

Center for Community Health Newsletter

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Building Design Completed



The Center for Community Health, viewed from the corner of Eighth Avenue and Sixth Street (Perkins Eastman)

At its final meeting last month, the Community Design Advisory Committee voiced approval of the final design submitted by architects of Perkins Eastman for NYM's Center for Community Health. The Committee had been meeting periodically since the fall of 2013 and numerous recommendations that came out of those meetings (as well as from larger community meetings) were incorporated into the final design.

The Committee included representatives from Community Board 6, the Park Slope Civic Council and (since November of 2014) Preserve Park Slope. Specific changes made to the building façade as a result of the Committee's work included a change in the building color and material from yellow-beige terra cotta tiles to cast stone in colors matching brownstone and limestone, the elimination of a large bay window on the corner of Sixth Street, significant additional detailing around the windows and in other areas of the façade and enhanced landscaping on Eighth Avenue.

At the conclusion of the meeting in April, the architects thanked the members of the committee for their input, which had supported the design of a building meant to fit comfortably into the Park Slope aesthetic

while still serving its function as the outpatient care center for a major hospital. Committee members, in turn expressed gratitude for the responsiveness shown by the architects in addressing their concerns and accepting many of their suggestions.

New York Methodist Hospital is grateful to the men and women who served on the Committee. They include Park Slope Civic Council representatives Eric Boorstyn, Bob Braun, Peter Bray, Michael Cairl, Judith Lief, and Gilly Youner; Community Board 6 Representatives Peter Fleming, Craig Hammerman, Daniel Kumer and Robert Levine and Preserve Park Slope representatives David Abramson and Norman Mintz.

Abatement Begins

As indicated in the first edition of this newsletter, we are currently engaged in the pre-construction abatement phase of the project. The work hours are 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Neighbors will be notified if these work hours should change; however, we do not anticipate extended work hours or weekend hours in the next several weeks.

The project site is currently being mobilized and perimeter fencing is being installed. That process will continue for the next few weeks, and will be followed by the installation of temporary electrical service and the installation of sidewalk bridging. By the end of May, we expect to begin the exterior scaffolding of the Eighth Avenue buildings.

During the first two weeks of June, the contractor intends to start abatement activities in the Eighth Avenue buildings, to begin surveying the property and install monuments and benchmarks and to initiate utility disconnects (water, gas, etc.)

Access Letters Going Out

Owners of buildings within 90 feet of the new construction will soon be contacted to arrange for existing conditions surveys. The request for surveys complies with NYC DOB Technical Policy & Procedure Notice (TPPN) 1088. If you have any questions regarding the survey, please contact NYM's Department of Public Relations., 718 780-5367

Sam Schwartz Engineering Hired to Devise Traffic Management Plan

New York Methodist Hospital and Preserve Park Slope have jointly retained the services of Sam Schwartz Engineering (SSE), a highly esteemed interdisciplinary transportation engineering and planning firm.

SSE will work with the Hospital and Preserve Park Slope to produce a traffic management plan that is based on a rigorous assessment of area conditions and that will address current issues, issues associated with the upcoming construction as well as conditions expected once the construction is complete and the CCH is in full operation.

A Traffic Task Force (TTF) established by City Councilmember Brad Lander has been discussing some of these issues for the past year and a half and SSE will also interact with the TTF to provide information about their work as well as to gain input from this group,

Construction Task Force Meets

The first meeting of the Construction Task Force was held in April and a second meeting is scheduled for this month.

During this first meeting, representatives from Lend Lease presented initial plans concerning the abatement and demolition stages of the project. This included identifying the routes to be taken by trucks arriving at the site (Ninth Street to Eighth Avenue to Sixth Street as well as actions that will be taken to mitigate the environmental risks of construction-related activities. At the suggestion of a task force member, Lend Lease has agreed to assemble a document that identifies mitigation policies to be followed (also by all subcontractors), including those involving dust, traffic staging and planning, contractor parking, concrete wash out, truck idling, noise and rodent control. The document will be available on site when actual construction begins.

The group also discussed the potential impact of construction on the students and operation of the schools at the John Jay Educational Campus. Lend Lease will ask for a calendar of important school dates (particularly those when important tests are given) so as to avoid very noisy activity at those times. Both Lend Lease and Perkins Eastman, the architects of the building have also offered to provide enrichment activities for students at the school, including tours of the site and/or mentorship opportunities.

For More Information or to Express a Concern...

This newsletter and the previous issue are available at nym.org/build. Interested members of the community can also request that the newsletter be sent directly to their email addresses by making this request to build@nym.org. Requests for mailing the newsletter to homes in the vicinity of the project can be sent to this address or phoned into NYM's Department of Public Relations., 718 780-5367.

Questions/concerns about the project may be addressed to Lyn S. Hill, Vice President for Communication and External Affairs, at hyp-001@nyp.org or (718) 780-3301.

Questions/concerns about the construction should be addressed to Sharon Stern, Community-Project PR Liaison at Lend Lease, ProjectNYMHCCHNYC@lendlease.com or (212) 592-6826.



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