1		E ON LANDMARKS, PUBLIC S AND DISPOSITIONS	1
2	SITING	S AND DISPOSITIONS	Τ
3			
4	CITY COUNCIL CITY OF NEW YORK		
5		X	
6	TRANSCRIPT OF THE	MINUTES	
7	Of the		
8	SUBCOMMITTEE ON LA		
9	SITINGS AND DISPOS		
10			
11		February 9, 2022 Start: 1:17 p.m.	
12	1	Recess: 1:48 p.m.	
13		HYBRID HEARING - COUNCIL CHAM	MBERS-
14		,III MALL	
15	BEFORE: I	Farah N. Louis, Chairperson	
16		Mairperson	
17			
18	COUNCIL MEMBERS	:	
19	II	Carmen N. De La Rosa	
20	I I	Oswald Feliz Robert F. Holden	
21		Christopher Marte Sandy Nurse	
22		Pierina Ana Sanchez Sandra Ung	
23	-	Inna Vernikov	
24			

1	SUBCOMMITTEE ON LANDMARKS, PUBLIC SITINGS AND DISPOSITIONS 2		
2	APPEARANCES		
3	Kate Lemos McHale		
4	Director of Research of the Landmarks Preservation Commission		
5	Sonia Guior		
6	Director of Community and Intergovernmental Affairs		
7	Scott Hefler Department of Citywide Administrative Servic		
8			
9	Chris Grove Department of Citywide Administrative Services		
10	Anthony Andreano		
11	NYPD's Facilities Management Division		
12	Juliane Farruggia NYPD Legislative Affairs Unit Managing Attorney		
13	Michael Clarke NYPD New York City Metropolitan Area		
14	Deena Felix		
15	NYPD Detective Third Grade		
16	Alek Miletic		
17	Philip Habib & Associates		
18	Jeff Reuben Philip Habib & Associates		
19			
20			
21			
22			
23			
24			
/. ()			

2.2

SERGEANT SADOWSKY: Recording to the cloud all set. Thank you and good afternoon and welcome to today's Hybrid New York City Council Hearing on Landmarks, Public Sitings and Dispositions. At this time, would all Council Members and staff please turn on their video.

To minimize disruption, please place electronic devices on vibrate or silent mode. If you wish to submit testimony, you may do so at landusetestimony@council.nyc.gov. Once again, that is landusetestimony@council.nyc.gov. Thank you for your cooperation, we are ready to begin.

CHAIRPERSON LOUIS: Good afternoon, I am Council
Member Farah Louis, Chair of the Subcommittee on
Landmarks, Public Sitings and Dispositions. I am
joined today by my colleagues Council Members De La
Rosa, Sanchez, Holden Marte, Feliz, Ung, Vernikov and
Nurse.

Today, we will be holding two public hearings.

The landmark designation of 200 Madison Avenue, the site selection and acquisition of real property for the construction of new offices for NYPD Bronx

Special Victims Services. Before we begin, I would

2.2

2.3

_

2 like to recognize the Subcommittee Counsel to review today's hearing procedures.

COMMITTEE COUNSEL: Thank you Chair Louis. I am

Jeffrey Campagna, Counsel to this Subcommittee.

Members of the public who wish to testify were asked

to register for today's hearing. If you registered

to testified and are not yet signed into Zoom, please

sign in now and remain signed in until after you have

testified.

If you wish to testify and have not registered, please go to www.council.nyc.gov/landuse to sign up now. If you are not planning to testify on today's items, please watch the hearing on the New York City Council website. All people testifying before the Subcommittee will be on mute until they are recognized to testify. Please confirm that your mic is unmuted before you begin speaking. Public testimony will be limited to two minutes per witness. If you have written testimony you would like the Subcommittee to consider in addition to or in lieu of appearing before the Subcommittee or if you require an accessible version of a presentation given at today's meeting, please email

landusetestimony@council.nyc.gov. Please indicate

-

the LU Number or project name in the subject line of the email.

During the hearing, Council Members who would like to ask questions should use the Zoom raise hand function. The raise hand button should appear at the bottom of the participant panel. I will announce Council Members who have questions in the order that they raise their hands. Witnesses are reminded to remain in the meeting until they are excused by the Chair. Lastly, there may be extended pauses if we encounter technical problems, we ask that you please be patient as we work through these issues.

Chair Louis will now continue with today's agenda.

CHAIRPERSON LOUIS: Thank you. I now open the public hearing on LU Two, the Landmark Preservation Commissions designation of the lobby of 200 Madison Avenue as an interior landmark. The landmark site is located in the Manhattan Council District represented by Majority Leader Powers. He is not with us today but I know he is in full support.

Testifying on behalf of the Landmarks

Preservation Commission, we have Kate Lemos McHale,

2.2

2.3

office building lobbies in Manhattan. The first

2.2

2.3

-

floor interior features a through block arcade with intricately detailed vaulted ceilings, gilded relieves, terrazzo floors, polished marble walls and floors and ornamental metal work and mosaics.

Representatives of the owner and the New York

Landmarks Conservancy testified in support of

designation at a public hearing on September 28,

2021. And the Commission received letters in support

from Senator Brad Hoylman and the Murray Hill

Neighborhood Association.

The lobby became the city's 121st interior
landmark on November 9, 2021, joining a very select
group of significant interior, which as defined like
the Landmarks Law are at 30 years old, customarily
open and accessible to the public and have "a special
character or special historical or esthetic interest
or value, as part of the development, heritage or
cultural characteristics of the city, state or
nation." Next slide please.

Located in Murray Hill in midtown Manhattan, 200 Madison Avenue extends a full block between East 35th and East 36th Streets. The first floor lobby interior landmark is shown on the right indicated with a red outline. It's a T-shaped space that

SUBCOMMITTEE ON LANDMARKS, PUBLIC

1

2

3

4

6

7

8

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

2.2

2.3

24

25

SITINGS AND DISPOSITIONS

incorporates the buildings historic through block entrance lobby, vestibules and a perpendicular elevator hall. It was historically not connected to its Madison Avenue lobby, which has been modified since and is not included in the landmark site. So, you can see what was designated is included in the

red outline. Next slide please.

200 Madison Avenue was commissioned by Jesse H. Jones and the Houston Properties Company. Construction began in 1925 and was completed in 1926. Due to zoning requirements, it was built as a mixed use structure with separate lobbies and entrances for residential and commercial tenants. The designated lobby interior originally served the commercial tenants within the office tower portion of the building. Next please.

The lobby of 200 Madison Avenue is among the architectural firm Warren and Wetmore's finest and best preserved interiors. Active from 1900 to 1930, this prolific firm, best known for their design of Grand Central terminal, were consistently inventive interpreters of the classical tradition. Producing a significant group of New York City landmarks and interior landmarks, including the lobbies of Stein

2.2

2.3

White Hall, the Madison Bellmont building and the New York Central building shown here. Next please.

At 200 Madison Avenue, the historic through block arcade elevator lobby and entrance foyers have highly polished marble walls, pattern terrazzo floors and gilded plastered ceilings. The ceilings and upper walls incorporate dense fields of low plaster relieve set against dark green and champagne red grounds.

Next slide please.

A vaulted arcade connects East 35th Street and East 36th Street with entrance foyers including historic doors and ornamental finishes at either end. Next please.

At the midblock is the elevator hall, which extends from the arcade towards Madison Avenue. Like the arcade, the elevator hall features a terrazzo floor, marble walls and an elaborate vaulted ceiling. Next please.

Throughout the lobby, plaster ceilings feature various kinds of naturalistic imagery including mosets and vines and at the south end of the arcade is a large saucer dome decorated with fanciful images of griffins and dragons, you can see a detail here.

25 Next slide please.

2.2

2.3

In the arcade, each arched bay incorporates a band of floral mosaics, an animal medallion and a pair of projecting lions heads. Near the elevator hall are twin brass tenant directories. Next slide please. There are also gleaming brass elevator and service doors and ornate mailboxes. The concentration of well-preserved detail dazzles with the intensity of the approaching art deco style which the lobby anticipates without adopting modern forums and materials. Next slide please.

So, to conclude, the first floor lobby of 200
Madison Avenue is a Warren and Whitmore's least known
but most impressive interiors. The building's
ownership and its managers George Comfort & Sons have
been excellent stewards of this historic public space
and aside from respectful updates to the reception
area, lighting and other minor modifications, the
magnificent lobby is incredibly intact and looks much
as it did when the building first opened. The lobby
was designated a landmark as New York City's
workforce was beginning to return to office buildings
and represents the importance of architecturally
significant places and attracting people back to the

2 city. LPC recommends the Council vote to uphold this

3 | interior designation. Thank you.

2.2

2.3

CHAIRPERSON LOUIS: Thank you for your testimony.

There will be no more Council Member questions for this panel. It is currently excused. I didn't see any hands up, so that is why I am saying that. Is there any questions from the members? Perfect, alright, so this panel is excused. Are there any member of the — thank you Kate. Are there any members of the public who wish to testify?

COMMITTEE COUNSEL: There are no members of the public signed up to testify on this item.

CHAIRPERSON LOUIS: Okay, seeing no other members of the public who wish to testify on LU Two, the interior landmark designation of the lobby of 200 Madison Avenue, this public hearing is now closed.

Our next public hearing will be on LU One. The NYPD Bronx Special Victims Services Application submitted by the New York City Police Department and the Department of Citywide Administrative Services pursuant to Section 197C of the New York City Charter. The application requests approval for the site selection and acquisition of rural property located at 188 West 230th Street in the Bronx for the

2 use as a new NYPD Bronx Special Victims Services

3 | Squad facility. The property is located in Council

4 District represented by Council Member Sanchez.

Council Member Sanchez, would you like to provide

6 remarks?

2.2

2.3

COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Yes, thank you Chair.

So, good afternoon. So, we are here listening to

NYPD who seeks a long-term 20-year lease with a

private owner for a 20,165 gross square foot space

located in our district. It's 91,000 square feet

just about on the ground and it's part of a two-story

office building which is home to a couple of other

New York City uses including the Department of the

Inspector General.

So, the lease would be for the office building as well as the joining service parking lot, which would include 20 accessory parking spaces.

And so, when I hear — when we hear from the NYPD, I want to firs thank you for conversing with me and my team about this important project and I also want to thank you for listening and connecting and being responsive to Community Board 8 and the Community Board concerns that were expressed.

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

2.2

2.3

24

25

have been accused.

2 So, as you give us your presentation, you know I 3 just want to share that I do believe that these facilities are essential. That we do need to make 4 sure the Special Victims Services are provided and up to date in humane and dignified spaces. And so, I'm 6 7 going to continue to be interested and concerned about the design of this space, making sure that you 8 are designing for optimal experience of those victims that do have to attend this site. And I know that 10 other considerations have been taken into account 11

And so, with that, I just want to thank you all and I look forward to my colleagues questions and also look forward to working with PD to ensure that these services are humane. That they're well resourced. That they are provided well and that you know we're designing a good space and that community concerns continue to be taken into account. Thank you so much Madam Chair.

such as separate entrances for victim and those that

CHAIRPERSON LOUIS: Thank you so much Council
Member Sanchez. Scott Hefler and Chris Grove from
DCAS will be presenting. From NYPD, we have Anthony
Andreano, Deanne Felix, Michael Clark and Deena

SUBCOMMITTEE ON LANDMARKS, PUBLIC 1 SITINGS AND DISPOSITIONS 14 2 Felix, Michael Clarke and Juliane Farruggia. Forgive 3 me if I mispronounced your last name. We are also 4 joined by Jeff Reuben and Alek Miletic from Philip 5 Habib & Associates who are available for questions. Counsel, please administer the affirmation. 6 7 COMMITTEE COUNSEL: Please raise your right hands 8 and respond when I call your individual names. 9 you affirm to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth in your testimony before this 10 11 Subcommittee and in response to all Council Member 12 questions? Scott Hefler? Is Scott Hefler on? 13 SCOTT HEFLER: Sorry, I was on mute. I do. COMMITTEE COUNSEL: Chris Grove? 14 15 CHRIS GROVE: I do. COMMITTEE COUNSEL: Lieutenant Anthony Andreano? 16 17 ANTHONY ANDREANO: I do. 18 COMMITTEE COUNSEL: Sergeant Deena Felix? 19 DEENA FELIX: I do. COMMITTEE COUNSEL: Michael Clarke? 20 21 MICHAEL CLARKE: I do. 2.2 COMMITTEE COUNSEL: Juliane Farruggia? 2.3 JULIANE FARRUGGIA: I do. COMMITTEE COUNSEL: Jeff Reuben? 24

JEFF REUBEN: I do.

COMMITTEE COUNSEL: And Alek Miletic?

ALEK MILETIC: I do.

2.2

2.3

CHAIRPERSON LOUIS: Thank you. You may begin your presentation.

JEFF REUBEN: Can we have our presentation on the screen please. Okay, thank you. Good afternoon, thank you Chair Louis. Thank you Council Members.

My name is Jeff Reuben, I'm a Planner with Philip

Habib & Associates and we are consultants to NYPD.

This application for a site selection for the relocation of the Bronx Special Victim Squad. The applicants are the NYPD and DCAS and we have as you have seen we have members of — the representatives of the applicant with us. Next slide please.

To locate the site for the Proposed relocation, the Special Victims Squad in the Bronx, it is in the northwestern portion of the borough in the Kings Bridge neighborhood in Bronx Community District 8 in Council Member Sanchez's district. Next slide please.

The existing Bronx Special Victims Squad is in an old precinct building at 1086 Simpson Street in the Longwood section of the Bronx and that facility for a variety of reasons is very inadequate for NYPD's

2.2

2.3

2 needs. The facility has to share the building

3 | including space with other units. There is not

4 dedicated parking for the units. And so, the NYPD is

5 looking to get a much better facility by relocating

6 to the proposed site. Next slide please.

I want to sort of generally locate the site we're talking about. There's a privately owned building at 188 West 230th Street. NYPD is proposing to move to a portion of the building. It's about a 90,000 square foot building that NYPD would occupy, approximately 20,000 square feet. It is located a half block east of Broadway, a half block west of the Major Deegan Expressway. It's close to the 231st Street Station on the Number One subway line. It is also served by bus routes and there is also a Metro North Station at Spuyten Duyvil within walking distance. Next slide please.

One of the things that's very distinctive about this site is that the building at the NYPD is proposing to locate in has frontage on two streets, West 230th Street and Exterior Street. The building has three levels, a cellar level, a first level and a second level. The NYPD facility as we'll show you, would be on a portion of the first level for the most

part. There would also be a dedicated accessory
parking lot.

2.2

2.3

As Council Member Sanchez noted, there are other government offices in this building, including offices of the School Construction Authority,

Inspector General. There is also a public parking garage in the cellar of the building, though NYPD would not be occupying the public parking garage but it would instead be occupying exclusively an accessory parking lot. Next slide please.

This diagram here shows a schematic of the building but we'll focus more on in a few moments on a diagram of the floor plan but just to give an overall sense of the building. Three levels, parking in the cellar and then offices on the first and second floor. Next slide please.

And as a reminder, the actions being sought here for City Council approval for ULURP is a site selection with acquisition and as note here, the application included a fair share analysis and it also included an environmental review in the form of an EAS. Next slide please.

We have a series of milestones; the project was certified into ULURP on August $30^{\rm th}$ of last year and

18

2 | while I won't go through all these milestones

3 individually, I do want to highlight that the

4 | Community Board and the Borough President both made

5 | favorable recommendations. The City Planning

6 Commission approved the application. The Community

7 Board did have some concerns about parking, which

8 NYPD worked with them to address and we'll discuss

9 | that in greater detail later on in the presentation

10 and then of course, after the City Planning

occupant. Next slide please.

11 | Commission approval, we're now before you. Next

12 | slide please.

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

2.2

2.3

24

1

So, this slide shows the overall location of the proposed facility within the first floor of the building. The color coded areas are the NYPD facility. As you can see, there's another portion of the floor which is not color and that's another

So, we're going to focus on the more — directly on the proposed NYPD space, just to orientate ourselves. In this diagram, north would be to the left where West 230th Street is located and the floor plan here is color coded to emphasize the benefit of this plan providing separation of different

2.2

2.3

populations, different activities and also the fact
that there is two access points.

So, the area in blue is where NYPD and its partners for this unit would be located. Their work stations and so forth. Besides NYPD, the District Attorney would also have a couple offices here, as would a victims advocate group. There is also dedicated facilities, locker rooms, pantries, etc., for the staff.

The area in yellow on this floor plan is the area where victims would come for interviews and other interactions with NYPD staff. And as you can see from this floor plan or I hope you can, the yellow area and the blue area are accessed from a lobby that is on West 230th Street. Finally, the area shown in the sort of salmon or pink color on the right hand side of the drawing is the area that where NYPD staff would have interviews with suspects. And suspects would be brought into this facility from the other side of the building, the side of the building that is accessed from Exterior Street, where NYPD would have an accessory parking lot. And there is really complete spatial separation here and also access separation in the form of different entrances for the

_

different — for victims versus suspects and also for example, the victims area would have its own bathroom. The suspects are able to have its own bathroom and there would be doors separating — doors and walls separating these different populations and

uses. Next slide please.

This floor plan shows the cellar level of the building where you have a public parking garage, which is the area that's not colored. And then you have an area in blue, which is a 20 space accessory parking lot which would be a secure parking lot for the use of NYPD, fleet and personal vehicles and also, whenever suspects are brought in our out for questioning, they are brought in and out through this accessory parking lot. And then they have their own dedicated entrance to the building. Next slide please.

Now, one distinctive thing about this building and it can be a source of confusion, so I just want to try to clear it up through photos, which I think are the best way to this. The top two photos in this slide show the West 230th Street side of the building. This site is a sloped site and so, on the West 230th Street side of the building, it very much

appears to be a two-story building and there is a cellar level below street grade. And in the upper right hand photo, you see the lobby that will be used as the entry point for victims and can also be used by NYPD staff but then on the bottom two photos, you see the exterior street side of the site, particularly the accessory parking lot, which will be dedicated to NYPD's use.

And because of the slope of the site, on this side of the building, what we call the cellar level, is actually at street grade. At the grade of Exterior Street. So, while there appears to be a three-story building on this side, it is in fact, we refer to it as being a cellar plus two stories because of the way it configures on West 230th Street. And again, this parking lot here would be just for NYPD vehicles and this is where suspects would be brought in and out of the building in NYPD custody. Next slide please.

So, I am going to introduce you to Sergeant Deena Felix, who is a member of the NYPD Special Squad in the Bronx but Sergeant Felix, if I can help still with advancing the slides, please let me know.

1

3

4

5

6

8

10

11 12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19 20

21

2.2

2.3

24

25

DEENA FELIX: Okay, uhm, hello everyone. again the Special Victims, we only data sex crimes. The NYPD, Bronx Special Victims require a larger command called Special Victims division. addresses cases where sex crimes occur in the Bronx in victims that are 13 and older.

There are also other units in other boroughs in cases involving younger victims but that's handled by the child abuse squads. Next slide please.

The proposed facility is expected to have 25 employees. It is expected that these employees would work, so we would work usually from seven to one but that's two shifts. So, we will have 15, approximately 15 during one shift, which is usually from like seven to five and then the other shift would be from five to one. Next slide please.

The parking, so the parking spot has spots for 20 vehicles and it's enclosed. It's an accessory parking lot, like you said before and it would be dedicated exclusively to our fleet, to our personal cars and our authorized vehicles. Ten of those spaces will be reserved for NYPD Special Victims vehicles and the remaining will be reserved for NYPD employees and other services.

2.2

NYPD expects that this lot would accommodate all of our fleet and our personal vehicles, which is way less than a regular precinct, which I know you guys are used to like the 5.0 and stuff like that. Next slide please.

Uhm, our CO Commanding Officer, he has vowed as well as us, to be a good neighbor and the document that he provided below just shows that we will not park on 230th Street. And if any of us do, there will be disciplinary actions and we do have our Integrity Control Officer who will periodically be checking the location to inspect and make sure that our vehicles are not parked on West 230th Street. Next slide.

So, as you said before, there is one access point on West 230th Street, which would be the public entrance for the victims, the visitors, and the employees and then the other access point would be from the parking lot on Exterior Street. And that's where most of the employees and suspects that we are investigating would go through and that would not be open to the public. Next slide. Thank you. Any questions?

CHAIRPERSON LOUIS: Thank you for your

testimony. Are there any questions — well, I have a
quick question before I open it up to the members.
wanted to ask any of the panelists, how can you
ensure that officers won't abuse parking privileges?
I appreciate what you're sharing in your testimony
but we know sometimes we have bad actors who want to
be honest. So, I wanted to know how can you ensure
that they won't abuse parking privileges and what are
the disciplinary actions that your agency would take?
DEENA FELIX: Well, the good thing is that a lot
of our guys live upstate. So, the good thing is that
there's a train station right there. The Spuyten
Duyvil, I think you pronounce it, train station. So,
a lot of guys will be taking the train. Uhm, there
are also like I said, there's usually like 15 max of
us during one tour. Uhm, we also like I said, our
ICR, Integrity Controls Officer, he will be
periodically checking, so will we as well. I'm one
of the Supervisors here; there's four of us. So, we
will be checking also to make sure that no one parks
in these spots and command disciplines will be given
out if anyone does park on that spot and the cars
will be immediately moved. But like I said, my guys

particularly city facilities that might be considered

JEFF REUBEN: Well, certainly for the transported victim — I'm sorry, for the transported suspects as we mentioned. And then I think that this lobby is the lobby going to be used and DCAS can correct me. Uhm, primarily, if not exclusively by NYPD people. There is another lobby in the building on the Exterior Street side of the site, which is used by many of the office tenants. But DCAS, if you want to add or correct anything that I've just said, please do.

17

18

19

20

21

2.2

2.3

24

landusetestimony@council.nyc.gov. Please indicate

1	SUBCOMMITTEE ON LANDMARKS, PUBLIC SITINGS AND DISPOSITIONS 28
2	the LU Number or the project name in the subject
3	heading.
4	I would like to thank members of the public, my
5	colleagues, Subcommittee Counsel, Land Use Staff and
6	Sergeant at Arms for participating in today's
7	hearing. This meeting is hereby adjourned. [GAVEL]
8	
9	
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	

World Wide Dictation certifies that the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings. We further certify that there is no relation to any of the parties to this action by blood or marriage, and that there is interest in the outcome of this matter.



Date February 14, 2022