

Sunset Park Task Force
Tuesday, July 25, 2023, from 10:00 am-12:00 pm

ATTENDEES

Task Force Members

Andrew Gustafson, Turnstile Tours
Chris Taylor, Lilac Chocolates
Council Member Alexa Aviles
David Bolotsky, Uncommon Goods
David Estrada, Sunset Park BID
Edward Cerna, CM Aviles
Elizabeth Yeampierre, UPROSE
Emmitt Mendoza-Gaspar, AM Mitaynes
Evelyn Martinez, OBT
Jeremy Laufer, CB7
John Blasco, Rep. Goldman
John Santore, resident
Laura Cohen, Center for Family Life
Lovinia Reynolds, UPROSE
Melissa Cepeda, UPROSE
Mike Stamatis, Red Hook Terminals
Pat Whelan, Sahadi Fine Foods
Sebastian David Baez, UPROSE
Stephanie Tosis, OBT
Tori Kelly, State Senator Gounardes
Winnie Marion, AM Mitaynes

Members of Co-Convening Organizations

Brady Meixell, SBIDC
Christine Paglialunga, NYCEDC
Isabelle Bui, NYCEDC
Jackie Ting, NYCEDC

Jermaine Grant, NYCEDC
Jesse Solomon, SBIDC
Julia Zita, NYCEDC
Kathleen Chan, NYCEDC
Kathryn Prybylski, NYCEDC
Nse Esema, NYCEDC
Romulo Garza, NYCEDC
Sam Jung, NYCEDC
Tara Das, NYCEDC

Guest Presenters and Consultants

Aaron Bolton, Equinor
Alba Peña, Equinor
Anna Yum, Urban Future Lab
Ashley Ball, Equinor
Calvin O'Brien, Equinor
Courtney Knapp, Pratt GCPE
Gloria Elvazrez, Equinor

General Public

Damien Andrade, resident
Dina Rabiner, Brooklyn Chamber of
Commerce
Jane B, resident
Julia Buddha, NYCEDA
Mehrin
Reanna

MEETING NOTES

Part I: Roll Call, Housekeeping, and Announcements

- Presenter: Christine Paglialunga
- NYCEDC is holding tours of the Made in New York (MiNY) campus for members of the Sunset Park Task Force at the end of August. We are aiming to hold public tours of the campus in September. All tours will be capped because of limited PPE and active construction on site. We will circulate a sign-up form for the August tours.
- SBIDC shared the opportunity to attend a BQE Webinar with SBIDC on August 3rd.

Part II: Equinor Offshore Wind Updates

- Presenters: Alba Peña, Ashley Ball, Gloria Alvarez, Calvin O'Brien
- Ashley Ball is the new Director of Community Affairs at Equinor, and Anna Yum is the Community Manager of the Offshore Wind Innovation Hub. If you have any questions, please reach out to Ashley at aball@equinor.com.
- Accelerator program – Application process to join the next cohort will open January 2024.
- Community Membership program – Membership is free and open to entities connected to offshore wind. Community members can express interest to participate on their website at www.offshorewindnyc.com.
- SBMT Public Access Tours – Equinor will be releasing an RFP next month seeking proposals from local certified tour guide companies to develop and implement a public access tour program. Preference will be given to a local Sunset Park company.
- \$5M Offshore Wind Ecosystem Fund – Top finalists have been notified and going through a due diligence process.
- Learning Center at Industry City – The engagement process will kick off next month to solicit ideas from the community on how this meeting and community gathering space should look and build partnerships with local nonprofit organizations. To learn more about the Learning Center and engagement process, please contact Gloria Alvarez at glalv@equinor.com or Ashley Ball at aball@equinor.com.
- Brownfield Clean Up – Remediation and removal of contaminants will commence towards the end of 2023 or early 2024.

Select Comments from Q&A:

- Brownfield cleanup work will follow strict protocols from the city. On-site sheds will remain in place to minimize the amount of stockpile bags, and the hurricane season should be over by the time clean up starts.
- Findings from the brownfield sitework are publicly available and accessible through city permitting agencies.

- Equinor has been and will continue translating materials for the Sunset Park communities. They are committed to synthesizing and presenting technical information in a way that non-technical folks can easily understand.
- Members requested data on non-local hiring and reasons for it, the challenges related to local hiring and any skill gaps, and the measures that Skanska has established to protect workers during extreme weather.
- Although Equinor has submitted a petition with the state of New York to reopen pricing negotiations around Empire Wind 1 and 2 and Beacon Wind 1, they remain fully committed to honoring all their commitments and have no intention of withdrawing from any of them.
- Updates on the design and construction of the substation and backup facility will be presented at the next event in September.

Part III: UPROSE GRID 2.0 Plan

- Presenters: Lovinia Reynolds, Courtney Knapp
- In 2019, UPROSE shared a vision for a green reindustrialized Sunset Park resilient to climate change. The presenters shared an updated vision during this meeting.

Select Comments from Q&A:

- The original 2019 GRID plan identified proposed zoning changes for specific areas of Sunset Park. It's important that there is a vision that we're working towards, and the zoning changes that the city should consider are informed by the work of the GRID, the desire to protect and strengthen Industrial Business Zones and move to a green future.
- There will be a launch party for GRID 2.0 on August 18th at 7:00 pm. UPROSE will share the final report with the Task Force.

Part IV: Q&A and Discussion

- Equinor will be using maritime transportation for the offshore wind project. The port will be capable of shipping wind turbine components in and out of the campus, as well as bringing personnel working on offshore wind to and from the site.
- Translated materials and translators are critical to any outreach work in Sunset Park.
- Members are interested in having more discussions on workforce development and how the public, private, and nonprofit organizations can continue partnering with one another to create job opportunities and training for Sunset Park residents.
- Concerns about the Task Force becoming a duplicate of CB7. It's important to center conversations on the Sunset Park waterfront during Task Force meetings.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 pm.