



Meeting Summary

East Bronx Waterfront Planning Meeting #7

Tuesday, October 21, 2014, 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Locust Point Civic Association, 3300 Tierney Pl, Bronx, NY, 10465

Attendance: (Committee members, firm representatives, invited guests, members of the public)

John Doyle	Committee Member	Claudia Filomena	NY Rising Regional Lead
Marjorie Hooks	Committee Member	Alex Zablocki	NY Rising Regional Lead
Cynthia McIntosh	Committee Member	Ron Rizzotti	NY Rising Planner
John Marano	Committee Member	Tom Jost	Planning Team
Chrys Napolitano	Committee Member	Kevin Maddox	Planning Team
Denise Noble	Committee Member	Christopher Riale	Planning Team
Valerie Wilson	Committee Member	Yao Lu	Planning Team
Jane Protzman	Committee Member	Theresa Cassano	Planning Team
Ron Rauch	Committee Member	Barbara Wilks	Planning Team
JoAnn Sohmers	Committee Member	Frannie Peterson	Planning Team
Dorothea Poggi	Committee Member		
Marcia Anne Pavlica	Resident		
Greg Miller	DCP		

Agenda Item: Committee Business

Presenters: Tom Jost, Planning Team

Summary of Discussion:

The Planning Team displayed the definitions of Priority Project, Featured Project, and Additional Resiliency Recommendation. Committee members were asked to keep the different buckets in mind while reviewing potential projects. Handouts included a spreadsheet of all potential projects and recommendations and a brief description. The Committee members were asked to further complete the spreadsheet after the meeting.

The next Planning Committee Meeting will be set up on Thursday, October 30th, 2014 to further discuss the list of projects and to plan for Public Meeting #3. Committee members also received flyers prepared for public outreach before the Public Meeting.

Agenda Item: General NYRCR Discussion

Presenter: Tom Jost, Planning Team

Summary of Discussion:

As the Planning Team went over each project on the spreadsheet, Committee members brought up some general questions about NY Rising Community Reconstruction Program and CDBG-DR fund. The questions and comments were as follows:

- Can projects from the NYRCR Plan receive further funding that exceeds \$3 million CDBG-DR money allocated to this community? What are the project types that are likely to receive additional funding?
- How the agency coordination was being carried out?

The Planning Team provided detailed information on agency coordination and the specific projects involved. The Planning Team and Governors Office of Storm Recovery (GOSR) gave several examples of projects from last round being funded by sources outside the NYRCR program. However, there is no existing project identified in the

Bronx so far that has already received funding/grants which might provide opportunity for leveraging funding and adding resiliency features.

Agenda Item: Regional Projects

Presenter: Theresa Cassano and Tom Jost, Planning Team

Summary of Discussion:

The Planning Team reviewed the mechanism and benefits of Emergency Plan and Resource Centers, Go to High Ground Partnership, Building-Level Resiliency Education, Building Flood Audit Program, and Resiliency Capital Fund projects. The presentation was accompanied by the following discussions and comments:

- Physical Resource Center
 - Planning Committee needs to develop a set of criteria that are tailored to the needs of this Community. The NYRCR program will not be able to identify a specific entity to be a potential Resource Center during the process of this program. Committee members asked for examples and precedents of Resource Centers from last round.
- Emergency Plan
 - Several Committee members brought up a potential way to increase emergency preparedness by engaging OEM and requesting existing emergency preparedness information. A potential Additional Recommendation for the NYRCR Plan can be recommending that OEM give regular education sessions to residents of the community about home protection and emergency preparedness.
- Go to High Ground Partnership
 - Planning team briefed the Committee about meeting with OEM and the discussion on emergency evacuation routes. There are no planned evacuation routes and residents receive evacuation alerts are expected to be evacuated before the storm. Committee members identified one of the problems being residents staying until the last minute despite of the alerts.
- Building-level Resiliency Education and Building Flood Audit Program & Financial Assistance
 - Committee recognized the fact that the planning area has a large number of homeowners. The program, given limited funding, might only be able to help a small group. However, Committee agreed that vulnerable population and low-income residents' needs should be prioritized in this project.
 - An education program might be helpful to cover a larger portion of the population in the planning area.
 - Committee members suggested that the criteria of homeowner eligibility needs to be developed.
 - Community-based organizations will be the implementer and gate-keepers of the process.
 - Conduct a preliminary study of how many homes are within the flood risk area throughout the Planning Area in order to project possible need of the Flood Audit Program.
 - Financial Assistance Program might be essential for implementing the Flood Audit Programs. The Financial Assistance can ensure residents be able to afford the implementation after the audit.
- Resiliency Capital Fund (for Community Facilities)
 - Committee recognized the importance to fund flood protections for community centers and facilities. A local disaster manager/personal might be needed to connect the community to City/State agencies to provide localized emergency preparedness service and information.

Action Items	Person Responsible	Due Date
Collect Precedents of Resource Centers	Planning Team and GOSR	10/30/2014
Estimate potential need for Flood Audit Program	Planning Team	10/30/2014

Agenda Item: Local Projects

Presenter: Tom Jost, Planning Team

Summary of Discussion:

The Planning Team presented strategies at key locations throughout the Planning Area. Committee members actively participated in the discussion about these projects and their costs. Comments and key discussions are included as follows:

- Ferry Point Drainage Pattern Redesign
 - The issue of private property encroaching into public right-of-way is a wide-spread issue throughout the Planning Area.
 - Committee raised the question of whether a NYRCR Priority or Featured Project that requires city agencies to be implemented is dropped by the agency, whether the funding allocated to that project would be wasted.
- Calhoun Avenue Street End Flood Wall and Overlook
 - Committee members were concerned about maintenance issue of the proposed pier and possible impacts on adjacent properties.
- City Island Wetland Interim Restoration & Berming
 - Planning Team and GOSR briefed the Committee on land ownership issue of the wetland.
 - Committee expressed interest in restoring the wetland and providing public access. The project is likely to create great co-benefits. However, local residents might oppose allowing public access.

The Committee was asked to consider each of the projects further before the next meeting. The Planning will provide the Committee projected number of how many household protected under each project for comparison.

Action Items	Person Responsible	Due Date
Estimate how many houses are protected by each project	Planning Team	10/30/2014