitations that hinder new businesses [5], [6], [7]. Residents express concern about gentrification and displacement, emphasizing the need for intentional planning that prioritizes existing community members [8], [9]. There is also a desire for improved enforcement of parking rules and reconsideration of infrastructure additions like the bike lane, which some feel reduce parking and disrupt traffic flow [10], [11]. This feedback highlights a community committed to preserving its assets while seeking solutions to infrastructural and development challenges that support sustainable growth and current resident wellbeing.

Citations

[1]: I live in a co-op, and one of the things that is concerning to me is that a lot of folks that own their own homes are having an issue with maintaining their own. So I was hoping that there would be...

[2]: I believe that this neighborhood was always intended for low density. I've been living here since 1960. This neighborhood should not have multi buildings all over. From the 1960s, 1970s, 1980s, it...

[4]: One of our meetings, a young woman was complaining about the garbage that ends up in her yard because of the wind blowing garbage. And that's also a fact because there's no place to take all this g...

[5]: Carpenter Avenue is a case study. There were beautiful stone houses there. They were locked down. And you put apartment buildings. I used to park right there on 222nd. The gentleman sold the parkin...

[6]: The lanes, Gun Hill Road is what? One lane of traffic. Webster Avenue, one lane of traffic. Where are the bus stops? Fewer bus stops, more people, because you're building more housing, So you have ...

[7]: We are opening a Community Health Center on 218th Street and we're having trouble communicating with ConEd. There is a lack of infrastructure able to accommodate new businesses and there is a strai...

[8]: We're bringing in the things that we're trying to do in the community. I think we need to prioritize. Because what I don't want to happen is like what's happening in Brooklyn where there's a bunch ...

[9]: Affordable housing. I find that word affordable housing a code word. It's a code word because I was Googling the other day about the difference between low density and high density. And I've read t...

[10]: Bring the cars back to the side of the curb, that first area that's in the pillars of the L pillar becomes a shoulder or hey the vehicle is going down that vehicle can move off to the side...

[11]: There are constantly cars that are parking there. Even though there is a no parking sign, particularly on the overnight and all of these times. And enforce it in the food trucks. People will do wha...