

Re: **Borough-Based Jails Neighborhood Advisory Committee
(NAC) Bronx - Second Meeting**

Date: November 28, 2018 6:30 pm

Location: BronxConnect – 432 East 149th Street

Attendees: See Attached

Prepared by: Rose Florian and Arnie Bloch

Perkins Eastman
Architects DPC

Attendees:

Name	Affiliation
Clarisa Alayeto	Community Board #1
Bianca Almedina	Councilwoman Ayala's Office
Diana Ayala	Councilwoman
Mili Bonilla	Councilwoman Ayala's Office
Tara Brown	BronxConnect
Rev. Wendy Calderon-Payne	BronxConnect
Ramona Ferreyra	Community Member
John Johnson	Community Board #1
Carmen Pineiro	The Bronx Defenders
Rev. Ray Rivera	Latino Pastoral Action Center, Sanctuary Church
Hector Torres	Save Our Streets
Arnie Bloch	FHI
Eric Fang	PE
Rose Florian	PE
Chatodd Floyd	MOCJ
Dana Kaplan	MOCJ
Cathy Li	HR&A
Lindsey Shields	DMOPS
Nicole Torres	MOCJ
Joseph Thomas	CAU

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Action Items:

- Next NAC meeting tentatively scheduled for Tuesday Dec. 18th from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM. Location will be BronxConnect 432 East 149th Street.
- NAC members requested DOC to be present at next meeting.
- NAC members requested to focus on investments at the beginning of meetings.
- NAC members suggested a field trip to the site for City representatives, Perkins Eastman staff, and NAC members.
- Recommendation to develop a vision around which community needs could be identified.
- NAC members asked for the next meeting to be structured in themes where the room can be divided into different working groups to discuss investments they are interested in.
- NAC suggested that the City hire a public relations firm to convey a compelling and accurate message of the project.
- NAC members asked about the ongoing efforts of the Implementation Task Force Steering Committee.

Updates from the City:

- MOCJ updated the NAC members that the City is pushing back borough jail certification timeline ~3-4 months for all four sites in order to conduct robust community engagement. This will not impact the 10 year Close Rikers timeline. Moving the timeline back because over the last few months of this borough-based jail program, we discovered that relocating the occupants of 80 Centre Street in Manhattan would be more timely and costly than initially anticipated and are returning to the originally planned site at the current Manhattan Detention Center (MDC) location. This means more time for community engagement, more time to receive feedback, and answer community questions.
- MOCJ explained the issues in terms of what the environmental review should look at are not materially different between the two locations, 80 Centre Street and 124/125 White Street, and the two locations are very close, so that there is a lot of overlap between the impacted area and impacted community. Additionally, the City looked at the comments we have received and saw that moving the location to 124/125 White Street was consistent with the comments the City

has received on 80 Centre Street. For example, some comments asked why not keep the location at 124/125 White Street, and other comments indicated that the new location addresses some of the potential impacts presented by 80 Centre Street. That said, the scoping process is only the beginning of the environmental review process. Scoping narrows down the focus of the environmental impact statement and allows the City to get initial community comments. There is a lot of process still left, such as commenting on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) and throughout the Universal Land Use Review Procedure (ULURP), and there will be numerous opportunities for meaningful public engagement. The City will address all written and oral comments submitted as part of the CEQR DEIS comment period, which will be formally noticed at the completion of the DEIS.

Major Themes from NAC Members

- Master Plan
- Vision for Community Needs
- Miscellaneous

Master Plan

- An NAC member recommended that bus service be set up to serve lawyers and visitors traveling between the jail and the court.
- The need for jail visitor parking can be part of the NAC's Guidelines and Principles document.
- PE stated that at these meetings the NAC should develop both community needs and possible community use of space within the jail.
- An NAC member asked if the Arraignment Court was still part of the Bronx site. MOCJ replied yes, but the City recognizes there are concerns, so no decision has been finalized.
- The City should work with MTA NYCT as it plans changes to local Bronx bus routes/service so that future jail plans are incorporated.

Vision for Community Needs

- Rev. Rivera suggested that the NAC develop a vision to help structure the prioritization of community needs for the Guidelines and Principles document.
- Councilwoman Ayala offered her vision: the neighborhood needs to offer a better future for its youth, in terms of programs, facilities, housing, etc. She described several ideas for meeting this vision, including a youth facility at the old 40th Police Precinct building, evening and after-school programs, mentoring programs, job training and entrepreneurship programs, affordable housing, and cleaner streets.
- Others suggested creating community schools and improving overall school education programs.
- One person called it “Rebuilding Mott Haven.”
- Consensus to get started on the vision, identifying, and prioritizing needs at the next meeting.

Miscellaneous

- What about creating a “land trust” to secure affordable rent prices?
- Bronx should be part of any conversation about the future of Rikers Island. One suggestion was to relocate all facilities that generate pollution to Rikers Island.
- Encouraged the City to do a better job amplifying the vision of creating a modern, human borough-based jail system. Specifically the City should:
 - More clearly articulate that the new facilities would provide an improved environment for both staff and those in detention needs;