

Chairman: Brandon Ganaishlal - District Manager: William Rivera

# Land & Zoning, Economic Development & Planning Committee Meeting Summary

October 17, 2022

**Board Members Present :** Mitchell Halpern, Linda Soto, Monique Dennis, Sinade Wadsworth, Brent Woodie, Kristine Garcia, Chandra Moore, Ahmat Jallo, Andrea McLeod, Julio Quinonez, Twywana Bush

I. Committee Description: The Land & Zoning, Economic Development & Planning Committee represents the community's interests with regard to the use of land, zoning, landmark, building, etc. and acts as a liaison between community members and Department of City Planning, Department of Buildings & the New York City Economic Development Corporation.

## II. Speakers

- A. Kenny Melis, South Bronx Overall Economic Development Corporation Business Service Department:
  - Bronx-Industrial Service Business Providers (NYC Small Business Services Agency)
    - Financing Loans/Grants: Currently encouraging businesses who were established after 9/1/2018 to apply for the NYS Seed Grant Fund which is aimed to assist those businesses who were not able to get any Pandemic Assistance.
    - Legal Assistance
    - Incentives
    - o Business Consultations
  - Credit Inc. In house CDFI assisting businesses with small loans from \$500-\$10,000.
  - PTAC Center- Assist businesses in becoming M/WBE Certified to elevate their business.

## WorkForce Department

- Assist businesses in filling vacant roles and finding the ideal candidates for the businesses.
- Assist people in attaining employment through job readiness, skills training and job placement.

### YouthBuild

 Helps at risk young adults age 17-24 attain their GED and develop skills to enter the workforce.

Request for updated calendar of events online

SoBRO helps business with MWBE applications and resources are for all business types as long as the business is registered

SoBRO also assists with capability statement and navigating through government contracts

### III. New Business

## A. Bronx River CSO Project CEQR Number 21DEP002X

The New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is proposing the Bronx River Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) project. The proposed project would construct new and modify existing sewer infrastructure in order to increase the flow capacity of the existing sewer system and reduce CSO into the Bronx River. The proposed project is based on the preferred alternative described in DEP's CSO Long Term Control Plan (LTCP) for the Bronx River. The project would occur in two locations in the Bronx: sewer area HP-009 within Soundview Park, and sewer area HP-011 in the proximity of White Plains Road and Bronx River Avenue.

## B. Updated Developer's Checklist Link:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAlpQLSeTu1m\_xYbuZzqQiLl2HY5gg32Gy T1O14-wmVwyfAF-omrBOQ/viewform?usp=sf\_link

Updated checklist reviewed with committee

- C. Wood Avenue Utility Job Notice
  - Notice reviewed with committee
- D. 1260 Ward Ave Crane Filing Notice
- E. Notice reviewed with committee
- F. Metropolitan Ave Utility Job Notice
- G. Notice reviewed with committee

Council Member Farias joined the meeting to discuss new proposed legislation regarding sidewalk cafes and roadway cafes. CM Farias is looking for feedback from the board and community members before this legislation is passed. Below are the details regarding the proposed legislation. The CM will be sharing updates on this matter as they come along.

https://legistar.council.nyc.gov/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=5400747&GUID=9E91358
9-73E9-4618-B773-B0A6B45BAD92&Options=ID|Text|&Search=INT+31-A
"This bill would amend the sidewalk café licensing provisions in title 20 of the Administrative Code to streamline the existing licensing and revocable consent process, and to add provisions permitting roadway dining on a seasonal basis. It would also give restaurants time to transition from the emergency outdoor dining program created in response to the COVID-19 pandemic while petitioning for a sidewalk or roadway café license. Further, the bill would update the Street Vendor Enforcement Unit's mandate to address other street commerce activity, including sidewalk and roadway café violations."

**H.** Is there anything city council can do to help alleviate rat concern? CB9 to contact DOHMH and DSNY regarding city wide rat infestation. Pugsley and Seward location with dead tree has become a hot spot for rat infestation and dog waste.

#### **OFFICE INFO**