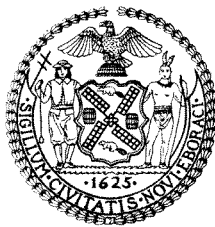


Jacqueline Ludorf  
Chair

Latha Thompson  
District Manager



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The City of New York  
Manhattan Community Board 8

**Environment & Sanitation Committee**  
**Monday, June 6, 2011**  
**Stanley Isaacs Neighborhood Center**  
**415, E. 93<sup>rd</sup> St, Dining Room**  
**6:30 pm**

Topic: East 91<sup>st</sup> Street Marine Transfer Station (MTS)

Board Members Present: Debbie Teitelbaum, Dave Kleckner, Jacqueline Ludorf, Mary Pike, Rita Popper, Ed Hartzog, Michele Birnbaum

Committee Members Absent: Roy Carlin, Ellen Polivy

Number of Attendees: More than 350 attendees (list attached)

The meeting was called to order at 6:35pm.

### **INVITED GUESTS**

Invited guests who spoke at the meeting:

Hon. NYC Council Member Jessica Lappin  
Anthony Ard, Gracie Point Community Council  
Carol Tweedy, Executive Director, Asphalt Green  
Ricki Gunsburg, Office of NYS Assembly Member Micah Kellner  
(Staff from Council Member Garodnick and Assembly Member Bing also attended).

Invited guests **who declined** to speak to the community and answer questions:

NYC Council Speaker Christine Quinn and staff  
Mayor's Office  
NYC Department of Sanitation

### **BACKGROUND**

The meeting was convened in context of Mayor Bloomberg's intent to provide \$125 million for the City's capital budget beginning in fiscal year 2012, which starts on July 1, 2011. Funding is intended to result in the construction of a marine transfer station (MTS) for garbage at East 91st Street. The MTS would operate 24 hours per day, 6 days per week in a densely populated residential neighborhood, and receive as

much as 5,280 tons of garbage per day from as many as 54 trucks per hour. CB8 passed unanimous resolutions in opposition to the MTS in 2005 and 2008 (attached).

Council Member Lappin called it outrageous that City officials who seek to build an MTS in a residential neighborhood at E. 91<sup>st</sup> Street refused to attend the meeting. Many others at the meeting echoed this sentiment. Some of the points made by the Council Member included that the MTS should not be sited in any residential community, that while the City would never allow a private transfer station to operate in a residential community the City plans to do just that for a public transfer station, and that while some people may argue that the UES should do its fair share in hosting a transfer station – we already have – an MTS was located at this site for 60 years.

Ricki Ginsburg from NYS Assembly Member Micah Kellner's Office (who was unable to attend because he needed to be in Albany). She spoke about the Assembly Member's proposed legislation (A-919) that would prohibit any MTS from operating within 800 feet of public housing. Ms. Ginsburg noted that the bill is in committee with efforts to bring it to the floor.

Tony Ard discussed the status of the litigation intended to halt the MTS. He indicated that the best hope on litigation appears to lie with the lawsuit that challenges the permitting process. And he noted that a petition will be filed for an injunction against the City that would preclude the Department of Sanitation from even soliciting bids from construction contractors for the proposed work to build the MTS. In response to questions, he referred to some of the numerous alternative sites located in non-residential areas that had been proposed to the Mayor's Office but would not be considered by the Administration.

Carol Tweedy included in her remarks some discussion of the history of the area around the proposed site for the MTS, including the genesis of the Asphalt Green sports and fitness complex and its importance to the community. Operation of the MTS at the proposed location would devastate services provided by Asphalt Green.

Written comments were submitted to the meeting by Assembly Member Bing and Senator Krueger. U.S. Rep Carolyn Maloney was unable to attend the meeting, but testified against the MTS on the same day at the NYC Council Finance Committee hearing. (Testimony is attached).

## **DISCUSSION/OUTCOMES**

There was a lengthy discussion and Q/A period covering a very wide array of concerns and strategies for scuttling the plans for the MTS. It appeared that the meeting may have helped provide a springboard for expanded community action. Many residents stayed to continue to discuss plans at the completion of the meeting. Rallies and demonstrations, petitions drives, public-relations and media campaigns, and other topics were discussed during and immediately after the meeting. The feeling seemed to be that since City officials pushing for the MTS would not come to meet with the community, then the community would take action to bring its outrage and concerns directly to City officials through community organizing efforts and events, including through the media. The Environment & Sanitation Committee concluded the meeting by meeting to discuss and then unanimously pass the following resolution:

**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION PASSED ON JUNE 6, 2011:**

**Whereas**, Manhattan Community Board 8 (CB8) unanimously passed resolutions in January 2005 and September 2008 in opposition to the City's proposed Marine Transfer Station (MTS) at E. 91<sup>st</sup> Street (attached), and

**Whereas**, CB8 convened a meeting on June 6, 2011 attended by more than 350 community members (attendance sheets attached) at which the Mayor's Office, the NYC Department of Sanitation, and the NYC Council Speaker's Office refused to provide a representative to listen to the community, provide information and answer questions about the proposed MTS;

**Whereas**, Mayor Bloomberg is now seeking to direct \$125 million of the City's capital budget to fund construction of this MTS, and

**Whereas**, the NY City Council Finance Committee convened a public hearing on June 6, 2011 to discuss the Mayor's proposed Fiscal Year 2012 budget, and

**Whereas**, capital funds should not be used to construct an MTS in any residential neighborhood, especially during this period of City budget reductions and in context of the dire need for capital expenditures in other areas, and

**Whereas**, the City has failed to fully explore and consider alternative sites, not located in residential communities, for building an MTS such as building a truck-to-rail MTS at W. 30<sup>th</sup> Street between 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> Avenues in Manhattan, and

**Whereas**, the City has never provided a cost-benefit analysis that includes consideration of ongoing operating expenses for the MTS,

**Therefore, be it resolved** that CB8 re-affirms its resolutions of January 12, 2005 and Sept 16, 2008 while strongly urging the City Council to reject the Mayor's plans to fund the capital construction of an E. 91<sup>st</sup> Street MTS.

**Vote:** 6 in favor (Teitelbaum, Kleckner, Ludorf, Pike, Birnbaum, Popper, Hartzog).  
0 Opposed. 0 Abstained.

Meeting adjourned at ~8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Kleckner and Debbie Teitelbaum  
Co-chairs Environment and Sanitation Committee