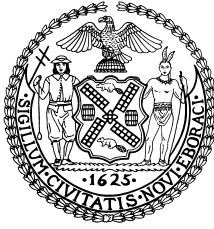


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**The City of New York
Manhattan Community Board 8
Roosevelt Island Committee
Tuesday, April 12, 2016 – 6:30 PM
Manhattan Park Theatre Club, 8 River Road, Roosevelt Island, NY**

CB8 Members Present: Jeffrey R. Escobar and Larry Parness, Co-Chairs, Ellen Polivy, Judy Buck, Scott Falk (as Chair of CB8M Transportation Committee)

Public Members Present: Judy Schneider

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 PM

- 1. A presentation by GC Eng & Associates, PC, as engineering consultants and architects to the Roosevelt Island Operating Corporation (RIOC) regarding the Manhattan Tram Station Elevator Modernization and Installation of ADA Compliant Elevators Project located at the Manhattan Tramway Station at 60th Street and 2nd Avenue in Tramway Plaza.**

GC Eng & Associates, PC, as engineering consultants to RIOC for its proposed elevator modernization and ADA compliance project, appeared before the Committee to give a report on the finalized planned design, work, upgrade and replacement of the existing elevators at the Manhattan Tramway Station at Tramway Plaza, as well as gauge community concerns regarding both the current elevators, the site logistics for providing elevator service while the work is ongoing, design issues with the plans for the new elevators and the timeline for completion. The proposed work is necessary to bring the existing elevators into ADA compliance (which they currently are not) so that proper service may be given to the substantial amount of mobility impaired residents who live and work on Roosevelt Island, and ii) alleviate and correct the nearly six (6) years of shutdowns in service and maintenance issues that has plagued the elevators and the residents of Roosevelt Island who utilize the elevators. As GC Eng & Associates had pointed out, the existing tramway station and its elevators were originally meant and intended to be temporary when constructed in the 1970s, and therefore has outlived its useful life.

As presented, the work would consist of the taking down of the existing elevator and the ADA service elevator and its existing shaft, and construct two new large, ADA compliant elevators on the South Side of the Tramway Station on its easterly edge towards 2nd Avenue. The proposed location of the elevators would permit larger, ADA compliant elevators to be constructed while give expanded entry/access proper waiting areas on the platform and improving exiting passenger flow. The new elevators would be independently operated, have improved and faster travel speeds, and would be glass-wrapped and illuminated.

Bids for construction are currently out, with an anticipated construction date of September 18, 2016. Final completion is anticipated to be October 18, 2017.

After the presentation, attendees to the meeting voiced questions and concerns as to both the existing problems and current state of the elevators; contingency plans as to operation of the elevators while the construction is ongoing; and the proposed luminescence of the elevators and its shaft and its effects on the surrounding residences and businesses. Particular concerns were raised as to whether or not the moving of the elevator shaft from its existing location to the easterly edge of the Tramway Plaza would create a larger footprint of the facility than originally constructed thereby allegedly taking away space from the adjoining park; what the plan was for replacing the trees that would need to be removed for the construction to occur; and whether or not the sizing of the elevators was practical in accommodating the mobility impaired who rely on motor scooters.

Due to the number of concerns raised by both the public and members of CB8 who voiced concerns as to the proposed luminescence on the surrounding residences and businesses, the possible impeding of the flow of pedestrian traffic, and possible reduction of park space, the Committee agreed to ask that RIOC and GC Eng & Associates, PC also present to the Transportation Committee in Manhattan (possibly in conjunction/jointly with other committees that may be of concern) to allow residents who reside near, work at or use the adjoining park to voice their concerns.

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeffrey Escobar and Laurence Parnes
Roosevelt Island Committee, Co-Chairs