

Hudson River Park Advisory Council

June 11, 2024

Pier 57

Tammy Meltzer, Chair

Welcome from the Chair

Adoption of the minutes

Housekeeping: Meeting Schedule: Summer off, next meeting in September

Roll Call, Dan Mailer, Second Vice Chair, Rep CB2

Executive Member Election

- Three spots for member community reps
- All executive committee members running again (Martin Sweeney; Isaac-Daniel Astrachan; Mary Habstritt
- 1 for elected official representatives, Wendi Paster to run again.

Open the floor for nominations:

- Tom Fox nominated by Rob.

Straight vote. Four people on the ballot, vote for three.

Motion to close the nominations.

HRPT representative Robert Atterbury created the vote sheet and emailed to all.

Advisory Board Membership should have included HRPT Friends, Little Island Manhattan Youth Recreational Resources, Pier 66 Maritime, West Village Houses, and Fulton Houses, as all are members in good standing. Took a block vote to maintain their position. No opposition. Those six members are back on the advisory council.

28 seats for organizational members and only 25 are filled. Please encourage qualifying organizations to apply.

Presentation by Battery Park City Authority

- Presenter: Nick Sbordone

- Last presented a year ago. Recently hit 60% design on the Northwest Battery Park City resiliency project, extends from top part of the Museum of Jewish Heritage in South Battery Park City terminating at a point in Western Tribeca.

-Design updates, Gwen Dawson.

BPCA is executing a two-phase resiliency program as part of Lower Manhattan Coastal Resiliency Project.

- South Battery Park City Resiliency Project, currently under construction and to be completed in Spring 2025
- North/West Battery Park City Resiliency Project, still in design, DEIS hearing in mid-September 2024 and construction to start mid to late 2025

Project Design requirements - continuous floor protection for storm surge, but also meeting FEMA requirements for certification (which will reduce insurance burdens for residents), protection against 30 inches of sea level rise, favoring passive elements over deployables, minimizing disturbance to residents, businesses and public spaces, ease of maintenance and operations, maintain and improve access and circulation, etc.

Reach One Update: utilities are concentrated in this area so have to be particularly careful. Previously had anticipated a big barrier to be installed along the bikeway, but have since revised to reduce the visual barrier by moving the barrier from the west side of 9A to the east side of 9A along the building lines using deployable gates. Still discussing with NYC and NYS DOT to determine the materials and styles (swing, sliding, flip up, etc).

Will also introduce new plantings .

Since 30% design and now, they have changed:

- alignment from west side of 9A
- crossing of RT (A moved further south)
- floodwall at exterior of BMCC buildings
- deployable cross of Harrison street
- Design/coordination re: BMCC frontage & access/egress
- Coordination with NYSDOT and NYCDOT re: deployable for Routh (A crossing)
- Accommodation of utilities and infrastructure
- Development of wall profile and materiality.

Trying to maintain visual connection towards the water and avoid visual obstruction. Also using compatible design with seating and planters.

Reach Two Update: north esplanade

Raising of the platform and will try to widen the path to reduce conflicts, which can also help enhance the connection between BPC and HRP emphasizing adaptability so they can increase the elevation as new projections become available.

Coordinating with: HRPT, NYS DOT, NYC DOT, NYC DEP, NYC SBS, USACE, NYSDEC and other projects.

They also have two main drainage objections:

- Isolate the protected area such that floodwater is prevented from entering through existing sewer connections during coastal storm surges.

- Manage interior flooding within the project's protected area associated with a coincident coastal storm surgery and rainfall event to minimize interior flooding.

The pump station infrastructure is expected to be below grade just to the east of Stuyvesant High School; construction of this will start later than the rest of the project.

Tom Fox: Storm water gets pumped where?

BPCA: Into the estuary.

TF: A system to pump water more slowly into the estuary might be valuable to consider.

Bicycles

BPCA: Coordination will be done to ensure that it aligns with HRPT guidelines around bicycles.

Battery park allows bicycles.

Andrew: Have you identified any reason why flip gates wont work?

BPCA: will depend on DOT and their perspective vis a visa maintenance, snow plows, etc.

Mary: Impact to use of the waterway.

BPCA: We aim to minimize any impacts during construction, but little to no impact post construction.

BPC: Encourage protection further north beyond North Moore but that's not part of this effort.

Sally Greenspan: Confirmed flip gates are not visible when not deployed, and 9-10 feet when they are.

BPCA: Construction duration will be 5 years; will start in areas that take the longest and that have the highest immediate risk, which is the area from Tribeca to the north esplanade.

Tammy: Molded concrete benches - would prefer something more contextual and that is more climate friendly, e.g. look to Little Island.

BPCA; they aren't done yet and appreciate the feedback. Pre-cast modules allow them to retaining earth and allow for planting and bridge grade.

Go to June 20th full presentation for more information and updates.

Safety Committee Report, Michael

- Main goal of committee: make recommendations for exec to decide
- Implementing a standard agenda format, which includes a safety report from Crhis McAnn and updates from Robert Adderbury.
- Priority topics will include:
 - Safety of tidal pools
 - Greenway and electrical vehicles
 - Resources and engaging commercial tenants to contribute more to park safety and security.

- Email questions and comments to michael@littleisland.org
- Discussed the idea of HRPT board members should be invited to join safety committee meetings.

Updates from HRPT

Robert Atterbury

See notes her: [2024.6.11-AC-Report.pdf \(hudsonriverpark.org\)](#)

Chris

- security incident with emotionally disturbed person cut person and was arrested and prosecuted for felony assault.
- Be on alert for fundraising/venmo scams.

Questions:

- Request for transparency around July 4 and fees
 - There are no private events
- Legislation - Question to clarify re the future of the heliport.
 - Legislation combined existing legislation to close the heliport and combined it with the expanded uses and there were no changes to the legislation as it was described in past meetings.
- Sewer leak in Yonkers: Is the city website a reliable source when the source of the leak is outside the city?
 - Request that the trust check if the water safety reports include leaks that originate outside of the city because the data that the city puts out doesn't reflect testing but rather modeling. Add water safety to the safety committee discussion.

Final comments

Looking ahead to the fall, Wendi has agreed to take the bylaws.

Vote results

- Martin Sweeney
- Tom Fox
- Mary Habstritt
- Wendi Paster

Meeting adjourned after 1 hour and 44 minutes.