

**NYC DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
BUREAU OF ENGINEERING DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION  
CROTON FACILITY MONITORING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2008 – 7:00PM

The Croton Facility Monitoring Committee met on Thursday, November 20, 2008 at the DEP community office, 3660 Jerome Avenue, Bronx, NY 10467. Attendees included CFMC representatives, elected officials' representatives, and staff from DEP, its construction manager, design engineer, and members of the public. They are listed on *Attachment 1*. A few people did not sign in.

Welcome

Greg Faulkner, Chair of Community Board #7 and of the CFMC, called the meeting to order at approximately 7:05 PM; an agenda (*Attachment 2*) was available. Mr. Faulkner said that the CFMC would continue its experiment for the public to ask questions or make comments after each agenda item. Therefore, there would not be a separate public session and filling out requests to speak would be unnecessary.

Jobs Report

Mr. Faulkner asked the Parks Dept if there was an update on jobs at Croton-funded parks improvement projects. Commissioner Hector Aponte, Dept of Parks and Recreation, said there was no change to report from the proceeding meeting.

Nicole Torres, DEP, summarized progress on jobs and purchases since the October CFMC meeting. *Attachment #3*. Mr. Faulkner said he wanted more information about DEP's success in getting minority and women-owned businesses qualified for working as Croton subcontractors. He requested from DEP a list of minority and women-owned subcontractors currently at work on the Croton Filter project, together with the dollar value of their subcontracts. Laura Stockstill, Bronx Borough President's office, asked where job applicants who have requested to work at Croton are sent for training and jobs. She asked for the DEP list of job applicants, showing which persons have received employment. Of those who have not been hired, she wants to know where they have been referred and what, if any, follow up has occurred. Saul Scheinbach, Community Board #8, said he is surprised that DEP hasn't achieved more than 25% Bronx residents at work on the Croton Filter Project and encouraged DEP to increase its percentage. Mark Lanaghan, DEP, replied that DEP reports have shown up to 29% Bronx workers at the Croton WTP site in past months, although the percentage fluctuates from month to month. Still, he said, 25% Bronx workers shows aggressive effort at local hiring. Messrs. Scheinbach, Faulkner and Lanaghan agreed that the efforts to see Bronx workers increase would continue as a priority.

Emergency Procedures

Ashley Kolberg, Director of Special Projects and Intergovernmental Affairs at the Office of Emergency Management, said she would talk about the agency's general approach to hazards planning. Since there are many variables and planning cannot predict all

conditions, general planning is used to cover many situations and specific response and planning are directed when each incident is reported. General planning focuses on readiness, education, and flexibility. A specific plan is established by OEM and constituent agencies for each incident or emergency response, depending on the time of the incident and many other circumstances. An Area Evacuation Plan is scalable to each emergency and is used when condition warrant. If evacuation is required, the location of a specific shelter or shelters is determined by emergency response agencies based on PLUME modeling which involves coordination with the National Weather Service, and an understanding of specific indicators in the area. For incidents requiring a Ready Receiving Center, emergency response agencies generally select a school, church or other facility, or request assistance from the Red Cross to identify an area shelter. These decisions are made at the time of the event and are not pre-planned although OEM and other emergency response agencies maintain a list of suitable locations. In 2009 the citywide program "Notify NYC" will be operational to provide the public with text, email and other alerts to an incident. The system is currently undergoing trials in a few communities. In the meantime, the 311 system is another tool available for the public to obtain information during an incident or event.

Ms. Kolberg urged the CFMC and the public to have a Go Bag in case of an emergency. She made available for the meeting OEMs 2008 brochure "Ready New York – Preparing for Emergencies in NYC". The brochure may be ordered in English and 10 other languages by contacting 311.

Ms. Stockstill and Mr. Scheinbach asked several questions about the PLUME model. Ms. Kolberg said that OEM and other agencies use the most conservative (worst) case to determine the appropriate OEM, FDNY and NYPD response. Mr. Faulkner asked whether OEM has run any drills at Jerome Park Reservoir. Ms. Kolberg said that if OEM has not participated in site specific drills at the location, its GIS division has comprehensive data on sensitive locations and populations, such as those at JPR, so the CFMC and the public can be assured of safety.

Richard Barr, Bronx High School of Science Parents Association, said that OEM should be aware that, in addition to the residential population near Jerome Park Reservoir, there are thousands of non-resident students attending various schools in the area each weekday. Anne Marie Garti, Jerome Park Conservancy, said that chlorine lowers rather than rises, and the area's topography is such that nearby schools are lower than the Gate House where chlorine is located. In an emergency, she said, people who live and work near JPR should have training, including the schools' administrators, so they can better protect their populations. Messrs. Faulkner and Scheinbach encouraged Ms. Kolberg to contact the schools along Goulden Avenue to advise them. Lynn Schwarz and Karen Argenti, FIPNA, Damian McShane, Community Board #8, and Michael Gary, Amalgamated Housing Corp., spoke about various safety concerns and recommendations for OEM and about the collaboration among other agencies in the event of an emergency. Ms. Kolberg explained that FDNY has primacy in a chemical or toxicity emergency, relying on DOHMH for a medical evaluation or treatment and on DEP for chemical analyses. Mr. Aponte added that OEM provides a coordinating responsibility but in an

incident, there is and has long been a central incident response capacity. Multiple agencies respond on a highly coordinated, continuing basis until the emergency has been handled. He said the agencies involved in emergency operations have worked as a satisfactory and well managed team. Each agency understands and follows its role and responsibilities during an incident.

Mr. Faulkner said there should be a plan in the event of a potential problem at JPR. Messrs. Faulkner, Scheinbach and McShane discussed next steps after which Mr. Faulkner said that the emergency services should come to the next CFMC meeting to discuss emergency response and potential evacuation procedures at JPR.

Mr. Barr asked how Bronx HS of Science can get a FDNY presentation about safety hazards. Ms. Kolberg said Bronx HS of Science should contact the FDNY School Safety Office. Ms. Garti asked whether sensors at JPR would automatically trigger emergency contact with FDNY or if a DEP employee must contact FDNY for a response. Mr. Faulkner said these questions would be reserved for the next meeting.

#### Construction Update

Mr. Daly gave a project update regarding construction at Van Cortlandt Park and at Jerome Park Reservoir.

The CRO 312 contractors are continuing to work at VCP site. Work includes placement of concrete, installation of large diameter mechanical piping, installation of pipe sleeves, embedments, electrical conduit and electrical service duct tanks. 93,000 cubic yards of structural concrete has been placed out of an estimated total of 254,000 cubic yards.

On contract CRO 313, excavation of the Raw Water Tunnel is complete. Concrete lining is currently being placed in the RWT. A temporary plug was installed in the RWT so that the New Croton Aqueduct could be placed into service. Excavation of the Treated Water Tunnels using a Tunnel Boring Machine is ongoing and is expected to be completed by year's end. Raised boring of the Treated Water High Level Shaft is completed; rock is being transported through the tunnel to VCP for removal and disposal. Raise boring of the Treated Water Low Level Shaft is expected to begin shortly.

CRO 313 Shaft and Meter Chamber construction is moving forward but developments have delayed the surface construction work originally scheduled to begin in the fall. Additional soil testing will be done and DEP expects that the soil will be classified as non hazardous regulated waste which must be disposed of at an approved facility. (The situation is not unusual at sites in NYC and in the region.) The contract includes an allowance to properly dispose of soil if this is the case. No soil removal work will begin until all tests are completed and procedures are identified and any necessary protocols developed and put in place. No VOCs, pesticides or PCBs have been found based on the testing to date in the tested soils.

CRO 315 work continues at JPR with the 315G contractor having completed abatement of lead in Gate Houses 5 and 7. Installation of the interior walls and electrical work

construction has begun at Gate House 5. The 315G contractor is preparing its application for a permit to demolish the Demonstration Plant.

Bids have been taken for the Phase 2 work at JPR. Because of Wicks Law requirements, four contracts will be awarded for CRO 312OS.

CRO 312 OS G was awarded to Picone/Schiavone JV at a cost of \$96,842,500;  
CRO 312 OS E was awarded to Eldor Electric at a cost of \$15,762,500.

CRO 312 OS H – contract award is pending.  
CRO 312 OS P – will be rebid.

#### CFMC Discussion

The CFMC agreed to have its next meeting in January. Mr. Faulkner and other CFMC representatives said they want to attend a DEP emergency response drill at JPR. Ms. Stockstill asked how soon the minor modification will be available. Mr. Lanaghan said it may be available before the end of the year. Ms. Stockstill asked for a presentation on the VCP Pedestrian Bridge which has been under study by DEP and Parks Dept. at the next meeting. Ms. Schwarz requested, and Mr. Faulkner agreed, to have a discussion about VCP alienation/above ground buildings and facilities at the next meeting – she and Ms. Argenti gave CFMC representatives a copy of its analysis of the Croton footprint. Ms. Garti added that DEP and Parks should not have any facilities located between the Croton Filter Plant and Saturn Playground.

Mr. Lanaghan was asked for an update about public access to JPR. Mr. Lanaghan said a plan is being implemented to re-evaluate DEP's policy on JPR access but the process is not subject to quick decisions. Mr. Faulkner said this issue should be scheduled for a CFMC meeting following January's.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization / Company</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Fax</u>	<u>E-Mail</u>
Nicole Torres	DEP - Legislative Affairs	59-17 Junction Boulevard Corona NY 11368	(718) 595 7864		<a href="mailto:nicoletto@dep.nyc.gov">nicoletto@dep.nyc.gov</a>
Ashley Kolberg	Dir, Spec Projects & Intergov Affairs, OEM				<a href="mailto:akolberg@oem.nyc.gov">akolberg@oem.nyc.gov</a>
Emmanuel Cabrera	Good Jobs New York	1387 Jesup Avenue Bronx NY	(646) 262-8457		<a href="mailto:emmanuel@goodjobsfirst.org">emmanuel@goodjobsfirst.org</a>
Karen Argenti	FIPNA; FJPR	PO Box 346 Bronx NY 10471	(646) 529-1990		<a href="mailto:kabx101@aol.com">kabx101@aol.com</a>
Tom Farrell	URS-MP Construction Management	3701 Jerome Avenue Bronx, NY 10467	(718) 646-2000	(718) 324-3034	<a href="mailto:thomas.farrell@shwgrp.com">thomas.farrell@shwgrp.com</a>
Rene M. Rotolo	VP, Lehman College	250 Bedford Park Blvd W. Bronx NY	(718) 960-8226	(718) 960-4986	<a href="mailto:rene.rotolo@lehman.cuny.edu">rene.rotolo@lehman.cuny.edu</a>
Hector Aponte	Bronx Parks Commissioner	1 Bronx River Parkway Bronx NY	(718) 430-1801	(718) 231-8857	<a href="mailto:hector.aponte@parks.nyc.gov">hector.aponte@parks.nyc.gov</a>
Margot Perron	Administrator, Van Cortlandt Park	1 Bronx River Parkway Bronx NY			<a href="mailto:margot.perron@parks.nyc.gov">margot.perron@parks.nyc.gov</a>
Leon Fendley	NYC Dept of Parks & Recreation	1 Bronx River Parkway Bronx NY	(718) 231-8470	(718) 231-8857	<a href="mailto:leon.fendley@parks.nyc.gov">leon.fendley@parks.nyc.gov</a>
Martha Holstein	Strategic Urban Solutions, Inc.	335 Adams Street Brooklyn, NY 11201	(718) 625-1005 x. 223	(718) 625-1032	<a href="mailto:mholstein@urbansol.com">mholstein@urbansol.com</a>
Bernard Daly	DEP BEDC Project Manager	3701 Jerome Avenue Bronx, NY 10467	(718) 696-2000	(718) 324-3034	<a href="mailto:Bdaly@dep.nyc.gov">Bdaly@dep.nyc.gov</a>
Hector Arocena	Thatcher Associates		(718) 543-6065		
Robert Barnes	DEP Community Outreach Office - Croton	3660 Jerome Avenue Bronx, NY 10467	(718) 231-8470	(718) 231-8857	<a href="mailto:robertbar@dep.nyc.gov">robertbar@dep.nyc.gov</a>
Laura Stockstill	Office of Bronx Borough President Carrion	198 East 161st Street Bronx, NY 10451	(718) 590-3881	(718) 590-2698	<a href="mailto:lstockstill@bronxbr.nyc.gov">lstockstill@bronxbr.nyc.gov</a>
Damian McShane	Chair, Community Board #8	5676 Riverdale Avenue Bronx NY 10471	(718) 884-4740		<a href="mailto:dmcshane@panvni.gov">dmcshane@panvni.gov</a>
Anne Marie Garti	Jerome Park Conservancy	3967 Sedgwick Avenue Bronx NY	(718) 601-1322; (718) 884-7864		<a href="mailto:annemarie@att.net">annemarie@att.net</a>
John Atchley	DEP Bureau of Communications & IA	59-17 Junction Boulevard Corona NY 11368	(718) 595-5967		<a href="mailto:jatchley@dep.nyc.gov">jatchley@dep.nyc.gov</a>
Lynn Schwarz	FIPNA	3332 Giles Place Bronx NY 10463	(718) 543-2457	(718) 798-3879	

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<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization / Company</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Fax</u>	<u>E-Mail</u>
Saul Scheinbach	Community Board #8	5908 Huxley Avenue Bronx NY 10471	(718) 884-4740		<a href="mailto:judisaul@aol.com">judisaul@aol.com</a>
Greg Faulkner	Chairman, Community Board #7	2559 Sedgwick Avenue Bronx NY 10468	(718) 482-5193	(718) 609-2096	<a href="mailto:gfaulkner@lagcc.cuny.edu">gfaulkner@lagcc.cuny.edu</a> ; <a href="mailto:gfaulkner@cb.nyc.gov">gfaulkner@cb.nyc.gov</a>
Mark Lanaghan	Asst Comm, Intergov.Affairs DEP	59-17 Junction Blvd. Corona NY 11368	(718) 595-	(718) 595-3477	<a href="mailto:mlanaghan@dep.nyc.gov">mlanaghan@dep.nyc.gov</a>
Damian Ruppert	Skanska	3701 Jerome Avenue Bronx NY 10467	(571) 237-1858		<a href="mailto:damian.ruppert@skanska.com">damian.ruppert@skanska.com</a>
Jamin Sewell	Office of Council Member Oliver Koppell	3636 Waldo Avenue Bronx NY 10463	(718) 549-7300		<a href="mailto:sewellj@council.nyc.ny.us">sewellj@council.nyc.ny.us</a>
Arne Fareth	DEP BEDC	96-05 Horace Harding Exp. Flushing NY	(718) 595-6189		<a href="mailto:arnef@dep.nyc.gov">arnef@dep.nyc.gov</a>
Kevin Johns	Local 15 IUOE & Amalgamated Housing	3967 Sedgwick Avenue Bronx NY 10463	(917) 202-0212		<a href="mailto:kevin19572@verizon.net">kevin19572@verizon.net</a>
Alex Kratz	Norwood News	3400 Reservoir Oval East Bronx NY 10467	(718) 324-4998	(718) 324-2917	<a href="mailto:norwoodnews@norwoodnews.org">norwoodnews@norwoodnews.org</a>
Michael Gary	Amalgamated Housing Corp; Sen. Espada Comm	80 Van Cortlandt Pk S Bronx NY 10463	(718) 549-4811		<a href="mailto:grampafleink@gmail.com">grampafleink@gmail.com</a>
Richard Barr	Bx HS of Science Parents' Assn	203 W 86th Street New York NY 10024	212) 877-2694		<a href="mailto:richardedbarr@aol.com">richardedbarr@aol.com</a>
Lloyd Douglas	Minority Business Consultant	165 W. 127 Street New York NY 10027	(718) 292-3113		
Bob Jarnis	AECOM(M&E H&S)	605 Third Avenue New York NY 10158	(212) 984-7334		<a href="mailto:robert.jarnis@aecom.com">robert.jarnis@aecom.com</a>
Christopher Rivera	Croton Community Office, DEP	3660 Jerome Avenue Bronx NY 10467	(718)231-8470	(718) 231-8857	<a href="mailto:crivera@dep.nyc.gov">crivera@dep.nyc.gov</a>

**Croton Facility Monitoring Committee Meeting**  
Thursday, November 20, 2008 – 7:00 PM  
DEP Community Office, 3660 Jerome Avenue, Bronx NY 10467  
(718) 231-8470

- I. Welcome (5 minutes) Greg Faulkner
- II. Consider & Adopt Minutes,  
October CFMC Meeting (5 minutes) CFMC Principals
- III. DEP Report on Jobs & Training Nicole Torres, DEP  
DEP Update on Minority Hiring (10 minutes)
- IV. Parks Report on Jobs (5 minutes) Dept of Parks & Recreation  
**Comments, Questions (10 minutes)**
- V. Emergency Response Procedures Ashley Kolberg, OEM  
(10 minutes)  
**Comments, Questions (10 minutes)**
- VI. Update on Construction (10 minutes) Bernard Daly, DEP  
**Comments, Questions (10 minutes)**
- VII. CFMC Discussion & Set Next Meeting (15 minutes)
- VIII. Adjourn

**Croton Filtration Plant  
Update on Bronx-based Hiring and Purchasing  
Presented to the Croton Facility Monitoring Committee  
November 20, 2008**

Last FMC Meeting held in October (September 2008 Report)

- Bronx Labor – 116 employees or 25% on site
- Bronx Purchasing – \$77.6 million or 44% of Bronx & Non-Bronx contracts
- Croton Community Outreach Office Applicants – 1,650 (500 union, 1,150 non-union)

November FMC Meeting 2008 (October 2008 Report)

- Bronx Labor – 113 employees or 23% on site
- Bronx Purchasing – \$77.5 million or 42% of Bronx & Non-Bronx contracts
- Croton Community Outreach Office Applicants – 1,700 (540 union, 1,160 non-union)