Small Group Discussion
Welcome to our Small Group Discussion

Instructions for optimal attendee experience:
• Now is the time to turn on your video and mics if you’re comfortable doing so
• Use the chat to ask questions/provide feedback
• Side by Side view

Online Conversation Etiquette:
• Mute yourself when you’re not speaking to help prevent background noise.
• Listen to each other with respect.
• Each person gets a chance to talk.
• One person talks at a time: don’t cut people off.
• Speak for yourself, and not as the representative of any group.
• If you are bothered by something that was said, say so and say why.

Para escuchar en español, llame al 646-558-8656 y marque el código 571 249 1722
Morris Park Remote Workshop
Small Breakout Group - Room 1
Vibrant Communities

Vibrant communities relates to how we can plan for growth while celebrating who we are.

1. Create a neighborhood center that supports transit-oriented development, area institutions, and job growth
2. Encourage welcoming public connections throughout the neighborhood
3. Ensure easy and comfortable access to the station from the east and west
4. Preserve existing housing and allow for new housing for a range of incomes and housing types
5. Create new open spaces and improve and better connect to existing ones
6. Promote fair transit-oriented development that benefits all residents
7. Support the area’s diverse and growing immigrant communities
8. Make healthy food options available
9. Honor the area’s history and promote public art
10. Meet added demand for schools, police and fire service, and other basic services
Vibrant Communities

Vibrant communities relate to how we can plan for growth while celebrating who we are.

Physical Improvements

27% 1. Make it easier and more pleasant to walk and move throughout the neighborhood

19% 2. Make new stations a part of the neighborhood, accessible from the east and west

24% 3. Create and improve open spaces and better connect to existing ones

16% 4. Meet added demand for schools and other public services

Policy Improvements

28% 1. Ensure everyone can enjoy the benefits of new development around the station

30.5% 2. Make healthy food options available

25% 3. Preserve housing affordability for existing communities and grow new housing for all incomes and ages

5.5% 4. Support the area's diverse and growing immigrant communities
Quick Ice breaker

What is the most important thing about this new service and station coming to Morris Park?

Short answers :)

- Excited about the station - good for Commerce, Bronx, Employees, companies looking to relocate to BX
- Looking towards hearing everyone's thoughts!
- High density housing opportunity - safe bus/bike lanes, green technology.
- Excited for train stop in the area
- Resident of MP area. Concerns on transportation needs

looking towards this to start soon with allocated funding.
Encourage the development of a mixed-use, pedestrian-friendly district around the future station.

The image on the left shows a vision for how the Morris Park station area might change in the future, including a mix of retail, housing, parks improvements, and better pedestrian connections.

How well does this image align with your vision for a Vibrant station area in the future? What works? What’s missing?
What in this image works for you? What doesn’t?

Where else in the neighborhood should the city focus on improvements or additional park space? What park spaces do you most use today and why?

**Morris Ave/Eastchester Road**

- As city bikes expand, where will it be located
- Healthy food options—eg: grocery stores
- Outdoor cafe/patio/food gathering space. Create a beautiful space!
- Given the upcoming green infrastructure, can we recreate these spaces (less cars)
- More spaces to cater the Eastern schools/students/workers
- Opportunity for Small businesses—more food choices
- Can we include POPS (privately owned public spaces)?
- Add more pedestrian friendly spaces, improved streetscape
- Currently not efficient sidewalks, pedestrian crossing
- Pedestrian space for other things like Farmers Market, etc.
- Prioritize bus lanes
Is this the kind of environment you’d like for the future of Eastchester Rd? Are there other things you’d like to see that you don’t see here? Are there things you would change?
Access to healthy food options are needed

Maintain and look for opportunities for more green spaces/parks

New station will give residents a closer option to public transportation

A need for affordable homeownership opportunities

The station should feel like part of Morrispark. Need more integration.

Medical Institutions to be considered in holistic Plan

Need for seating, benches in public space. Streets for people!

Add open spaces for students/healthcare workers who work and study in the area

Can we make the crossing around station more easy

sufficient ADA access in the area (elevators, curb cuts, etc.)

Design the station area to fit the needs of pedestrians

Bike Lanes

We need safer spaces for micromobility

could we conceptualize this area as the heart of the neighborhood?
Morris Park Remote Workshop
Small Breakout Group - Room 2
Working Communities

Working communities relates to focusing on growing jobs and connecting Bronxites to them.

1. Ensure Morris Park remains a vibrant and desirable place to live, work, and shop and that it is able to attract and keep workers (39%)

2. Promote Morris Park as a key regional job center specialized in Health Care and Life Sciences (14%)

3. Encourage the growth of Morris Park into a Life Sciences center along a regional corridor (19%)
Morris Park Station Area Overview

Need to help mitigate future traffic concerns as new stations come online.

Connections btw Morris Park and Co-op City are needed. Also a welcoming pedestrian and bike overpass; overall connections are needed (east-west).
Quick Ice breaker

What is the most important thing about this new service and station coming to Morris Park?

Short answers :)
Jobs and Workforce

Morris Park is the largest jobs hub in the Bronx and job growth within the neighborhood outpaced Bronx’s job growth (12% compared to 6%).

However, few people both live and work in the neighborhood. Most residents work in either the Bronx or Manhattan, commuting up to 46 minutes to reach their place of work. Most of the workers are coming from the Bronx followed by Westchester County and Queens.

Residents and workers are primarily employed in either health care, retail trades, or educational services.

The median earnings for the top three industries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industry</th>
<th>Median Earnings</th>
<th>Percentage of Total Employment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health Care &amp; Social Assistance</td>
<td>$40,000</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail Trade</td>
<td>$19,000</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educational Services</td>
<td>$41,000</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workers</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median Earnings</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median Earnings</td>
<td>$36,000</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median Earnings</td>
<td>$47,000</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Jobs for Future: Lifesciences R&D

Entry level medical and biological jobs pay between $40K and $50K.

Training and certification programs enable advancement to technologist or supervisor positions with higher salaries upwards of $100K.
The New Haven Line has nearly as many jobs as St. Louis.

Jobs within ½ mile of New Haven Line Metro-North Stations by Industry Macro Sector, 2017

What kinds of supports can ensure Bronx residents can take advantage of new regional jobs/job centers?

What other opportunities does new access open up for you and your family?

Increased N-S connections (btw the Bronx and CT, and the Bronx and Manhattan)

Increased transit options may foster cross-collaboration across different research and life science institutions

Does anyone here today work at Hunts Point today? What might this mean for connections?

New service may present alternative connections between Stanford and the Bronx

Add Comments

Add Comments

Add Comments

Add Comments

Add Comments
Supporting local businesses and jobs growth

**OBJECTIVE:** Understand the needs of existing small businesses and identify tools to support them

- Support commercial corridors, such as Morris Park, Williamsbridge Road and Westchester Square
- Support growth around the stations to expand the customer base for local retail corridors
- Allow local retail around the future station in strategic locations, such as at key intersections and near the station
- Make pedestrian improvements to key travel routes between employment and residential centers and commercial corridors to support convenient access

**Question for residents:**
Have you participated in any workforce development/professional/training programs in your neighborhood or elsewhere? If so, what were they?

**What workforce development programs would you like to see in the neighborhood?**

- Add comments
- Add comments
- Add comments

**businesses / development; Prefer to see smaller and more local retail at the ground floors (example of bigger box stores going on upper floors); Encourage streetscape vibrancy—especially on the**

**WORKING COMMUNITIES**

The LIRR station in Forest Hills Queens is an area that can be used as a model in how to balance “mom & pop” stores and big box chains.
Encourage the development of a mixed-use, pedestrian-friendly district around the future station.
We have heard a lot about the pedestrian and bike safety and this intersection of Eastchester Road. Here are some potential improvements. Are these the right improvements? Where else in the neighborhood are these needed?
Morris Park Remote Workshop
Small Breakout Group - Room 3
Connected Communities

Connected communities relate to how people get around the neighborhood, the city and the region.

48% 1. Make it easier to walk or bike to the station, transit, retail, and area campuses

21% 2. Ensure that major corridors are safe, well-lit, and offer pleasant pedestrian experiences

21% 3. Understand existing traffic conditions and transportation needs in the area and develop a comprehensive set of recommendations to support future growth and the new station

4. Improve way finding to area institutional campuses and community resources
Quick Ice breaker

What is the most important thing about this new service and station coming to Morris Park?

Short answers :)
Morris Park Station Area Overview

The closest ferry station is the Soundview Ferry Terminal, ~3 miles away
Pedestrian and Bicycle Access
Pedestrian passageways

What are the biggest barriers to being able to walk around the neighborhood today?

- walking to metro centers is a hike
- track and lack of pedestrian crossings over tracks
- safety and making sure area is well lit
- lots of construction
- litter and trash on streets
- crosswalk positioning near mechanic and station area to be straight path
- mental facility in the area of concern
- re-align intersection instead of return to past design
Pedestrian and Bicycle Access
Pedestrian passageways

What are the biggest barriers to being able to walk around the neighborhood today?

Add comments here

Add comments here

CONNECTED COMMUNITIES
We have heard a lot about the pedestrian and bike safety and this intersection of Eastchester Road. Here are some potential improvements. Are these the right improvements? Where else in the neighborhood are these needed?
Encourage the development of a mixed-use, pedestrian-friendly district around the future station.

The image on the left shows a vision for how the Morris Park station area might change in the future, including a mix of retail, housing, parks improvements, and better pedestrian connections.

How well does this image align with your vision for a Vibrant station area in the future? What works? What's missing?

- Happy to see more density, would be happy with 30 story
- Desperately need more housing
- Prefer new neighbors to the area, more likely!
- Really is transit oriented development
- Still remaining bus services and bike still in reach to area
- Encourage a lot less parking
- Plaza space in front of station, best to close off street to traffic
- Taxi area better on Basset

VIBRANT COMMUNITIES
HIGHLIGHTS

- Goals and getting around:
  - Looking forward to reduced commute times and better access to jobs.
  - Get around the neighborhood by walking or biking and look forward to scooter and potential ferry service in the future.

- Barriers to Pedestrians and Cyclists:
  - Tracks are barrier to reaching Hutch Metro Center by foot -- Station will facilitate pedestrian overpass to Hutch Met center.
  - Safety, lighting, litter, and construction impede pedestrian activity.
  - Crosswalk obstructed by mechanic - should be realigned.
  - Mental health facility also of concern.

- Needed Infrastructure Improvements:
  - Stop illegal dumping.
  - Improve lighting below underpasses.
  - Widen sidewalks and improve connectivity to station area.

- Station Area Improvements:
  - Increase density and housing to enliven area.
  - Reduce parking.
  - Create plaza at Morris Park Avenue in front of station.
  - Extend Bassett Avenue and move taxi area there.
Appendix

**OBJECTIVE:** Understand existing traffic conditions and transportation needs in the area and develop a comprehensive set of recommendations to support future growth and the new station to help the area retain a competitive edge.

- **Promote options for safe and efficient drop-off and pick-up near the station.**
- **Work with institutions to deploy transportation demand management strategies, such as employee subsidies for use of public transit.**
- **Leverage new development to build out Bassett Avenue between McDonald Street and Pelham Parkway on the west side of the rail line.**
- **Perform a parking analysis to understand existing parking and usage, and any proposed private off-street Parking, to inform future needs.**
- **Explore options to improve access and circulation east of the rail line to support institutional, mixed-use, and job-focused growth and evaluate the costs, benefits, and trade-offs of each option including:**
  - The feasibility of extending Marconi Street to connect to Pelham Parkway
  - Intersection and capacity improvements at Eastchester Road and Waters Place and other key corridors to improve traffic flow and increase pedestrian safety
  - Mapping of city streets
  - Understanding the value of new roadway connections, such as to Pelham Parkway