



COMMUNITY BOARD ELEVEN

BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN
1664 PARK AVENUE
NEW YORK, NY 10035
TEL: 212-831-8929
FAX: 212-369-3571
www.cb11m.org

Nilsa Orama
Chair

Angel D. Mescain
District Manager

Economic Development & Culture Committee
November 13, 2018
Bonifacio Senior Center
7 East 116th Street, New York, NY 10035

***** MINUTES *****

- Present:** Jose Altamirano, Adem Brija, Melanee Farrah (Chair), Dawn Sanders, Vincent Torres, Jenny Tromski, Candy Vives-Vasquez, Jesse Yang, Angel Mescain (staff)
- Absent:** Carlos Diaz, Marissa Mack, Edwin Marcial, Celia Ramirez, Davon Woodley
- Excused:** Holley Drakeford, Steven Villanueva
- Guests:** Pilar de Jesus, Urban Justice Center; Kathy Benson, East Harlem Holiday Tree Committee; Genevieve Andre, East Harlem Holiday Tree Committee

1. Call to Order 6:35PM
2. Presentations

a. Cash Mob and Buy Local Events (9 Minutes)

Sandy Deleon Deputy Director in place of Michelle Cruz

- Buy Local Program: Project of Union Settlement (east harlem alliance)
 - Buy Serve Hire In local community
 - They're currently fundraising
 - They've gotten ways to get anchor institutions to buy from local merchants
- Cash Mob
- Event to support small businesses and building community.
 - They request the community board to buy products locally
 - If businesses come across us with some issues, send them to Union Settlement/East Harlem Alliance
 - Access for the disabled law firm - predatory 2500, contact east harlem alliance
 - Note: Provide Union Settlement a sponsorship request form for any business that wants to do local partnership

Meeting called to order at 6:48 - Motion by Candy, second by Jose

- b. East Harlem Holiday Tree Funding Request
 - i. Kathy Benson - presenting with artist
 - Recognize Hector Santana (here for MTA) that cofounded this tree committee 15 years ago
 - Anniversary for event on Friday, December 14th, 2018 6:00PM
 - They received money from the city to put up decorations for 2 other intersections (3 year commitment)
 - New storage space on Franklin Plaza
 - Budget changes
 - Unexpected changes of replacing electrical and purchasing speaker system
 - The CB11 logo is prominently displayed on poster as a sponsor
 - ii. **Adem Brija made a motion to approve the request from the East Harlem Holiday Tree Committee for Community Board 11 to donate \$1,000 to the 2018 East Harlem Holiday Tree.**
- c. Working Together Program
 - i. Pablo Guzman
 - 1. Update:
 - 2. They learned a lot in the past year
 - 3. They changed the name to “working together” and they worked with the city to do rebranding.
 - 4. They teamed up with East Harlem Alliance
 - 5. They are using a new method to use new technologies to bring customers in
 - 6. They worked with Hope Community to make the videos and now they’re looking for ways to promote the videos
 - 7. East Harlem 360 meets the merchants on Mondays
 - 8. Melanee
 - 1. We would like to see their budget to understand where the money is being spent, including who their partners are
 - 2. Pablo Guzman is the project director, while Sandy Deleon who is the deputy director
 - 3. ***Sandy proposed that we compile a list of questions to send them
 - 4. They learned to add captions to the videos because no sound
- d. Phase II Second Avenue Subway Project
 - i. Joe O’ Donnell - Director of Public Affairs
 - 1. Melanee
 - 1. She wanted MTA to come because she wanted us to be a better conduit for communication between the community and the MTA.
 - 2. The smaller the group, the easier the communication can be
 - 2. Phase I was primarily in CB8, but there was some crossover with CB11
 - 3. Special Community Board Taskforce

1. Come to quarterly meetings so they can report back to the full board
4. Hector - Information center
5. Jim - worked on these phases for MTA before
6. New Stations
 1. 106th Street Station
 2. 116th St Stations
 3. 125th St Station
 1. Past Metro North
 2. Lex Existing Stop
7. Benefits (Some from Phase I)
 1. Quality of Life has improved greatly
 2. 190K per day riders are riding this instead of 6 train
 3. Save 20min/day
 4. All stations will have ADA elevators/escalators
 5. They will repair all the streetscapes
 6. They will have modern stations
8. Project Status
 1. Preliminary Design
 2. Field Investigation
 3. This is coming to a close
 4. Building inspections are apparently winding down
 1. Melanee
 1. How can tenants check if their buildings have been inspected and is there a way to be inspected?
 2. There is a number to call or email to reach them
 1. Outreach@mtacc.info
 3. Department of Buildings do an inspection of buildings that may be affected
 4. 200+ buildings that have been uncovered, they decide if these buildings need work given what's happening
9. Environmental review
10. Community Outreach
11. Upcoming
 1. Advanced utility relocation
 2. Final Design
 3. Construction
 1. Early construction may start next year
12. Minimize impacts
 1. Use existing tunnels built in 1970s
 2. They're going down real low
13. 2004
 1. They did a full inspection of all 4 phases
 2. Phase 3 would extend the subway down to 76th st, and phase 4 would bring it to lower manhattan
14. Launch Box at 118th St

15. They would create a belmouth for any extension to the Bronx
16. They're able to avoid any major above the ground obstructions on 125th Street
17. They're keeping up outreach to communities
18. Melanee
 1. Given Phase I:
 1. Businesses failed
 2. Sound problems
 3. What are they willing to do to help with any problems it causes the community?
19. Outreach
 1. They provide handout for each process that they do in front of businesses or owners
 2. They gather contact info of people affected
 3. They attend meetings
 4. Using Pop-up tent to talk about the subway to people
 1. They will be using that during construction for residents to communicate directly with MTA
 5. PS96 ambassador program for students to learn from this process
 6. Working with Area Business Owners
 1. Minimizing impacts
 2. Maintain access all times
 3. Stage work so that they're in front of the buildings only as long as they need to be
 4. They will have signs to make sure people know the businesses are there
20. Best Practices
 1. Make sure they provide lots of exposure for the business on the construction signs, also that they will keep spaces clear
 2. When the community is informed, there are less complaints
 3. They're creating Merchant Advisory Committee Meetings
21. Questions about
 1. Sound
 2. Partial Street closures
 3. Do you expect the project to be faster given new technology etc.
 4. Dawn
 1. Is there a way for MTA to identify businesses that would be at risk and know early on that the business will not be able to make it? Invite East Harlem Chamber of Commerce
 2. MTA does not have any power to grant those businesses with any help
 5. Vinny
 1. We asked a concern about WorkForce participation for local hires - what is the % of local hires in terms of workers in Phase I? What is the cost of the project and

timeline? How many construction workers will you be hiring? And how much will they be asking local hires?

1. FTA (Federal Transit Association) have not finished their research
2. They found out that because this is federally funded program, there cannot be any geographical restriction.
 1. Vinny said that for NYCHA construction, they have something called Section 3.
 2. FTA is funding this program and they're not allowing geographical restriction. The program is called NewStarts.
 3. Melanee is trying to see if FTA can create a program that allows for this requirement
 4. Joe is going to ask for an internship program with the Union
 5. NewStarts program > Capital Construction Program
6. Jose
 1. MTA is buying 16 or something buildings, is there a plan for relocation and dislocation
 2. We need a finding of no significant impact - (in a week or so)
 3. They learned that the Phase I plan worked
7. Concern is that their cheap rent of existing tenants are not going to find cheaper rent elsewhere
8. Adem
 1. How do you calculate the compensation for tenant or owner?
 2. Eminent Domain applies to owners
 3. Separate calculation for tenants. It takes into account the type of unit (rent stabilized or not)
9. Jenny
 1. She wants to know about artwork in the subways, if we can bring in local artists?
10. Jesse
 1. Is there a mechanism for tenants to dispute the amounts that they're given?
11. Apparently MTA will be the owners of the buildings and they are the supers for the buildings.
12. They will be helping with relocation
13. The inputs will be known after calculations
14. Rough estimate of displacements - 11 buildings
15. Community Questions
 - They are demolishing rent-stabilized buildings
 - Letter came out around July 2018
 - Why are they buying and demolishing rent-regulated buildings?
 - Why not just 96th st to 125th St?

- Can there be a commitment to give the businesses displaced a first choice of going into the subways?

Meeting Adjourned at 8:45PM by Melanee