



CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

May 25, 2005/Calendar No. 26

C 050219 PQM

IN THE MATTER of an application submitted by the Department of Parks and Recreation and the Department of Citywide Administrative Services pursuant to Section 197-c of the New York City Charter for acquisition of easements located south of West 66th Street between Amsterdam Avenue and Broadway (Block 1137, Lots 10 and 7501; Block 1134, Lots 1 and 25); to facilitate the construction of a pedestrian bridge and vehicular tunnel. Community District 7, Borough of Manhattan,

The application (050219 PQM) for the acquisition of easements was filed by the Department of Parks and Recreation and the Department of Citywide Administrative Services, acting on behalf of the City of New York on December 17, 2004. The proposed easements on Lincoln Center's property would facilitate a proposed pedestrian bridge and tunnel traversing West 65th Street between Broadway and Amsterdam Avenue, both of which would be owned by the City.

RELATED ACTIONS

In addition to the acquisition of easements which is the subject of this report, implementation of the proposal also requires action by the City Planning Commission on the following applications which are being considered concurrently with this application.

C 050098 MMM City Map Change for the elimination, discontinuance and closing of portions of West 65th Street between Broadway and Amsterdam Avenue to Lincoln Center, a modification of the public place designation covering Lincoln Center's North Plaza and the deletion of certain references to a pedestrian overpass from the City map. Further the extinguishment of an easement for the footings of such pedestrian overpass, the adjustment of grades necessitated thereby and any acquisition or disposition of real property related thereto.

N050169 ZRM Zoning Text amendment to Section 82-24 to allow permitted signage up to a height of 40 feet above street level and up to a

height of 60 feet along the Broadway frontage between West 66th and West 65th streets. In addition the proposed text would allow signs fronting North Plaza and facing east or south, up to a height of 40 feet from the plaza level. The size and number of permitted signs would continue to be governed by Section 32-642.

C 050170 GFM A revocable consent allowing the installation of information signage on a public sidewalk.

M860382 (E) ZSM Non-ULURP Modification to a previously approved Special Permit for a public parking garage and the replacement of attached drawings to reflect proposed as-of-right changes.

BACKGROUND

A detailed description of the proposed project and related actions are included in the report on the related application for the proposed changes to the City Map (C 050098 MMM).

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

This application (C 050219 PQM), in conjunction with the applications for the related actions (C 050098 MMM, N 050169 ZRM, C 050170 GFM, and M860382 (E) ZSM) was reviewed pursuant to the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA), and the SEQRA regulations set forth in Volume 6 of the New York Code of Rules and Regulations, Section 617.00 et. seq. and the City Environmental Quality Review (CEQR) Rules of Procedure of 1991 and Executive Order No. 91 of 1977. The designated CEQR number is 05DCP019M. The lead is the City Planning Commission.

After a study of the potential environmental impact of the proposed action, a Negative Declaration was issued on December 20, 2004.

UNIFORM LAND USE REVIEW

This application (C 050219 PQM), in conjunction with the applications for the related actions (C 050098 MMM and C 050170 GFM) was certified as complete by the Department of City

Planning on December 20, 2004, and was duly referred to Community Board 7 and the Borough President in accordance with Article 3 of the Uniform Land Use Review Procedure (ULURP) rules along with the applications for the related non-ULURP modification of a special permit (M860382 (E) ZSM) and amendment to the Zoning Resolution (N 050169 ZRM) which were referred for information and review.

Community Board Public Hearing

Community Board 7 held a public hearing on January 20, 2005 on this and the related applications, and on February, 1, 2005, and adopted a resolution recommending approval of the applications by a vote of 30 in favor, 3 opposed, and 0 abstaining with conditions.

A summary of that recommendation is included in the report on the related application for the proposed changes to the City Map (C 050098 MMM).

Borough President Recommendation

The application was considered by the Borough President, who issued a recommendation approving the application on March, 24, 2005 with conditions.

A summary of that recommendation is included in the report on the related application for the proposed changes to the City Map (C 050098 MMM).

City Planning Commission Public Hearing

On March 30, 2005, (Calendar No. 8), the City Planning Commission scheduled April 13, 2005, for a public hearing on this application (C 050219 PQM). The hearing was duly held on April 13, 2005 (Calendar No. 28), in conjunction with the hearings on related applications (C 050098 MMM, N050169 ZRM, and C050170 GFM). There were 27 speakers in favor and 2 speakers in opposition. Written testimony was also received both in favor and in opposition.

A summary of the public hearing can be found in the report on the related action for the proposed changes to the City Map (C050098 MMM).

CONSIDERATION

The Commission believes that the proposed acquisition of easements on Lincoln Center’s property (C 050219 PQM) to facilitate the construction of a pedestrian bridge and a vehicular tunnel, in conjunction with the related applications for several changes to the City Map (C 050098 MMM), a zoning text amendment (N050169 ZRM), a revocable consent (C 050170 GFM) and the minor modification to a previously approved Special Permit (M 860382 (E) ZSM), is appropriate.

A full consideration and analysis of the issues, and the reasons for approving this application, appears in the related application for the proposed changes to the City Map (C050098 MMM).

RESOLVED, that the City Planning Commission finds that the action described herein will have no significant impact on the environment; and be it further

RESOLVED, by the City Planning Commission, pursuant to Section 197-c of the New York City Charter that based on the environmental determination and the consideration described in this report, the application for acquisition of easements located south of West 66th Street between Amsterdam Avenue and Broadway (Block 1137, Lots 10 and 7501; Block 1134, Lots 1 and 25; Community District 7, Borough of Manhattan, to facilitate the construction of a pedestrian bridge and vehicular tunnel, is approved.

The above resolution, duly adopted by the City Planning Commission on May 25, 2005 (Calendar No. 26), is filed with the Office of the Speaker, City Council and the Borough President, in accordance with the requirements of Section 197-d of the New York City Charter.

AMANDA M. BURDEN, AICP Chair
KENNETH J. KNUCKLES, Esq. Vice Chair

ANGELA M. BATTAGLIA, IRWIN G. CANTOR, P.E., ANGELA R. CAVALUZZI, R.A., RICHARD W. EADDY, JANE D. GOL, LISA A. GOMEZ, CHRISTOPHER KUI, JOHN MEROLO, KAREN A. PHILLIPS, DOLLY WILLIAMS, Commissioners