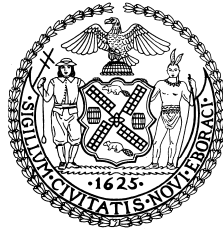


Nicholas Viest
Chair

Latha Thompson
District Manager



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**The City of New York
Manhattan Community Board 8
CUNY-MSK Task Force
Tuesday, October 8, 2013
Hunter College
Lang Recital Hall
Room 424 Hunter North
6:30PM**

CB8 Members present – Elizabeth Ashby, Molly Blayney, Sarah Chu, A. Scott Falk, Ed Hartzog, Margaret Price, Barbara Rudder, Judy Schneider, M. Barry Schneider, Helene Simon, Teri Slater, Marco Tamayo, Nick Viest, Hedi White

6:30pm Nick Viest called meeting to order

Members of the Economic Development Corporation made a presentation of the proposed sale of the site at 525 East 73rd Street and stated that the overall economic benefit would be \$1.45 Billion in terms of jobs created and tax revenues produced. They stated that there will be a traffic study done for all of York Avenue funded by the applicant and the City. DOT will oversee the traffic study. They stated that the applicant will contribute funds toward the completion of Andrew Haswell Green Park.

Several members of the public expressed significant concerns about the impact of the project on the neighborhood. They also felt that the EIS traffic analysis did not adequately address the traffic problems that will result especially on the FDR Drive. They expressed concerns that the project is being rushed through the system. They felt that the meeting should be held at another site other than the CUNY facility because of the perceived conflict of interest. They strongly opposed the project and felt that there is not any compensation being made to the residents in the immediate area and that the proposed funding for Andrew Haswell Green Park will only benefit residents in the east 60's.

EDC responded to the residents that there will be a comprehensive traffic study done for York Ave by the City. DOT will oversee the study and it will be paid for from funds from City and the applicant. No changes will be implemented until a review by elected officials and the community board. A representative who worked on the EIS for CUNY MSK stated that the traffic data was valid and that the FDR Drive will not be shut down and that he expects no significant traffic impact on the drive. The applicant will also make a contribution toward the completion of Andrew Haswell Green Park as part of the agreement. They also stated that the funds received for the sale will be approximately \$226 million.

Community Board members spoke both for and against the approval of the sale. Members opposed felt that the process is being rushed and that there is not adequate mitigation plans and that open space should be provided at or close to the site. They felt that a decision should be delayed because the District 5 Councilmember has recused herself from voting on the project. There was a question as to whether the economic impact is truly \$1.45 Billion based on how salaries were calculated by the EDC

study. They also felt that there is not adequate time to address the traffic and construction issues posed by the project and that no meetings have taken place to deal with these concerns.

Board members in favor stated that the ULURP application and the Zoning Text Amendment regarding the project were both approved by CB8. They felt that the EIS had addressed a number of the issues and that approval of the plan would not preclude the applicant from addressing neighborhood issues regarding construction and traffic. They stated that the proposed traffic study of York Ave would be helpful in dealing with the larger problems on York Avenue and that the funds dedicated to Andrew Haswell Green Park are badly needed. They also stated that without the funds for the Park the project will not be able to go forward.

A motion was made to support the proposed sale and a substitute motion was then made to delay the decision on the sale until January.

1. Sale of City-owned property at 525 East 73rd Street (Lot 15 on Block 1485) to Memorial Hospital for Cancer and Allied Diseases (“MSK”) and City University Construction Fund (“CUCF”) pursuant to Section 384(b)(4) of the New York City Charter.

WHEREAS the ULURP process has not been completed prior to the initiation of the land disposition process,

WHEREAS there is no timeline to act in the land disposition process as there is in the ULURP process,

WHEREAS the land disposition process is the community's last opportunity to hold the applicant accountable,

WHEREAS members of the community requested that meetings be held at a neutral location and not at any of the applicants' institutions because of concerns of perceived conflicts of interest,

WHEREAS the applicant pledged at the NYC Council Zoning & Franchises hearing on September 16, 2013 that it would create an ongoing task force which would meet monthly with all the elected officials and the affected neighbors in the area, but has not created the aforementioned task force,

WHEREAS the applicant agreed to fund a York Avenue traffic study upon the closing sale of the property at 525 East 73rd Street,

WHEREAS community members believe the traffic study should take place prior to the closing so mitigation plans can be put in place,

WHEREAS the proposed site of this large scale general development is located in City Council District 5, a district that is currently without representation as its Council Member has recused herself based on a perceived conflict of interest,

WHEREAS City Council representation is integral and essential to voting and negotiating on behalf of the affected community in the ULURP and land disposition processes, as well as the construction period,

WHEREAS City Council District 5 will seat a new City Council Member in January of 2014,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Community Board 8's decision regarding the sale of City owned property at 525 East 73rd Street to City University Construction Fund and Memorial Hospital for Cancer and Allied Diseases be laid over until January 2014.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Community Board 8 requests that the Manhattan Borough Board also delay its decision on this matter until January 2014.

8 - 6 - 0. Yes: Marco Tamayo, Sarah Chu, Elizabeth Ashby, Peggy Price, Teri Slater, Ed Hertzog, Barbara Chocky, Molly Blaney. No: Scott Falk, Hedi White, Helene Simon, Barry Schneider, Judy Schneider, Nick Viest

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:30pm

Nicholas D. Viest, Chair