CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PLANNING, DISPOSITIONS AND CONCESSIONS

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April 4, 2011 Start: 1:20 pm Recess: 2:35 pm

HELD AT: Committee Room

250 Broadway, 16th Floor

B E F O R E:

STEPHEN T. LEVIN Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Stephen T. Levin Charles Barron Inez E. Dickens Sara M. Gonzalez Peter A. Koo Diana Reyna

APPEARANCES

Carol Clark
Assistant Commissioner
NYC Department of Housing
Preservation and Development

Jack Hammer Director of Brooklyn Planning NYC Department of Housing Preservation and Development

Wendell Walters
Assistant Commissioner for New Construction
NYC Department of Housing
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Terry Arroyo Intergovernmental Affairs and Bronx Planning NYC Department of Housing Preservation and Development

Charlie Marcus NYC Department of Housing Preservation and Development

Thebbie Walters
Director of Manhattan Planning
NYC Department of Housing
Preservation and Development

Joe Restuccia Co-Chair Land Use Committee Manhattan Community Board 4

2	CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: Welcome to the
3	Subcommittee on Planning, Dispositions and
4	Concessions. I'm Council Member Stephen Levin,
5	Chair of this subcommittee. I am joined today by
6	members of the subcommittee. To my right, Council
7	Member Sara Gonzalez of Brooklyn, Council Member
8	Peter Koo of Queens, Council Member Inez Dickens
9	of Manhattan, and we're also joined by Council
10	Member Diana Reyna of Brooklyn.
11	We have a number of items on the
12	agenda today, so we'll get started quickly. First
13	we'll start with Land Use 296, Maujer, Ten Eyck
14	and Bedford. It's in Council District 34,
15	represented by Council Member Diana Reyna,
16	Community Board 1 of Brooklyn. The program is
17	mixed income rental program. Testifying on this
18	item we have Assistant Commissioner Carol Clark of
19	HPD and Jack Hammer of HPD as well. Ms. Clark?
20	CAROL CLARK: Good afternoon,
21	Council Members. My name is Carol Clark. I'm an
22	Assistant Commissioner at HPD, as you noted. I'm
23	joined by Jack Hammer, who is the Director of
24	Brooklyn Planning for HPD.
25	LU 296, the Maujer, Ten Eyck,

2	Bedford proposed project consists of the proposed
3	disposition of eight city-owned properties located
4	on four separate sites at 37th and 39th Maujer
5	Street, 33 Ten Eyck Street, 354, 356, and 258
6	Bedford Street and 121 South 4th Street to
7	facilitate the development of affordable housing
8	of approximately 57 units.
0	The proposed developer is Vise Deel

The proposed developer is Yuco Real Estate Company. They'll develop the site as proposed through the mixed income rental program. HPD has been engaged in a dialogue extensively with Council Member Reyna. The focus of that dialogue in part has been on the mix of family-sized units and on the income targets in the project.

Council Member Reyna has not as yet expressed support for the project, but we're confident and hopeful that we will reach that point shortly. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: Do any of my colleagues have any questions on the particular item? Council Member Reyna?

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Thank you,
Mr. Chair. I just want to understand, is the

1	SUBCOMMITTEE ON PLANNING 5
2	developer present?
3	CAROL CLARK: I don't see him here,
4	no.
5	COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Was he
6	invited?
7	CAROL CLARK: I don't know the
8	answer to that question.
9	COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Mr. Chair, I
10	just want to make note that this is a crucial
11	moment right now for the Greenpoint Williamsburg
12	rezoning points of agreement of sites that were
13	publicly owned and in the process of being
14	disposed of. I wanted to make sure that the
15	developer was a part of this record. I don't see
16	this being a good step forward when we are
17	supposed to be working with a commitment to be
18	able to do so. So I'm not too sure why we're even
19	here then if the developer is not here.
20	CAROL CLARK: The developer is not
21	here.
22	COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: But this is
23	the hearing, right?
24	CAROL CLARK: Yes, ma'am.

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: So where is

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1	SUBCOMMITTEE ON PLANNING
2	the developer?
3	CAROL CLARK: That I really could
4	not tell you. I'm not aware of where he is.
5	COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: So what
6	record are we going to put in as far as these
7	sites and what they're going to be developed into
8	and
9	CAROL CLARK: [interposing] Right.
10	What the income band would be.
11	COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Right.
12	CAROL CLARK: That it was up to 100
13	percent of the area median income in the as
14	proposed version. But what we've discussed with
15	you is that it would be more a low income project.
16	COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Right. And
17	so
18	CAROL CLARK: [interposing] And 60
19	percent, up to 60 percent of the area median
20	income. That was a change. Also, we had focused
21	on the family size units.
22	COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: And the
23	distribution.
24	CAROL CLARK: And had increased the
25	number of units. In our most recent

2	conversations, we had been discussing the
3	possibility of taking three one-bedroom apartments
4	in the proposed building to be constructed on the
5	Bedford site, which is one of the four sites, and
6	turning it into a three-bedroom unit. That is why
7	I said approximately 57 units because we haven't
8	completed resolved that issue. It's something
9	that we're still continuing to discuss and have
10	committed to discuss further.
11	COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: We're
12	pending conversations. I was under the impression
13	that we were going to have the developer present.
14	Well there isn't going to bethere's a vote right
15	now, tomorrow.
16	CAROL CLARK: Tomorrow.
17	COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: At 9:30 in
18	the morning that supposedly we're trying to get.
19	CAROL CLARK: Yes, we are
20	endeavoring to get to that vote. We're mindful of
21	the timeframe. We will be in touch with the
22	developer. We've been in contact with the
23	developer. We will be back in contact with the
24	Council Member.

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: As of this

we have a lot of items on the agenda. Can you

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COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Thank you,

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Mr. Chair. Are you prepared to discuss with the
Council Member each unit site, how many and the
income limits, the AMIs? Are you prepared to
discuss that with us today? I haven't heard that.
How many are one-bedroom, how many are studio, how
many are three-bedroom?

CAROL CLARK: Right.

COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: And what

is the AMI?

CAROL CLARK: Council Member

Dickens, yes. What we'd be prepared to report is

that as of the Thursday presentation when we sat

down with the developer and Council Member Reyna,

we had reconfigured what had been initially

proposed. We've had a number of meetings. The

scenario that we were discussing on Thursday

afternoon would have a total of 52 percent of the

total units of 54 would be two and three-bedroom

units. Now there had been a request from Council

Member Reyna that there be a larger number of

family sized units. So we'd been endeavoring to

revise the plans to reflect that. So that's where

we are.

COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: What about

2	the income limits? What's the AMI? For one					
3	bedroom, what's the AMI for one bedroom?					
4	CAROL CLARK: I don't know that we					
5	have it broken down in precisely that detail.					
6	Jack, do you have a sense?					
7	JACK HAMMER: There's an					
8	opportunity to achieve income levels across the					
9	board at up to 60 percent of AMI, although it					
10	could be higher. It could be as high as 100					
11	percent, but there's flexibility there. You're					
12	interested in the actual income levels?					
13	COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: I was					
14	asking not just the range. I heard a range. I'd					
15	like to know by unit size the AMI.					
16	CAROL CLARK: We'd have to get back					
17	to you with that, having had further discussions					
18	with Yuco, the proposed developer and Council					
19	Member Reyna this afternoon.					
20	COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Has the 52					
21	percent that you discussed being two and three-					
22	bedrooms and the income limits, are they within					
23	the Greenpoint points of agreement?					
24	CAROL CLARK: Yes, ma'am, they are.					
25	COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Thank you.					

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	CHAIRPERSON	N LEVIN:	We've	also	been
joined by Co	ouncil Member (Charles Ba	arron (of	
Brooklyn. (Council Member	Reyna has	s furtl	ner	
questions.					

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Thank you,
Mr. Chair. I apologize. I just want to make sure
that the committee understands we have had, in the
last week, multiple conversations trying to in one
week's time trying to deal with what was a vague
idea of what these sites were going to be
developed into. For the last two years I've been
requesting meetings.

So in one week we've been able to have productive conversations. So we have come from and income bracket at an AMI that was too high, with the majority 50 percent of the units dedicated to studios and one-bedrooms where no three bedrooms were even quantified into the development to now a scenario that I wanted to just be able to get definitive on the record is what I'm trying to achieve here.

These are my words, not the developers and not HPD's. But this is what we were leaving off with. An approximation of what

would be at the Bedford site, seven one-bedroom units, nine two-bedrooms, and one three-bedroom. At the Ten Eyck, 37 Ten Eyck site: seven one-bedrooms. The site is too small to have two and three-bedroom, so the maximizing of a one-bedroom at that site. As opposed to 33 Ten Eyck which is two doors down. So the coupling of lots was not possible to assemble a more appropriate larger site to build on to create a better scenario.

But nevertheless, 33 Ten Eyck will now reflect six one-bedrooms, nine two-bedrooms and two three-bedrooms. And at the Maujer site: three one-bedrooms, eight two-bedrooms and zero three-bedrooms. Again, one of the smaller sites of the ones mentioned.

So, having recognized that the Bedford site was the largest, that's where we should be accommodating more three-bedrooms. As of Thursday last week, we don't know or have not seen definitively, but there is an agreement by the developer. Now these are my words on the record, not the developer. I just want to make sure that we're finalizing all these details because I don't want to see a retracting of any of

2 this information because it wasn't part of the 3 record.

The 60 percent for a family of four would range, and Council Member Dickens, this I hope would help, \$38,000 for a family of four. At a 40 percent it would be \$25,360. And at 50 percent, because we wanted to break up the income bracket so that we're not falling short of any family not qualifying because they were falling off by \$1,000 bonus that they're not receiving this year or the following year. So 50 percent AMI would be \$31,000.

This is more reflective of a community that has a great demand for affordable housing at a family structured environment and with a diversity of income bands as well as the distribution of units.

But I want to rest assured that the one-bedrooms that would be a good percentage of these sites developed should be accommodating seniors and that HPD has committed to making sure that they would work within their agency to be able to secure the opportunity for assistance through the various programs possible at HPD to

assist seniors that may qualify with special privileges, whether that's Section 8 or emergency vouchers, whatever the case may be.

The local marketing aspect of this, clearly we have to make sure that we keep the intent of the rezoning negotiated point of recognizing families that have been displaced. As of 2010, from January 2010 to December 2010, we have documented 1,200 families on the verge of losing their homes in this community. And 1,200 families that are not receiving the amount of assistance that they would have if we had received the legal assistance fund that was intended for when the rezoning was negotiated.

So we're just trying to track everyone, making sure that they are going to have an opportunity to be recognized in the 50 percent requirement for community residents of Community Board 1. Again, that's part of this particular discussion that that will be monitored by HPD and that we will continue to monitor so that any other affordable housing units will be able to reference that particular point.

Having said that, I just want to

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ensure that further discussion will continue so
that we are able to maximize the opportunity here
of what is already a delayed development. Thank
you.

CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: Thank you. I just want to add, obviously there is a need for family sized units in the neighborhood, two-bedroom and three-bedroom units. I think that's something that we're all in support of making sure that there are an adequate number of family sized units in these developments.

CAROL CLARK: That's understood. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: Thank you. Do any of my colleagues have any further questions on this particular item? So with no further questions, we're going to move on to further items on the agenda.

Next up, we have Land Use 297 and 298. This is Harlem River Point in Manhattan Community District 11 and in the Council district represented by Council Member Dickens. So I, as Chair, will defer to her on this particular item. Testifying, we have Assistant Commissioner Carol

Clark?

2	Clark of HPD and Wendell Walters of HPD. Again,
3	for these two items, Land Use 297 and 298 in
4	Council Member Dicken's district. Commissioner

CAROL CLARK: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

My colleague, Assistant Commissioner Wendell

Walters, who is the Assistant Commissioner for New

Construction will give the testimony on these two

items.

WENDELL WALTERS: Good afternoon.

As Carol mentioned, I'm Wendell Walters, Assistant

Commissioner for New Construction at HPD Office of

Development. I'm here to provide testimony for

Land Use 297, which consists of the proposed

disposition of one city-owned building, located at

1945-1951 Park Avenue for development under HPD's

low income and mixed income rental programs.

The developer, L&M Development and Artimus Construction will demolish the existing building and construct two buildings for a total of 313 units. One of the buildings, known as the Northwest Building, will be developed through the low income rental program at HPD and will provide approximately 173 rental units with one super's

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unit. This building will also have approximately
2,300 square feet of commercial space and
approximately 10,000 square feet of community
facility space.

The other building, known as the South Building, will be developed through the mixed income rental program and will provide 140 rental units plus one super's unit.

The North Building will have 100 percent of the units affordable to households at or below 60 percent of AMI, with 20 percent of those units affordable to 40 percent of AMI households.

In the South Building, 70 percent of the units will be affordable to 60 percent of AMI, with 30 percent of the remaining units affordable to 90 percent and 100 percent of AMI households.

Land Use 298 consists of the proposed amendment to the zoning map to facilitate this project. The proposed amendment changes the R-7 to an R-8 and establishes a commercial overlay. Council Member Dickens has viewed the project with HPD and has indicated her support.

2	CHAIRPERSON	LEVIN:	Thank	you,	${\tt Mr.}$
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Walters. I'm going to ask Council Member Dickens for her remarks.

COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Thank you,
Chair Levin, for allowing me to say a few words on
this development. The entire time that I have
been in the City Council, I have fought for
affordable housing. I have stressed the
importance of people in my community being given
the opportunity to stay in the community, because
without them the heart of Harlem would be lost.

Harlem residents can continue to live in Harlem, and for that I will always fight. The project will create 313 affordable housing units, 88 percent of the total units will be at 60 AMI or lower, with 60 units specifically for families at 40 percent AMI and 217 apartments will become homes for families at 60 percent AMI. Thirty-six of the 313 units at 100 percent AMI, which will allow those young people that have graduated from college that hopefully will have a job can then begin to qualify.

There will be no units at market

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rate. The outreach will be focused and targeted towards the residents of Community Boards 10 and 11. I'm happy to say that I was able to work with HPD, L&M and Artimus Developments to ensure that these housing units are affordable for my community.

In addition, the children of Harlem will benefit substantially from the construction of these buildings. The daycare center that will be part of the project will provide much needed childcare slots for working families in my district. The new green space will give residents opportunities for recreation and leisure.

Landscaped gardens, woodland plantings and seating areas will create a diversified open space.

Harlem's local artisans will be hired to create a picturesque wall on the required noise deflecting wall.

I also continue to fight to make sure that my community has access to health food.

1951 Park Avenue will increase the options of people in Harlem looking for fresh food. L&M has committed to working with my office to ensure that the retail space in the West Building is occupied

by a tenant whose offerings increase the wellbeing of Harlem residents. I made a promise to the community when elected to tackle childhood obesity, and the marketing of this retail space is a wonderful example of the change in thinking that has occurred in Harlem towards healthy living.

Finally, L&M Development and
Artimus Construction has ensured that noise levels
in these buildings will meet all DOB and HUD
standards and that periodic testing will occur in
order to make sure that building residents are not
exposed to elevated sound levels.

L&M will also create two community rooms, one a gym and the other that houses a kitchen and meeting space. The tenants of all the buildings will have equal access to the two rooms in order to foster a sense of community amongst the residents.

As with any land use project that goes through this Council, Gail Benjamin and Amy Levitan deserve much praise, as does the rest of the Land Use division. But today I will give a special shout out to Wendell Walters and Carol Clark of HPD. Their work on this project was

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tremendous, just like all the other work that they
have done with me to ensure affordable housing is
available in Harlem. I say that cryptically,
knowing that we've got to work going forward.

I look forward to continuing to work with them as well as the new HPD Commissioner Matt Wambua to make sure that residents are not forced from our neighborhoods. Congratulations to the newly appointed Commissioner Matt Wambua.

One item that I must put on the record are the related soft costs that New York
City MWBEs be included in being a part of not only this project but all projects in the future. Not only construction jobs but architectural, expeditors, et cetera, and that contracting with an MWBE certified firm would ensure that our MWBEs are indeed protected and included, because we're woefully lacking in this city.

Thank you, Chair Levin, and my colleagues for your time. I ask for your support.

CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: Thank you,

Council Member Dickens. Does anyone have anything
to add? I think that that sums it up very nicely.

This is a project worthy of praise, and your

2	efforts clearly had a tremendous affect in moving
3	this development and setting a precedent for
4	moving all developments in the right direction in
5	the city. I want to praise you and thank you.
6	COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Thank you
7	so much. The one thing I would like to be added
8	is to note how many, it's 88 percent. So that
9	when Council Member Barron has something to say,
10	I'd like to make sure.
11	CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: I don't know if
12	Council Member Barron has anything to add to this?
13	Council Member Barron?
14	COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: When you
15	get to 90 percent, give me a call, all right?
16	Congratulations, great work.
17	CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: Eighty-eight
18	percent seems pretty good. Thank you very much.
19	Thank you, Commissioner Clark and Mr. Walters.
20	Anyone have anything to add on this? We have a
21	number of items to go. Thank you very much and
22	congratulations, Council Member Dickens.
23	On to Land Use 299, 300 and 301,
24	these are East Tremont Apartments, Bronx Community
25	Board District 6. That is in the Council District

2	represented by Council Member Joel Rivera.
3	Testifying on these items we have Assistant

4 Commissioner Carol Clark and Terry Arroyo from

5 HPD. Commissioner Clark?

CAROL CLARK: LU 299 consists of the proposed disposition of two vacant city-owned lots located at 1176 East Tremont Avenue and 1160 Lebanon Street and known as East Tremont Apartments, for developments under HPD's low income rental program.

LU 300 and 301 consists of the proposed rezoning of the site to facilitate development of the project. Under the proposed project, the sponsor will construct three buildings with a total 140 rental units plus one superintendent unit on the city-owned lots.

The project will also contain approximately 7,500 square feet of commercial space and approximately 10,500 square of the disposition area as open space. Council Member Rivera has reviewed the project and indicated his support.

CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: Thank you. Do any of my colleagues have any questions on this

2	particular item? Seeing none, I think that we can
3	move on. Sorry, Terry. How many in total, the
4	affordability breakdown is going to be?
5	CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: Please identify
6	yourself for the record.
7	TERRY ARROYO: My name is Terry
8	Arroyo, HPD's Intergovernmental Affairs and Bronx
9	Planning. Basically there are two sets of
10	incomes. One set of apartments will be available
11	to families with incomes of up to 38 percent of
12	AMI, which because we have a range of studios to
13	three-bedroom apartments, range from someone
14	earning \$21,067 to \$30,000 more or less. And the
15	other income target is up to 58 percent of AMI,
16	ranging from \$21,000 to \$30,000.
17	CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: How did you
18	arrive at the percentages of AMI?
19	TERRY ARROYO: I read it from the
20	paper. Actually, it was part of the planning.
21	This is the low income program. These are the
22	guidelines. Basically, these are the target
23	population that we're looking for.
24	CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: This has gotten

unanimous support from the community.

2	TERRY ARROYO: Yes. It's a
3	wonderful project that basically takes under
4	utilized land that was formerly MTA and we are
5	going to create wonderful affordable units.
6	CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: There's no
7	environmental remediation?
8	TERRY ARROYO: No, actually we're
9	very good on this one. We're fine, totally clear.
10	We're good.
11	CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: Wonderful. Any
12	questions on this one? Seeing none, thank you Ms.
13	Arroyo. Thank you, Commissioner Clark. We're
14	going to move on. Sorry, for the hastiness, we
15	have so many items here.
16	We're going to move on to Land Use
17	309 and 301. It's 162nd Street in Community
18	District 8 in Queens. Council District
19	represented by Council Member Jim Gennaro.
20	Testifying on this item is Assistant Commissioner
21	Carol Clark and Charlie Marcus of HPD.
22	CAROL CLARK: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
23	LU 309 and 310 consists of the proposed amendment
24	to the city map and a UDAAP designation involving
25	property located at 161-79 86th Avenue in Queens.

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2	Specifically, LU 309 proposes to eliminate,
3	discontinue and close 162nd Street between 86th
4	Avenue and Glenn Avenue, and to modify grades as
5	necessary, including authorization for any related
6	acquisition or disposition of property in
7	accordance with map number 5011 dated July 9,
8	2010, signed by the Queens Borough President.
9	LU 310 seeks approval of a UDAAP,
10	an Urban Development Action Area Designation for
11	the area and the property located at 161-79 86th
12	Avenue. This is going to facilitate disposition
13	of the property through HPD's asset sales program.
14	Thank you.
15	CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: I don't have
16	any questions on this particular. Does anyone
17	else? Seeing none: thank you very much.
18	We're going to be moving on to the
19	next item, Land Use 311, 312 and 349. This is 9-
20	17 Second Avenue in Manhattan Community District
21	3, Council District represented by Council Member
22	Margaret Chin. We have testifying today from HPD

25 CAROL CLARK: Thank you, Mr.

Walters from HPD. Commissioner Clark?

Assistant Commissioner Carol Clark and Thebbia

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Chairman. Let me note that Ms. Walters is the
Director of Manhattan Planning for HPD. LU 311,
312 and related LU 349 is a project where HPD is
seeking a UDAAP designation project approval,
acquisition of property and disposition of a city-
owned property for a site located at 9 and 11
through 17 Second Avenue, to facilitate the
development of a mixed use building.

The proposed project will provide approximately 79 residential rental units, up to 16 of which will offer permanently affordable homeownership, pursuant to the Inclusionary Housing Program's home ownership option. One unit will be reserved for a superintendent and there will be approximately 6,300 square feet of ground floor commercial space.

In order to facilitate development of the project, LU 312 provides for the acquisition of two buildings within the propose project area. LU 349 contains the proposed zoning text amendment related to the Inclusionary Housing Program which will apply only to Manhattan Community Board 3. It provides a framework to accommodate the return of existing tenants who

1	SUBCOMMITTEE ON PLANNING 29
2	currently reside in buildings on the project site
3	as either homeowners or as renters.
4	Council Member Chin has reviewed
5	the project and indicated her support.
6	CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: The buildings
7	that currently exist, what's going on in those two
8	buildings at the moment?
9	CAROL CLARK: Thebbia, you want to
10	give that a shot?
11	THEBBIA WALTERS: There are
12	currently nine tenants that are being relocated.
13	The relocation is being handled by the developer.
14	There are two commercial tenants and that
15	relocation is also being handled by the developer.
16	The tenants will all be returning back to the new
17	development.
18	CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: They will?
19	THEBBIA WALTERS: Yes.
20	CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: They'll be part
21	of the affordable units?
22	THEBBIA WALTERS: Yes, the
23	permanently affordable home ownership units.
24	CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: I don't think I
25	have any further questions on this. Council

1	SUBCOMMITTEE ON PLANNING 30
2	Member Dickens?
3	COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Would you
4	please tell me under what program the new
5	homeownership, I'm very interested in that for my
6	community?
7	THEBBIA WALTERS: It's the new home
8	ownership option that's a part of the Inclusionary
9	Housing Program. All the units will be
10	permanently affordable.
11	COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Under
12	what, for the purchase of the home ownership, what
13	are the income limits?
14	THEBBIA WALTERS: Eighty percent of
15	AMI.
16	COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Eighty
17	percent?
18	THEBBIA WALTERS: Yes, up to.
19	COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Up to?
20	THEBBIA WALTERS: Yes.
21	COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Very
22	interesting. Thank you.
23	CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: Sorry, just to
24	follow up on that. How does the financing work on
25	the affordable home ownership units?

2	THEBBIA WALTERS: It's going to be
3	private conventional financing. I don't exactly
4	know how it works but I believe with the
5	Inclusionary Housing Program that's kind of the
6	model. You have the market rate apartments and
7	with the bonus it kind of helps offset the cost of
8	the affordable units.
9	CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: Do any of my
10	colleagues have any further questions? Council
11	Member Barron?
12	COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Yeah, one
13	more.
14	CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: Council Member
15	Dickens, okay.
16	COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: The bonus
17	that you refer to, what is the FAR, what is it?
18	THEBBIA WALTERS: I can check. I
19	don't know the exact bonus, but we can
20	COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS:
21	[interposing] I'd like to know.
22	THEBBIA WALTERS: We can get that
23	information for you.
24	COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: I think we
25	would all like to know. Charles, you're on again.

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1	SUBCOMMITTEE ON PLANNING 32
2	CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: What's the
3	zoning here?
4	CAROL CLARK: The zoning on this
5	site?
6	CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: Yeah.
7	CAROL CLARK: We'll look it up.
8	But the original Inclusionary Housing Program was
9	part of New York City zoning since 1987. It was
10	confined mainly to Manhattan's highest density
11	district. It remains applicable today. Then back
12	in 2005, the Inclusionary Housing Program was
13	expanded to promote affordable housing in areas
14	that were going to be rezoned, like in Greenpoint
15	Williamsburg for example.
16	The way it works is that the
17	expanded program, anyway, allows the combination
18	of a zoning floor area bonus with a variety of
19	housing subsidy programs and it creates and
20	incentive for the development and preservation of
21	a higher proportion of affordable housing. So
22	developments taking advantage of the full 33
23	percent bonus in the new program have to devote at

least 20 percent of their residential floor area

to housing that will remain permanently

1	SUBCOMMITTEE ON PLANNING 33
2	affordable. Council Member Dickens?
3	COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: I
4	understand that. Thank you. I just wanted to
5	know what that FAR was so that I could tell if it
6	could still be done within the contextual
7	construction. I see it, it's 5.4.
8	THEBBIA WALTERS: The underlying
9	zoning is C6-2A and that permit
10	COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS:
11	[interposing] I have it. I just was given it.
12	The FAR is 5.4. Thank you.
13	CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: Okay, we're
14	going to close out that item.
15	Moving on, we have one, two, three,
16	four, five, six more items to go. We're going to
17	move on to Land Use 313, East Clarke Place. That
18	is in Bronx Community District 4, and Council
19	District represented by Council Member Helen Diane
20	Foster. It's N 110162 HAX. Testifying on this
21	item is Assistant Commissioner Carol Clark and
22	Terry Arroyo from HPD.
23	CAROL CLARK: Thank you, Mr.

Chairman. LU 313 consists of the proposed

disposition of one vacant city-owned lot, located

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2	at 12 East Clarke Place, for development under
3	HPD's low income rental program. The sponsor, YTM
4	Development Group Limited, owns an adjacent lot,
5	located at 27 East 169th Street and it is proposed
6	that they construct two buildings with
7	approximately 107 rental units and one
8	superintendent's unit.
9	The project will also provide
10	approximately 3,200 square feet of community
11	facility space and approximately 2,400 square feet
12	of open space. Council Member Foster has reviewed
13	the project and indicated her support.
14	CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: It's a big lot.
15	Can you tell us a little bit about the income
16	guidelines as it's going to go forward on this
17	one?
18	CAROL CLARK: Terry?
19	TERRY ARROYO: Thank you. The
20	estimated income target is up to 60 percent, which
21	again, these are running from studios to three-
22	bedrooms, so the range would be from \$33,264 to
23	\$47,500.
24	CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: These are all
25	rentals?

2	Viverito. On this item, we are going to be
3	hearing from Assistant Commission Carol Clark and
1	Gary Sloman.

CAROL CLARK: Actually, a correction, Gary Sloman is not here, but Terry Arroyo is joining me on this item.

CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: Thank you,
Terry.

CAROL CLARK: So LU 319 consists of a project located at 20 West 102nd Street, which was developed and owned by a redevelopment company organized pursuant to Article 5 of the New York Private Housing Finance Law. HPD is before the Council seeking approval of the termination of a real property tax exemption and the voluntary dissolution of the current owner of the property, North Park Associates.

The property, which consists of four buildings, containing 123 dwelling units, will be acquired by North Park Preservation LP, a for-profit entity with funding from the Housing Development Corporation and tax credits. The new owner and the Housing Development Corporation will enter into a regulatory agreement or a term of 40

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years, which provides that all units will be
rented upon vacancy to families whose incomes do
not exceed 60 percent of the area median. The new
owner will extend the existing Section 8 housing
assisted payment contracts, which covers 100
percent of the dwelling units, for an additional
20 years. Council Member Mark-Viverito has
reviewed the project and indicated her support.

CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: Can you give us a little bit of the background of the reasoning or what's going on here in terms of the dissolution from one owner to the other?

CAROL CLARK: My understanding is that this is a rehabilitation project which is aimed at gaining energy efficiency in the buildings. Terry, do you have any other info on it?

TERRY ARROYO: I don't have much as far as background at this point. The basic thing is that in order to refinance and to extend the affordability, there will be this change of dissolution of the Article 5. The original project was all 100 percent Section 8.

We want to maintain the

2	affordability and allowing and HPD agreeing to
3	this change in refinancing so that the new
4	developer, the new owner will retain affordability
5	in the entire building. All the Section 8
6	existing contracts will have a new 20 year
7	contract extended. Then any units that should
8	become available where you cannot have a Section 8
9	tenant would then be eligible for someone up to 60
10	percent.
11	So the idea is just to maintain the
12	affordability, allow a new owner to come in, to
13	get the financing to do the rehab. It's
14	basically, a win/win in the sense of trying to
15	maintain the affordable units as they are.
16	CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: This is
17	originally a Section 8 based develop or was it a
18	Mitchell Lama?
19	TERRY ARROYO: It was a Section 8.
20	No, it's not a Mitchell Lama, it's Section 8.
21	CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: Do you know
22	when it was originally built?
23	TERRY ARROYO: Yeah, I actually had
24	that. Do you have the backup? I had seen that
25	and it's sad that I don't have it. I don't want

2	to lie. Some number is sticking in my head, 1984,
3	but I was looking at a number on the original
4	approval.
5	CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: Okay.
6	TERRY ARROYO: It would make sense
7	because it was about 20 years, the 20 years are up
8	for the Section 8, so each are in 20 year.
9	CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: Then, with the
10	energy efficiency, are they getting tax credits on
11	that?
12	TERRY ARROYO: HDC, right, they're
13	getting tax credits, 420-c, as of right tax
14	exemptions.
15	CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: Okay. It seems
16	pretty cut and dried. Are there any questions
17	from my colleagues on this particular item?
18	Seeing none, we're going to move on to Land Use
19	350 and 351. This is Clinton Commons. This is in
20	the Council District represented by Council
21	Speaker Christine Quinn in Manhattan Community
22	District 4. That's C 110125 ZMM. Testifying on
23	this item is Carol Clark and Thebbia Walters from
24	HPD. Thank you.
25	CAROL CLARK: Thank you, Mr.

2	Chairman. LU 350 and LU 351 consist of a proposed
3	amendment to the zoning map and a UDAAP
4	designation. LU 350 proposes to amend the
5	existing manufacturing district to a residential
6	district, while LU 351 seeks approval of a UDAAP
7	designation both for the area and the property
8	located at 533-543 West 52nd Street in Manhattan.
9	Under HPD's multi-family home
10	ownership program, the city will dispose of one
11	lot, located t 533-541 West 52nd Street. The
12	developer, Clinton Housing Association and
13	Monadnock Construction Inc., will construct one
14	11-story building with approximately 102
15	permanently affordable cooperative units and one
16	superintendent unit.
17	There will also be approximately
18	5,300 square feet of open space. Council Member
19	Quinn has reviewed the project and indicated her
20	support.
21	CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: Ms. Walters, do
22	you have anything to add?
23	THEBBIA WALTERS: I don't.
24	CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: Do any of my
25	colleagues have any questions on this particular

1	SUBCOMMITTEE ON PLANNING 43
2	item? Council Member Barron.
3	COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Will they
4	be seeking tax breaks on this?
5	CAROL CLARK: Sorry. The funding
6	sources include private financing above \$25
7	million and HPD capital funds, home funds which
8	are federal monies, New York State funding,
9	NYSERDA which is energy efficiency and a capital
10	grant.
11	THEBBIA WALTERS: There's an
12	Article 11.
13	CAROL CLARK: And there's an
14	Article 11 that's also going to be sought. So
15	there will be a tax break.
16	COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Amounting
17	to how much?
18	CAROL CLARK: That I couldn't tell
19	you off the top of my head.
20	THEBBIA WALTERS: No, I don't have
21	an answer for that.
22	COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Ballpark?
23	Nothing?
24	THEBBIA WALTERS: I don't have an
25	amount, a ballpark.

community board.

percent of AMI to the Inclusionary Housing

approximately 1,200 units.

Program. Over the past five years, we've had

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What we don't have produced at all
are units that hit 80 percent, 130 and 165. Our
biggest problem is as people now are in that
middle band. They can't afford the market. Our
market starts, a studio, at roughly \$2,800 to
\$3,000 a month, for a one-bedroom, \$3,800 a month,
for a two-bedroom, \$5,500 a month. That puts it
outside the range of anybody who is a working
nergon who lives in our community

Especially hard hit are people in public housing who now are doubled up. They cannot afford to move anywhere and compete in the market. So our big concern has always been to hit that middle band of people who are making between \$38,000 for a single to a family of four, \$103,000 to \$130,000 in order to keep them in our community. They just get forced out.

This is urban renewal land. I am also the executive director of Clinton Housing Development Company, not related to the developer at all, but I've worked with the urban renewal area since 1980. Our goal has always been to have a range of incomes in this area. We're really very happy that this project is making that

2 happen.

The key for us was permanent affordability. We will no longer support any projects that have a term of 20 or 30 years. It's a waste of city resources. We find it to be a problem. For us it's permanent affordability. People's lives move on and then all of the sudden you're stuck and they have to move.

So we demanded from this developer and this project, if it were a home ownership project, it would be permanently affordable. It will be a deed restriction running with the land in perpetuity. That's why we support it. Also, it's majority two bedrooms; another issue of us, because we have lots of studios and ones being built.

It's been a very complex project.

It's fallen apart and come together many times.

Now the final number of units is actually 96, not

103. It's 95 with one super. We're very happy to support it. I'll take any questions.

CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: You mentioned the number of low income units that have been developed through the Inclusionary Program. Do

2	you have a count of how many units are kind of in
3	the middle band of 80 to 120 or so that have been
4	produced?
5	JOE RESTUCCIA: None. That's our
6	problem.
7	CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: Zero?
8	JOE RESTUCCIA: Every one of those
9	buildings is 80/20, so it's all 50 and 40 percent
10	of AMI, which has really helped a great part of
11	our neighborhood residents. But if you are \$10,
12	\$200 above, you're out. It's really been a
13	problem.
14	CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: So literally
15	zero? There's been zero.
16	JOE RESTUCCIA: Zero. There have
17	only been through Inclusionary, through no the
18	80/20 through the offsite program, approximately
19	50 or 40 units developed at 80 percent of AMI, in
20	comparison to the 1,200 at 50 and 40.
21	CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: Can you tell me
22	a little bit about the structure here with the
23	multi-family home ownership, how that is going to
24	work?
25	JOE RESTUCCIA: It will be a co-on

2	There will be a deed restriction on the land.
3	There is a predictable increase in the value of
4	the units. So you don't get to come in here and
5	think you can buy for a small amount and make a
6	killing in the end. It's a small return, like 5
7	percent or something. So it's very, very
8	specific. Really, these units are dedicated for
9	people who really are going to stay in this
10	community, not people who buy, want to flip and
11	move out. The project structure doesn't work that
12	way at all.
13	CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: Maybe I should
14	have asked HPD this, but is there like a flip tax?
15	JOE RESTUCCIA: Yes. There's the
16	flip tax and also there will be an outside monitor
17	on the co-op itself. That's built into the
18	project.
19	CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: So there would
20	be a penalty if anyone were to sell their unit
21	within say ten
22	JOE RESTUCCIA: [interposing] It
23	has to be approved by the outside monitor, the
24	sales. So it's actually regulated.
25	CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: You couldn't

2	even do it if you wanted to and incur the penalty.
3	For instance, if you wanted to sell your place,
4	it's not approved by the outside monitor, there's
5	a restriction that you couldn't even sell it.
6	JOE RESTUCCIA: The Community Board
7	would not approve it without the outside monitor.
8	CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: Do any of my
9	colleagues have any questions for Mr. Restuccia?
10	Council Member Barron?
11	COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: The 80/20,
12	20 percent is up to 60 percent of the AMI you
13	said?
14	JOE RESTUCCIA: Yeah, but they're
15	most at 50, 50 and 40.
16	COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: 50 and 40.
17	What is the area AMI?
18	JOE RESTUCCIA: Our area AMI
19	overall?
20	COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Your area
21	AMI.
22	JOE RESTUCCIA: In the last five
23	years because of all the development through
24	Hudson Yards and West Chelsea, it's gone up
25	dramatically. So we're talking, it's like 40
24	Hudson Yards and West Chelsea, it's

2	capturing people between 60 and 80, they just fall
3	out. So we really wanted to make sure we got that
4	group. Then the next two groups which are
5	moderate and middle at 130 and 165.
6	COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: But those
7	incomes, if they're citywide or the metropolitan
8	area AMI is like, what, 70 something, 76, almost
9	\$80,000?
10	JOE RESTUCCIA: For a single
11	person, 165 is \$86,000. Hold on a second, I'll
12	tell you exactly. For a single person, 80 percent
13	of AMI is 44, up to a family of four at 165, up to
14	130, yes.
15	COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Right. So
16	it goes as high as 130.
17	JOE RESTUCCIA: Correct. For a
18	family of four. Let me do apples to apples. A
19	single person, \$44,000 AMI, 80 percent up to
20	\$91,500 for a single person. For a family, 80
21	percent of AMI, \$63,000 up to \$130,000 for a
22	family of four.
23	COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: What is the
24	racial composition of your area?
25	JOE RESTUCCIA: It's very mixed.

trying to attract more blacks and Latinos?

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JOE RESTUCCIA: We're trying to
attract our neighborhood residents who don't have
an opportunity. That's our problem.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Okay, just checking.

CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: Thank you, Council Member Barron. Any further questions on this item? Seeing none; Mr. Restuccia, thank you very much. I do want to say that when I first campaigned I looked to see addressing, coming up with a new program that is similar to the way that Mitchell Lama was developed in the 50s and 60s and 70s. This program and however you feel about the income guidelines, it has that same kind of goal. So I think that this is a worthy project in the sense that it is addressing the need for middle income cooperative home ownership that can keep professionals in our city. I mean obviously the pressures; you mentioned the market rents in the neighborhood are just so extraordinary. You said the folks that are able to afford that are working, they're just working at really, really high end jobs.

JOE RESTUCCIA: They're not school

2 teachers, they're not firem

CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: They're not school teachers, they're not firemen. I was happy to hear about this project and what its aims are and what its goals are. To me, it's look at a way to kind of do what Mitchell Lama did. So I want to thank you very much for your testimony.

JOE RESTUCCIA: Thank you very much.

CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: Thank you.

We're almost done. Next up, we have Land Use 353,
that's Kingston Heights Apartments, in Brooklyn

Community District 3. That's in Council District

36, represented by Council Member Al Vann. It's

20115510 HAK. Testifying on this item we have

Assistant Commissioner Carol Clark and Jack Hammer

from HPD. Ms. Clark?

CAROL CLARK: Thank you, Mr.

Chairman. LU 353, known as the Kingston Heights

Apartments One consists of the proposed amendment

of the existing Kingston Heights Apartments plan

and project. The original plan and project, which

contains seven multiple dwellings and provides 130

low income rental housing units, plus two

_							
2	superintendent units was approved by the Board of						
3	Estimate in June of 1980.						
4	The proposed amendment consists of						
5	the deletion of a portion of the project area to						
6	facilitate a new project. A separate submission						
7	requesting approval of the conveyance of 29						
8	MacDounough Street, the deleted portion, was						
9	approved by this Council very recently, on March						
10	23rd, 2011.						
11	So this is the second segment of						
12	this. Council Member Vann has been briefed and						
13	indicated his support. Thank you.						
14	CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: Thank you,						
15	Commissioner Clark. Sorry, I failed to mention						
16	Jack Hammer is Director of Brooklyn Planning for						
17	HPD. Is there anything you would like to add?						
18	JACK HAMMER: Nothing to add.						
19	CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: Do any of my						

CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: Do any of my colleagues have any questions on this particular item? Seeing none; we are going to move on. Is that it? That is it.

[Pause]

CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: The items that we did not have hearings on today, we are going to

2	lay over. We are going to be laying over the vote
3	on Land Use 296. That's Maujer/Ten Eyck and
4	Bedford. Until tomorrow at 9:30 and we'll keep
5	the committee open in recess until that time. But
6	we will be taking a vote on the other items that
7	we have heard today. I am recommending an aye
8	vote on all of those. I'm going to ask counsel to
9	the committee, Carol Shine, to call the roll.
10	CAROL SHINE: Chair Levin?
11	CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: Aye on all.
12	CAROL SHINE: Council Member
13	Barron?
14	COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: May I be
15	excused to explain my vote?
16	CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: Briefly.
17	COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I know it's
18	going to pass and I know you're headed in the
19	right direction, but 20 percent of the units at 80
20	percent of the AMI, I believe that the
21	metropolitan AMI is around \$76,000 or close to
22	that. So 80 percent of that is not 53, it's
23	definitely 70 something thousand. The
24	metropolitan AMI?
25	[Pause]

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2	CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: We're going to
3	stand at recess until 9:30 tomorrow morning, where
4	we'll take up the vote on the items that we laid
5	aside. I do want to also just recognize Danielle
6	Decerbo and her work on Clinton Commons.

With that, we are going to hold the recess but gavel out. Thanks.

I, Donna Hintze certify that the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings. I further certify that I am not related to any of the parties to this action by blood or marriage, and that I am in no way interested in the outcome of this matter.

Signature	8	bura	Leube)	
DateApril	25,	2011		