



CITY OF NEW YORK
MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD 10
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PARKS RECREATION & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES
Wednesday, September 10th, 2014, 6:30pm

Hon. Karen Horry, Acting Chair
Hon. Daniel Clark, Co-Chair

Meeting began at 6:40 pm and was held in the 3rd floor conference room. The meeting was chaired by Hon. Karen Horry, Acting Chair.

Committee Members in attendance: Ashley Emerole and Troy Gethers. Melvin Christian and Gloria Richardson were excused. Daniel Clark, Derrick Graham, Dabney Montgomery, Lupe Moreno and Barbara Nelson were absent. Also in attendance were Chair Henrietta Lyle, Board Members; Maria Garcia, Tamara Martin and Michael Downie.

Guests in attendance: Marcus Book (MTA, NYCT, GCR), Teoh Yohe (MTA, NCTA), Rashmi Shah (MTA, NYCT), Arnyce Foster (NYC Parks), Robert La Magna (HDR), Stephanie O., Ruthann Richert (MMPCIA/W. 120 St.), Kieshsha Y. Garnes (DPR), Louis Bailey (WEACT), Sam McClendon (MMPCIA), Susan Huck (MGPA), Paul Huck, Connie Lee (MGPA), T. Zachery (MGPA), Camille von Kaenel (Columbia Journalism School), Yvonne Chancey, Josh (NYC DOT) Orzeck, Sean Quinn (NYC DOT), Janie Mason, Yvonne Marshall (150-155 Edgecombe Avenue Block Assoc.), Patricia Faton (MMPCIA), Katina Williams-Garcia (150-155 Edgecombe Avenue Block Assoc.) and Cynthia Nelson (35 Mt. Morris Park West).

Presentations

a) **MARCUS BOOK – NYC TRANSIT AUTHORITY** – The MTA came before the Committee to advise the community of the scope of an upcoming project involving a 36 -48 month flood mitigation project to begin in 2016. The project is designed to protect the train yard and assets at the 148th Street Train Yard from storm surge and flood damage. The project will have impact on PS 200, Frederick Douglas Academy and its above yard parking, the Frederick Johnson Playground, the Harlem River Drive, Harlem River and Esplanade Gardens and its parking areas.

Proposed perimeter protections include construction of:

- 1) An 8' concrete wall and a 5 foot temporary easement at the site of the driveway entrances on 147th Street and Lenox Avenue (five month duration)
- 2) An 8' concrete wall and a 5 foot temporary easement at the site of the shared east boundary with Esplanade Gardens parking lot at 148th Street.
- 3) An approximately 8' steel sheet wall extension with 17' above M.H.W. (estimated 6 to 8 months duration)
- 4) A wall in the NYCT yard behind the Fredrick Johnson Playground fence, (4) 9' – 13' textured concrete wall and approximately 20' temporary construction easement from Esplanade Gardens, approximately 15' underground easement-approximately 2' at lot surface at the southern boundary with train yard – also installation of new drainage, lighting, pavement and striping (approximately 6 months duration)
- 5) An 8' concrete wall and 5' construction zone along Esplanade Gardens parking lot entrance ramp along the western boundary with the train yard (approximately 6 months duration).

The MTA has been meeting with Esplanade Gardens' Board and the Frederick Douglass Academy.

The community expressed concern about the impact on parking, the relocation of cars and whether the proposed structures could exacerbate flood damage to Esplanade Gardens.

Outcome: The Committee requested plans and specifications for the project including the equipment staging schedule and suggested that MTA remain in on-going dialogue with the community in order to address concerns.

b) **COLONEL GREGORY E. COLLINS- STREET CO-NAMING** - The presenter did not appear.

DISCUSSIONS

a) **DISTRICT NEEDS STATEMENT** -The Committee reviewed a chart comparing current 2014 PRT district needs and suggestions based on 2014 budget priority submissions. Committee members will review and submit comments via e-mail. There is an expedited deadline of September 30th for submission for the proposed 2015 statement that has been targeted. Community Input Forms were distributed to the Community via e-mail.

b) **155TH STREET -ST. NICHOLAS PLACE - EDGECOMBE AVENUE - MACOMBS BRIDGE PEDESTRIAN SAFETY MEASURES** - A preliminary resolution was drafted and presented for the Committee's review. The draft included community concerns and requests as well as DOT recommendations. The Edgcombe Avenue community has substantial concerns regarding community impact from the proposed pedestrian island installation, banning of turns and slip closure with respect to residents' navigation of the area and access to their residences.

Outcome: A motion was made to table the resolution until more information is acquired from the community.

c) **PROPOSED BIKE LANES** - The Committee discussed the need for community engagement around the installation of bike lanes throughout CB 10 with respect to safety, street hierarchy and aesthetics. DOT currently has potential bicycle paths listed on their 2014 NYC Bike Map and has already installed bike lanes without the Community Board's input. Bike lane installation is sporadic and is greatly in need of consistency. Safety education and adherence to traffic rules for bicyclists needs to be addressed.

Outcome: The Committee is recommending that a formal request be submitted to DOT in the form of a resolution to have DOT present proposed plans for bike lanes to the community and incorporate community concerns. DOT will provide a listing of locations of all current bike lanes in the CB10 area. A motion was passed to develop a resolution.

d) **MARCUS GARVEY PARK SAFETY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT UPDATE - DOT** - The DOT presented data detailing the original plan to implement safety measures for the area and revisions based on some but not all community concerns. The Community continues to hold outstanding concerns with respect to DOT denial of new signal installations, school crosswalk signage and upgrade, motor vehicle traffic and aesthetic issues which are being considered by DOT.

Outcome: DOT will continue to follow-up with community concerns. The two area organizations; **Mount Morris Park Community Improvement Association and Marcus Garvey Park Alliance** will hold a joint meeting and provide feedback to the Committee with respect to their mutual concerns around the street redesign.

VOTING ITEMS:

a) **126TH STREET COMMUNITY GARDEN** - Committee requested a new petition that reflects the revised plan for the garden which does not include an apiary.

b) **155TH STREET -ST. NICHOLAS PLACE - EDGECOMBE AVENUE - MACOMBS BRIDGE PEDESTRIAN SAFETY MEASURES Resolution** - A motion was made to table the resolution pending feedback from community residents.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Meeting was adjourned at 9:36 pm.