**RECENT EVENTS**

**December Steering Committee Meeting – Thursday, August 7th**
- Historic Preservation 101 + Recommendation preview – ad-hoc subcommittee made up mostly of residents (from would be historic district)
- Commercial District Needs Assessment – Findings Presentation by Kat Joseph, SBS
  - Myrtle partner – Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce
  - Knickerbocker partner – RiseBoro
- Recommendation vote + discussion – Economic Development
- Announcement from DCP that their response to the SC’s land use + zoning principles is not yet ready to share
- Lacey Tauber’s last SC meeting! The process & Bushwick will miss her!
- Transportation + Infrastructure Subcommittee presents recommendations to CB4 Enviro Protection / Transpo / Sanitation Committee

**November Steering Committee Meeting – Thursday, November 9th**
- Recommendation preview – Economic Development
- Recommendation vote + discussion – Community Health + Resources
- Discussion about Flushing + Knoll & Evergreen developers’ request to present their proposals before the steering committee.
- Housing Subcommittee presents recommendations to CB4 Housing + Land Use Committee (10/23)

**October Steering Committee Meeting – Thursday, October 28th**
- Recommendation preview – Community Health + Resources
- Recommendation vote + discussion – Transportation
- Only ‘protected bike lane’ recommendation does not pass
- *Public statement from Edwin Delgado (previously EC/SC member)*

**September Steering Committee Meeting – Thursday, October 28th**
- SC discussion and consensus agreement on four land use + zoning guiding principles

For full notes from SC meetings, please contact Gabo at Hester Street, Gabriel@hesterstreet.org

**Historic Preservation Meetings**

On December 14th, recommendations for historic preservation were presented to the Bushwick Community Plan Steering Committee. After holding three community meetings on this subject in July, September, and October, the following recommendation was proposed:
The Landmarks Preservation Commission should study historic resources in Bushwick Community Board 4 with a focus on the potential for:

- Historic District on Bushwick Avenue between Kossuth Place and Hancock St, including some side streets directly to the north and south such as Linden Street between Bushwick Avenue and Broadway
- Historic District in northeast Bushwick in the area bounded by Woodbine St and Halsey St, Wyckoff Ave and Knickerbocker Ave
- Historic District on Moffat Street between Central Avenue and Evergreen Avenue
- Individual Landmarks at: Public School 52 (330 Ellery Street), Arion Hall (11-27 Arion Place), Hamburg Savings Bank (1451 Myrtle Ave), Little Sisters of the Poor (797 Bushwick Ave), The Ulmer Rowhouses (683-693 Bushwick Ave), and 71 Cornelia Street

Homeowners from Linden Street and Cornelia Street helped present the recommendation and described their concern for preserving the historic character of these blocks in the face of development pressure. See

SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES

LAND USE + ZONING

SUBCOMMITTEE CONTACT: SARIT PLATKIN (DCP) SPLATKIN@PLANNING.NYC.GOV

MEMBER ATTENDANCE + PARTICIPATION

Active members: Jose Lopez, Alex Fennell, Edwin Delgado, Anne Guiney, Brigette Blood, Jackie Reyes

Technical Assistance: Betsy Mclean, Isella Ramirez, Gabriel Halili, Chris Walters, Paula Crespo, Brian Paul, Lacey Tauber

RECOMMENDATION REVIEW + DRAFTING

While the Land Use Subcommittee hasn’t met in the last few months, the eight agency-led public working sessions held this summer and fall were focused on getting to a more detailed understanding of the community’s feelings about potential changes to the zoning and land use in specific parts of Bushwick.

This fall, the Steering Committee took this information – along with all of the input from the many previous subcommittee meetings, Town Halls, and other efforts to which Bushwick residents and community organizations have voiced their opinions – and distilled it into a series of guiding principles that we believe should inform any detailed land-use framework that is developed as part of the Bushwick Community Plan.

Our goal in doing this was to clearly define our shared values and assumptions so that we have a common baseline for all future discussions. We also wanted to be able to share these guiding principles with the city agencies that will be creating the more detailed land-use framework so that everyone is on the same page. After these principles were drafted by members of the Executive Committee, they were shared with the Steering Committee, and after vigorous debate and some modifications, we arrived at consensus on the principles below at the September 28th meeting.

The Department of City Planning has been reviewing these priorities and will be presenting a revised framework back to the Steering Committee.

bushwickcommunityplan.org
Zoning Framework Principles for the Bushwick Community Plan:

1. Preservation of Midblocks

The current R6 zoning allows for out-of-scale development in the middle of otherwise consistent residential blocks, and all of the input so far shows that this is a source of enormous concern to Bushwick residents, who would like to see the existing character of these streets preserved.

2. No Manufacturing to Residential rezoning

The preservation of sites for manufacturing and industrial uses in Bushwick is crucial to the neighborhood’s economic future, but M zones throughout the district have been significantly eroded by both residential conversions and non-manufacturing commercial uses. The Economic Development subcommittee has created recommendations that go into greater detail on this topic, and the Steering Committee voted on these at the December meeting. (See the ED update for more detail).

3. No more total units than the No-Action scenario would produce, unless those additional units are deeply affordable.

While the creation of new affordable housing is a big priority, so is the preservation of existing affordable units in the neighborhood, and the urgent need to prevent displacement of existing Bushwick residents has been voiced by participants consistently throughout the process. Because new market-rate developments can increase displacement pressures even if they have an affordable component, the Steering Committee wants to ensure that any district-wide rezoning would be designed to push the ratio of new units towards affordability without necessarily increasing overall density more than it would if the zoning remains unchanged. (The Housing Subcommittee has done detailed analyses that show how this can be done by through upzoning in some areas while downzoning in others; see that update for more detail.)

4. No R8 on Broadway except for on public sites, which should be 100% affordable and thus can be considered for additional density.

An early point of agreement has been that development should be steered towards corridors and away from midblock areas. Some of Bushwick’s corridors have greater capacity to absorb development than others, and in the working sessions and Town Halls, Broadway emerged as one that could most comfortably support greater densities. However, the Steering Committee felt it was important to identify the upper limits of that potential density increase based on community feedback, and agreed that an R8 zoning designation would only be appropriate on a publicly-owned site, where the potential to maximize affordable units is worth the trade-off of increased heights and densities.

HOUSING

SUBCOMMITTEE CONTACT: Boris Santos bsantos@council.nyc.gov

- MEMBER ATTENDANCE + PARTICIPATION

Regular attendance: approx. 10 members + Council, Assembly, HPD, DCP, and NYCA reps + Hester Street + ANHD

Orgs represented: MRNY, CUFFH, RiseBoro, BKA, CB4, as well as a few unaffiliated residents
RECOMMENDATION REVIEW + DRAFTING

The Housing Subcommittee is currently in the process of drafting its report chapter!

Other updates:

CM Reynoso received a commitment from Deputy Mayor Glen’s office to conduct a feasibility study for the development of 100% affordable housing at the PSA3 parking lot site at Flushing and Central Aves.

NYCHA has also announced a new development of 100% affordable senior housing at its Bushwick II (Group E) site.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

We presented to CB4’s Housing and Land Use Committee on November 28. Their feedback was mostly positive!

NEXT STEPS

1) Meeting with other subcommittees on 12/12 to coordinate chapter drafting.
2) Meeting between Mayor’s Tenant Protection Unit and organizations that do tenant organizing regarding better coordination.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

SUBCOMMITTEE CONTACT: Isella Ramirez (Hester Street Collaborative) isella@hesterstreet.org

MEMBER ATTENDANCE + PARTICIPATION

Active Members:

- Evergreen
- Kevin Worthington, Resident
- Edwin Delgado, Resident
- BK Chamber of Commerce
- Deborah Collingwood, Resident
- RiseBoro

RECOMMENDATION REVIEW + DRAFTING

The Economic Development Subcommittee has been super busy these last few months, as they expanded and reworked their recommendations alongside agency partners DCP, SBS, and EDC. The subcommittee provided a preview of their recommendations to the Steering Committee in October 2017. Their recommendations were voted on during the December 2017 meeting—with nearly all of them passing. The SC did provide some suggested language changes to strengthen a few of the recommendations.

NEXT STEPS

The Economic Development subcommittee will review the suggested language changes from the SC and will provide a review of recommendations to the CB 4 Economic Development Committee during their meeting on Wednesday, January 10th at 6pm.
COMMUNITY HEALTH + RESOURCES

SUBCOMMITTEE CONTACT: Isella Ramirez (Hester Street Collaborative) isella@hesterstreet.org

- MEMBER ATTENDANCE + PARTICIPATION

Active Members:

- El Puente
- BKA
- NBC
- RiseBoro
- Catholic Migration Services
- NYPCC
- CB 4

- RECOMMENDATION REVIEW + DRAFTING

The Community Health + Resources subcommittee has finalized their recommendation language and presented before the Steering Committee in October 2017. During the November 2017 SC meeting, all recommendations proposed by the CH&R subcommittee were approved. Before taking the recommendations to the SC, the subcommittee received extensive comments from the Department of Health & Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) and Department of Cultural Affairs (DCLA).

- NEXT STEPS

The CH&R will host two sessions during January education + career services as well as food access to bring in agency/city representatives and local experts together. The Mayor’s Office on Food Policy will be invited to discuss potential neighborhood tools + city-wide policies/programs that could enhance food access in Bushwick. MRNY, RiseBoro, and the Bushwick Food Co-op will also be invited to bring in their local perspectives. The Career/Vocational segment of the Department of Education will come to talk about potential pathways to expand the career + vocational training services available city-wide in Bushwick. Organizations working with youth, such as El Puente and Rise Boro will also be present and parent coordinators and school principals will also be invited. On January 8th, the Subcommittee will present their recommendations to the CB4 Health/Hospitals/Human Services/Senior Citizens Committee meeting on Monday January 8th at 3P.

OPEN SPACE

SUBCOMMITTEE CONTACT: Celeste Leon (CB4) celeon@cb.nyc.gov + Gabo Halli (Hester Street Collaborative) Gabriel@hesterstreet.org

- MEMBER ATTENDANCE + PARTICIPATION

The subcommittee usually has about 10-12 consistent members in attendance typically including residents, CB4 members, and representatives from NYC Parks.
RECOMMENDATION REVIEW + DRAFTING

Open Space Subcommittee met 11/30 to discuss revisions to recommendations that had comments from the Steering Committee and progress on chapter writing.

NEXT STEPS

Representatives of the subcommittee will be giving a short presentation on the recommendations to CB 4 on December 14.

TRANSPORTATION + INFRASTRUCTURE

SUBCOMMITTEE CONTACT: Amy Pivak (DCP) APivak@planning.nyc.gov

MEMBER ATTENDANCE + PARTICIPATION

A core group of sub-committee members continues to be involved, though we would like to see additional community representation. The sub-committee held a meeting on Tuesday, December 5th, where they discussed post-vote work, including report drafting and potential public realm planning.

RECOMMENDATION REVIEW + DRAFTING

Sub-committee recommendations were voted on and discussed at the September 28th Steering Committee meeting. All of the recommendations passed, except for one (“Advocate for bike lanes to be protected where possible”), which received 64% approval, with 19% voting to disapprove and 17% abstaining.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Sub-committee members presented the recommendations and work to date to Community Board 4’s Environmental Protection, Transportation and Sanitation Committee at the CB Committee’s December 7th meeting.

NEXT STEPS

Sub-committee members will work on drafting the report chapter for the Bushwick Community Plan document.

OTHER NOTES

At December 5th’s meeting, DOT informed sub-committee members that they have released an RFP for operation, management, and maintenance of a valet bicycle parking service at three locations, including Union Square, Times Square, and the Myrtle-Wyckoff Plaza. This supports the sub-committee recommendation to increase capacity for bike parking close to train stations, particularly those projected to experience greater demand during the L train closure. Steering Committee members are encouraged to share the RFP: http://nyc.streetsblog.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/DOT-Valet-Bicycle-Parking-RFP-FINAL.pdf