

Sunset Park Task Force
Wednesday August 14th, from 11:00 am -1:00 pm

ATTENDEES

Task Force Members

1. Katie Walsh, Community Board 7
2. Jeremy Laufer, Community Board 7
3. Edie Sharp, Sunset Park Resident
4. Andrew Gustavson, Turnstile Tours
5. Edward Cerna, Councilmember Alexa Avilés' Office
6. Carlos Calzadilla, State Senator Andrew Gounardes' Office
7. Assembly Member Marcela Mitaynes
8. Emmitt Mendoza, State Assembly Member Marcela Mitaynes' Office
9. Mayra Molina, US Representative Dan Goldman's Office
10. Pat Whelan, Sahadi's Fine Foods
11. Dina Rabiner, Brooklyn Chamber
12. Stephen Leone, Industrial Carting
13. David Bolotsky, Uncommon Goods
14. Robert Carucci, Uncommon Goods
15. Emily Riquelme Beaufort
16. Daniel Veliz, OBT

17. Mike Stamatis, Red Hook Terminals
18. Sebastian Baez, UPROSE
19. Kat Trujillo, UPROSE
20. Osvaldo Garcia, UPROSE
21. Bruno Daniel, BP Reynoso's Office
22. Hassaan Chaudhary, BP Reynoso's Office
23. Asher Freeman, BP Reynoso's Office
24. Stephen Mei, Chinese American Planning Council

Members of Co-Convening Organizations

1. Christine Paglialunga, NYCEDC
2. Jesse Solomon, SBIDC
3. Brady Meixell, SBIDC
4. Mikelle Adgate, NYCEDC
5. Max Taffett, NYCEDC
6. Mary Beth Williams, NYCEDC
7. Romulo Garza, NYCEDC
8. Julia Zita, NYCEDC

MEETING NOTES

Part I: Welcome, Introductions (Christine)

- Christine Paglialunga welcomes everyone to the meeting, reviews the agenda, housekeeping, and takes roll call of attendees.

Part II: Special Purpose Projects Fund Subcommittee Formation (Christine)

- Background: In 2015, EDC co-signed a Points Of Agreement (POA) letter that established, among other things, a Special Purpose Projects Fund (SPPF), funded by 5% annual gross rent received from the future SBMT sublease.
 - The current SBMT Lease to SSBMT has a term of 30-years, and is expected to generate, on average, \$688,000 annually towards the Special Purpose Project Fund
- Over the last several months, NYCEDC has started to build out a team that has the capacity and expertise to facilitate the SPPF subcommittee meetings, and the ability to directly administer the fund once it starts being deployed.

- NYCEDC proposes to re-create a subcommittee dedicated to creating the framework for this fund, and utilize its Workforce and Equity team to facilitate the Subcommittee.
- In 2019, the Task Force formed a Subcommittee dedicated to the SPPF. They discussed several themes for the SPPF:
 - Workforce and Small Business Support
 - Ecosystem Fund 2.0
 - Resident Scholarships
 - M/WBE/DBE Support
 - Programmatic Funding
 - Resiliency & Placemaking
 - Community Solar
 - Green Infrastructure Fund
 - Beautification & Public Art
 - Wayfinding & Mobility
- Now, the Task Force will recreate this subcommittee around the SPPF to identify themes for the fund, guidelines for selection of fund recipients, and rules around eligibility for fund receipt and management.
 - The Subcommittee will be facilitated by NYCEDC, and comprised of the Council Member's Office, 2 business reps, 2 resident reps, 2 nonprofit reps, and 1 rep from the Community Board.
 - The subcommittee will meet monthly from September to December but could meet more as needed.
 - Will regularly report back to the full Task Force and send out detailed notes.
 - Committee will:
 - Determine eligibility
 - Management of Fund
 - Review other community funds in NYC best practices.
 - Formal documentation of Task Force decisions on SPPF to guide future years
- In addition to ongoing progress reports, the subcommittee will report its recommended framework to the full Task Force.
- The goal is to begin distributing SPPF funds in 2025.
- SPPF Subcommittee Volunteer process:
 - We are seeking volunteers until September 13
 - All volunteers commit to monthly 1-hour workshops, advise on guidelines of Fund Plan, review subcommittee materials and provide feedback, support outreach to the Task Force.
 - If there are more volunteers than spaces, ask Task Force members to vote by email. The Task Force will be notified by email if a vote is required. The voting deadline will be 9/20.
 - Subcommittee finalized by 9/23

- Participation in the Subcommittee will not disqualify subcommittee members from winning funds in the future.
- This Subcommittee is of limited duration and is expected to dissolve in December when the framework plan is complete. This subcommittee may advise on a framework for selecting fund recipients in the future, but will not select winners at this time.

Select comments from Q&A

- Katie Walsh: Can funds be placed in an endowment to accrue interest? It was discussed that this is an option should portions of the Fund be waited to be disbursed.
 - Answer: possibly, the subcommittee should explore frequency of disbursing funds and how unspent funds should be managed
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- Edie Sharp: Are there were required areas of expertise for volunteers?
 - Response: No. EDC noted that being a member of the Sunset Park Task Force is the only requirement.
- Edie Sharp: How will conflicts of interest for volunteers of the sub-committee be addressed?
 - The group could not identify potential conflicts of interest to address, but if a conflict of interest surfaces the facilitators will address and report back to the Task Force.
- Assembly Member Mitaynes raised that the Task Force should consider bringing a facilitator in and having separate party manage and disburse the fund. Discussion took place around need for accessibility and transparency in decisions around the fund.
- Questions arose around how the Task Force would approve the subcommittee recommendations.
- The Subcommittee will propose themes for Fund projects that are broad and relatively evergreen, so they do not become quickly outdated. There should be ongoing engagement with the Council Members' office to maintain the currency of the Fund into the future.
- Volunteers for the subcommittee:
 - Assembly Member Mitaynes
 - Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce
 - Community Board
 - Andrew Gustafson, Turnstile Tours

Part III: Brooklyn Army Terminal (BAT) and Bush Terminal Project Updates (Christine)

- BAT
 - Reviewed EDC's events schedule through end of October.
 - The Community Board requested better communication around event at BAT and traffic congestion mitigation on the days of events
 - The Brooklyn Chamber is a partner on the NYC Wine and Food Festival. If local restaurants are interested, they can reach out to Dina.
 - EDC has recently completed upgrades to the exterior of BAT including painting the arches and repairing/painting the campus fence perimeter.

- As we approach high profile events in the fall, EDC will be doing more to beautify the campus
 - The Climate Innovation Hub at BAT RFP deadline was originally in July, but pushed back to September 5th.
- Bush Terminal
 - Completion date now early October.
 - Units range in size from about 1,200 sf to 35k sf
 - Reviewed construction progress images
- Plans for Pier 6 are progressing.
 - 3 town halls and numerous smaller conversations and focus groups
 - Design will be complete at end of 2024 and Construction is expected to begin in 2025 and be completed by mid-2026.
- Sunset Park Infrastructure Project
 - Targeting completion by this summer, delayed by subservice infrastructure, so now targeting Fall 2024 completion. Only 39th St and 2nd Ave remain to be completed.
 - Now outreach directly to AECOM. Krunal.v.kothari@aecom.com is the community contact for AECOM.

Part IV: Q&A

- On 2nd ave between 58th to 65th streets, 18 out of 24 trees are dead.
 - DOT will look into this.
 - CM Avilés' office will reach out to DOT and Parks to get answer.
- What is the status on Bush Terminal 2nd entrance? Access to the park is opening back up in a couple months (no firm date).
- RAISE grant float bridge not successful, so looking for update on approach/planning? All proposed work is on hold. EDC will consult with CB7 and local stakeholders if we seek new funding.
- CB7 voted on proposals we had from DOT on 3rd ave redesign for safety and accessibility 32-1 in support. Delayed on timing, expecting that to come back in the Fall. Waiting for DOT to come back, hopefully in September.
- Incidents at BAT where there were private parties spilling out onto pier.
 - Dock NYC is EDC's operator of public berth sites. Yes, there were some really unfortunate events that took place earlier this summer regarding disgruntled individuals getting off of boats at the end of the evening and violence taking place. Since that took place, EDC has coordinated with the local precinct and Dock NYC. Since events took place there has been a decrease in the number of departures until all parties are collectively on the same page in terms of what security measures are in place. Reviewing all security measures of vessels.
- UPROSE is hosting the Climate Justice Lives Here! Festival at BAT on September 28th at BAT Pier 4. If you're interested in tabling, let Kat know.
- For any artists or makers that want to be in Brooklyn Made store, let Dina at the Brooklyn Chamber know.

The meeting adjourned at 12:30 pm.