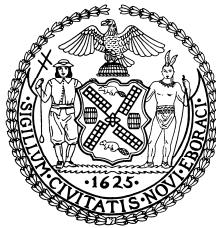


Nicholas D. Viest
Chairman

Latha Thompson
District Manager



505 Park Avenue
Suite 620
New York, N.Y. 10022
(212) 758-4340
(212) 758-4616 (Fax)
www.cb8m.com Website
info@cb8m.com - E-Mail

The City of New York
Manhattan Community Board 8

LAND USE MEETING
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2013
Ramaz School
125 East 85th Street
Auditorium
6:30PM

Community Board Members Present: Elizabeth Ashby, Albert Barrueco, John Bartos, Michele Birnbaum, Molly Blayney, Matthew Bondy, Lori Ann Bores, Roy Carlin, Barbara Chocky, Sarah Chu, James Clynes, Christina Davis, A. Scott Falk, Edward Hartzog, Lorance Hockert, Jonathan Horn, Sophia James, Lorraine Johnson, Dave Kleckner, Jacqueline Ludorf, Domenico Minerva, Laurence Parnes, Ellen Polivy, Rita Lee Popper, Hattie Quarnstrom, David Rosenstein, Barbara Rudder, William Sanchez, Judith Schneider, M. Barry Schneider, Rebecca Seawright, Helene Simon, Teri Slater, Cos Spagnoletti, Marco Tamayo, Debra Teitelbaum, Nicholas Viest, Elaine Walsh, Charles Warren, Hedi White, Timothy Yeo

Community Board Members (Excused): Lowell Barton, Susan Evans, David Helpern, Jane Parshall, Margaret Price

Community Board Members (Unexcused): Jeffrey Escobar, Cory Evans, David Liston, Abraham Salcedo,
Total Attendance: 41

Chair Nicholas D. Viest called the meeting to order at 6:30PM.

1. Informational Presentation by Con Edison regarding a joint project with the Parks Department along the East River Esplanade near East 74th Street.

WHEREAS a section of the East River Esplanade from East 72nd to East 78th streets previously controlled by Consolidated Edison is being returned to public use and is now being reconstructed; and

WHEREAS the Parks Department's redesign for this area includes two paths for walking and biking with a wide, planted area separating the two paths; and

WHEREAS the Parks Dept. did not seek public input on the use of the Esplanade in the Community Board 8 district before redesigning this portion of the Esplanade; and

WHEREAS, produced independently, the new design does not conform to other sections of the Esplanade; and

WHEREAS the new design's wide planted area limits the amount of space available for jogging, walking and bicycling, which are the popular uses of the Esplanade; and

WHEREAS the project does not include irrigation needed for the intended plantings in the area; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that CB8M asks the Parks Dept. to halt its current reconstruction of the Esplanade between East 72nd St and East 78th St., until the City elicits public input on the use of the Esplanade on the Upper East Side of Manhattan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, at minimum, CB8M urges the Parks Dept. both to alter its current design for the reconstruction of the East 72nd-East 78th streets area of the Esplanade to narrow the width of the planted area and to broaden the walk-way to provide a wider, safer space for pedestrians, joggers and cyclists and to provide needed irrigation for the plantings of that section; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that CB8M reiterates its call for a master plan for the design of the full length of the East River Esplanade and stresses the need for public input on the design of such a master plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that CM8M requests that the Parks Dept. ensure that the portion of the Esplanade (capital E) now being renovated by Con Edison be reopened for public use as soon as Con Edison completes ITS construction and returns the area to City control.

Manhattan Community Board 8 approved the resolution by a vote of 38 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention and 0 not voting for cause.

2. **Public Hearing: BSA Application, 321 East 60th Street**-Application to vary the requirements of the Zoning Resolution to permit within a C8-4 commercial zoning district, the construction of an eight-story residential building containing 28 dwelling units which would not comply with the use regulations of ZR 32-10.

Whereas, this application request to vary the requirements of the Zoning Resolution to permit within a C8-4 commercial zoning district, the construction of an eight-story residential building containing 28 dwelling units which would not comply with the use regulation of ZR 32-10, and

Whereas, we urge that every effort be made to include affordable housing units in the project, and

Whereas, Community Board 8M held a public hearing regarding this matter; therefore

Be It Resolved that Community Board 8 approves the application to permit within a C8-4 commercial zoning district, the construction of an eight-story residential building containing 28 dwelling units at 321 East 60th Street

Community Board 8M adopted the resolution by a vote of 38 in favor, 2 opposed, 1 abstention and 0 not voting for cause.

3. **Public Hearing: BSA Calendar No. 276-13-BZ, CEQR 14-BSA-047M, 1629 First Avenue-**

Application per 73-36 Zoning Resolution for a new health club for children's basketball, to be known as Fastbreak, on the ground floor, cellar and sub-cellars of the subject premises which is in a C1-9 zoning district.

Whereas, Application per 73-36 Zoning Resolution for a new health club for children's basketball, to be known as Fastbreak, on the ground floor, cellar and sub-cellars of the subject premises which is in a C1-9 zoning district, and

Whereas, Community Board 8M held a public hearing regarding this matter; therefore

Be It Resolved that Community Board 8 approves the application to permit a new health club for children's basketball to be known as Fastbreak, on the ground floor, cellar and sub-cellars of 1629 First Avenue.

Community Board 8M adopted the resolution by a vote of 40 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstention and 0 not voting for cause.

4. **Public Hearing: Rockefeller University** -proposes to build a low research building (two-stories with rooftop pavilions) and a one- story conference center in air space over the FDR Drive adjacent to its campus, plus a one-story recreation building in the NW corner of the campus, a total of 181,000 square feet. In addition, the University proposes to make improvements to the East River Esplanade, and repairs to the seawall, adjacent to the project. Certification by the Department of City Planning to begin the ULURP process is anticipated on November 4, 2013.

Another meeting will be scheduled in December to further discuss the issues of this ULURP.

5. Old Business
6. New Business

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50PM.

Nicholas D. Viest, Chair