

Hudson River Park Trust Advisory Council

c/o Hudson River Park
Pier 40 | 353 West Street
New York, NY 10014

Advisory Council Meeting | Tuesday, September 8, 2020

Via [Zoom](#) | 6pm

MINUTES

1. Welcome + Minutes adoption (2 minutes)
 - a. [Attendance form](#)
 - b. [July 20, 2020 Minutes](#) - Not adopted; being reviewed + updated , tabled to 10-6 meeting
2. Housekeeping (3 minutes)
 - a. [Contact list](#) - please email Jeffrey to have info updated
 - b. Website listing
3. HRPT Updates (15 minutes)
 - a. [Report](#)

Please refer to the Trust report for more details, linked above.

Other info shared: Working for one year on Tribeca Habitat - Revive Mother Nature project announced by Governor in September 2019. First of habitat enhancements. North of Pier 26 to south side of Pier 34 near Canal. Considered a reserve in this area. Developed a plan - 304 individual components:

bio huts - attached to piles at Pier 26 and Pier 34

Pier 32 pile field - sleeves on existing piles

Reef balls attached to the bottom of select piles within Pier 32 pile field

Suspend - oyster ropes from the framing above sleeved piles in Pier 32 pile field

Hudson River bed is silty - some habitat features might sink so many reef balls and oyster gabions to be installed on old debris fields from old piers plus some in interpier area

Oyster Wraps - part of HRPT's "Shell-ebrate Oysters" program also on piles within Pier 32 pile field

Tina Walsh gave an update on Submerge Marine Science Festival

Deb Kustka - hand sanitizers, more social distancing notices, horticulture, refreshing Pier 45, keeping pace with weeds, short on seasonal staff due to hiring restrictions from COVID

Garbage overflowing in busy places of park, particularly around Morton Street and the dog run; Deb committed to looking into the areas and seeing if they can assist with extra cans.

4. HRP Friends updates (5 minutes)

a. [Report](#)

Refer to the linked report for details.

5. Committee Updates (5 minutes)

a. Safety - [Report](#)

Refer to the linked report for details.

6. New business (50 minutes)Greenway

Guests: NYS Parks Commissioner Erik Kulleseid and NYS Parks NYC Regional Director Leslie Wright and NYS DOT Regional Director Craig Ruyle

State DOT was invited to discuss the Council request to expand the Greenway by taking over a lane of Rt. 9A.

State DOT Regional Director Craig Ruyle outlined the following reasons to object to the expansion:

- Congestion pricing scanners might be an issue
- There may need to be an environmental review by the FHWA about taking a lane from 9A to use for a bike lane
- Where would the 9A traffic go?

The request was based on the emergency powers granted to the Governor by the State legislature. The emergency powers would not require a study of the change, and given the potential temporary nature of the plan may not directly affect congestion pricing.

While congestion pricing was referenced as a reason to oppose an expansion of the greenway, no update was provided on the status of congestion pricing.

Bollards installed in reaction to the Chambers Street terrorist attack were done without consultation of the community and present a constant danger on the busy greenway.

HRPT does not have jurisdiction over the bollards and their placement.

On Enforcement: the E-bikes and E-scooters are banned, per recent legislation, and State DOT can work with HRPT to put up signage.

NYPD is responsible for legal enforcement as they have jurisdiction of greenway and 9A; State could work with HRPT to encourage NYPD enforcement.

9A design is 30+ years old and should be reviewed and improved to meet the needs of the city today. Can a study be done to provide context, new data on use and demand, and a new plan for the area?

State DOT Regional Director: non-committal.

Request for tactile urbanism approach, try something, see how it works and then fix or address it accordingly. Use process of L-train and bring the best minds in NY together to come up with a plan to improve the Greenway and 9A.

State DOT committed to providing counts of cyclists (since they already count cars) and cars, potentially providing past data to compare it to.

Elected reps consider a letter to ask companies like Revel to do something to enforce the bikes not working on the bike path.

7. Old business (10 minutes)

It was shared that large late night gatherings were happening in Chelsea Waterside Park. People should call the PEP office when large crowds are gathered.

Future meetings dates:

- Tuesday, October 6
- Tuesday, November 10
- Tuesday, December 8