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**IN THE MATTER OF** an application, submitted by the Department of Transportation, Division of Bridges pursuant to Sections 197-c and 199 of the New York City Charter, for an amendment to the City Map involving:

- the modification of legal grades on East 175<sup>th</sup> Street between Park Avenue East and Park Avenue West;

in Community District 6, Borough of The Bronx, in accordance with Map No. 13142 dated May 29, 2019 and signed by the Borough President.

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This application for an amendment to the City Map was filed by The New York City Department of Transportation (DOT), Division of Bridges, on September 10, 2018. The proposed City Map amendment would facilitate the rehabilitation of the East 175<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge over the Harlem Line of the Metro-North Railroad (MNR) in the Belmont neighborhood of The Bronx, Community District 6.

## **BACKGROUND**

The East 175th Street bridge was originally built in 1889 and was reconstructed in 1938. It is a single-span arch structure, oriented in the east-west direction. The bridge carries East 175th Street over four tracks of the MNR with two lanes of traffic in the westbound direction and 13-foot-wide sidewalks on both sides. The bridge is 60 feet wide and 61.7 feet long with a minimum vertical clearance from top of rail to the bottom of the bridge of 15.64 inches.

The subject portion of East 175th Street is City owned, mapped to a width of 60 feet and approximately 200 feet in length. It carries two lanes of traffic in the west bound direction with 13-foot-wide sidewalks on both sides. The profile of the street is proposed to be raised by approximately one foot with changes in legal grade of approximately two feet.

The bridge was last reconstructed 82 years ago. The East 175th Street Bridge has several non-standard features that would either be corrected or improved. The proposed action would facilitate the rehabilitation of the bridge, as well as increasing the vertical clearance to 16 feet over the MNR tracks and the stopping sight distance along East 175th Street. The work would include replacement of the concrete bridge deck and parapets, replacement of steel girders with pre-stressed concrete box beams, replacement of sections of both abutment backwalls, replacement of bearings, replacement of one water main, addition of a water main, relocation of Con Edison deck utilities, reconstruction of the approach roadways, and rehabilitation of traffic signals and street lighting.

In response to a polling letter issued on September 24, 2018, no City agencies or utilities expressed any objections to the proposal.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW**

This application (C 190087 MMX) 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 lead agency is DOT. The designated CEQR number is 18DOT009X.

This application was determined to be a Type II action, which requires no further review.

## **UNIFORM LAND USE REVIEW**

This application (C 190087 MMX) was certified as complete by the Department of City Planning on September 9, 2020, and was duly referred to The Bronx Community Board 6 and the Borough Board and the Borough President, in accordance with Title 62 of the Rules of the City of New York, Section 2-02(b).

**Community Board Public Hearing**

Community Board 6 did not hold a public hearing or vote on this application.

**Borough President Recommendation**

This application (C 190087 MMX) was considered by the Bronx Borough President, who on December 17, 2019 issued a recommendation in favor of the application.

**City Planning Commission Public Hearing**

On December 18, 2019 (Calendar No. 1), the City Planning Commission scheduled January 8, 2020, for a public hearing on this application (C 190087 MMX). The hearing was duly held on January 8, 2020 (Calendar No. 27). There was one speaker in favor of the application and none in opposition.

A representative of the applicant described the proposed bridge rehabilitation, and explained that the proposed grade changes and City Map amendment are needed to complete the bridge rehabilitation while maintaining minimum vertical clearances over MNR.

There were no other speakers and the hearing was closed.

**CONSIDERATION**

The Commission believes that this application for a City Map amendment (C 190087 MMX) is appropriate.

The City Planning Commission notes that the East 175<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge was built in 1889 to span the Metro North railway and rehabilitated in 1938. This structure, last rehabilitated 82 years ago, now has several elements exhibiting deficiencies. The proposed action is needed to repair these deficiencies including replacing of the bridge superstructure, installing new utilities and improving the stopping sight distance on East 175<sup>th</sup> Street. The Commission believes that the rehabilitation of the bridge will extend its design life and improve public safety and that the proposed City Map amendment is necessary for the Department of Transportation to rehabilitate the existing bridge.

## **RESOLUTION**

Therefore, the City Planning Commission, deeming the proposed amendment to the City Map and any related acquisition or disposition of real property related thereto to be appropriate, adopts the following resolution:

**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 Sections 197-c and 199 of the New York City Charter, that based on the environmental determination and the consideration described in this report, the application (C 190087 MMX), for an amendment to the City Map involving:

- the modification of legal grades on East 175<sup>th</sup> Street between Park Avenue East and Park Avenue West;

in Community District 6, Borough of The Bronx, in accordance with Map No. 13142 dated May 29, 2019 and signed by the Borough President.

All such approvals being subject to the following conditions:

The subject amendment to the City Map shall take effect on the day following the day on which certified counterparts of Map No. 13142 dated May 29, 2019 are filed with the appropriate agencies in accordance with Section 198 subsection c of the New York City Charter.

The above resolution (C 190087 MMX), duly adopted by the City Planning Commission on February 5, 2020 (Calendar No. 6), 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.

**MARISA LAGO, Chair**

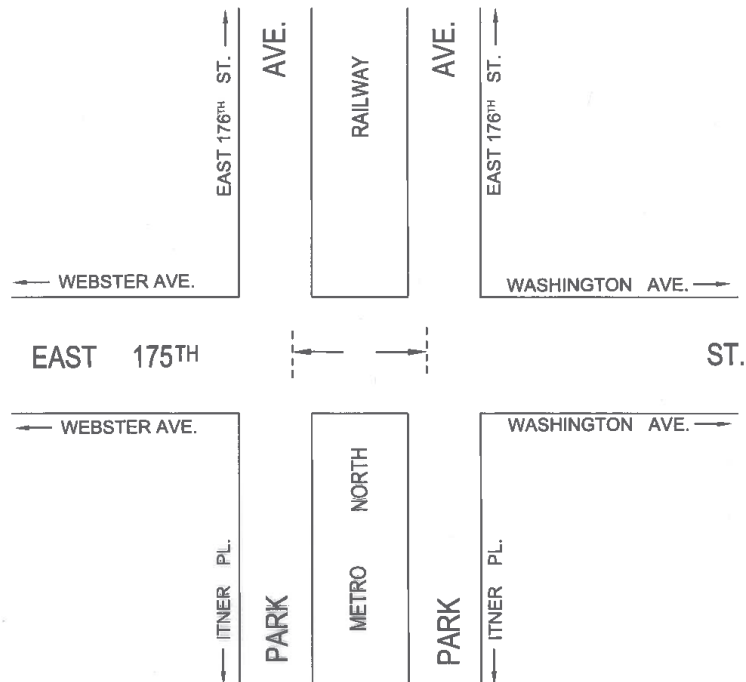
**KENNETH J. KNUCKLES, Esq., Vice-Chairman**

**DAVID J. BURNEY, ALLEN P. CAPPELLI, Esq., ALFRED C. CERULLO, III,**

**MICHELLE de la UZ, JOSEPH I. DOUEK, RICHARD W. EADDY,**

**HOPE KNIGHT, ANNA HAYES LEVIN, ORLANDO MARIN,**

**LARISA ORTIZ, RAJ RAMPERSHAD, Commissioners**



CITY PLANNING COMMISSION  
CITY OF NEW YORK  
DIAGRAM SHOWING PROPOSED  
**MAP CHANGE**  
ON SECTIONAL MAP  
**3**  
BOROUGH OF  
**THE BRONX**

New York, Certification Date  
SEPTEMBER 9, 2019

  
P. Montgomery, P.E.  
Chief Engineer



NOTE:

- Indicates line of street legally adopted.
- — — Indicates limits of area generally affected by grade change.

THIS DIAGRAM IS FOR ILLUSTRATIVE PURPOSES ONLY.

**BOROUGH PRESIDENT  
RECOMMENDATION**

**CITY PLANNING COMMISSION  
22 Reade Street, New York, NY 10007  
Fax # (212)720-3356**

**INSTRUCTIONS**

1. Return this completed form with any attachments to the Calendar Information Office, City Planning Commission, Room 2E at the above address.
2. Send one copy with any attachments to the applicant's representative as indicated on the Notice of Certification.

**APPLICATION # C 190087 MMX-East 175<sup>th</sup> STREET BRIDGE REHABILITATION**

**DOCKET DESCRIPTION**

**PLEASE SEE ATTACHMENT FOR DOCKET DESCRIPTION**

**COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 6**

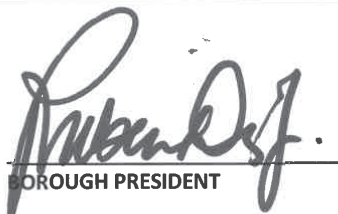
**BOROUGH: BRONX**

**RECOMMENDATION**

- ☒ **APPROVE**
- ☐ **APPROVE WITH MODIFICATIONS/CONDITIONS (List below)**
- ☐ **DISAPPROVE**

**EXPLANATION OF RECOMMENDATION-MODIFICATION/CONDITIONS (Attach additional sheets if necessary)**

**PLEASE SEE ATTACHMENT FOR BOROUGH PRESIDENT'S RECOMMENDATION**

  
BOROUGH PRESIDENT

  
DATE

**BRONX BOROUGH PRESIDENT'S RECOMMENDATION  
ULURP APPLICATION NO: C 190087 MMX  
EAST 175<sup>TH</sup> STREET BRIDGE REHABILITATION**

**DOCKET DESCRIPTION**

**IN THE MATTER OF** an application, submitted by the Department of Transportation, Division of Bridges pursuant to Sections 197-c and 199 of the New York City Charter, for an amendment to the City Map involving:

- The modification of legal grades on East 175<sup>th</sup> Street between Park Avenue East and Park Avenue West;

In Community District #6, Borough of The Bronx, in accordance with Map No. 13142 dated May 29, 2019, and signed by the Borough President.

**BACKGROUND**

Approving this application is necessary to facilitate the reconstruction and the resulting change of grades of an existing vehicular and pedestrian bridge located on East 175<sup>th</sup> Street. It links the northbound travel lanes of Park Avenue on the east with the southbound travel lanes of Park Avenue on the west, spanning over the below-grade, track bed of the Harlem Line of Metro North Railroad's four track right-of-way. The current bridge, was reconstructed in 1938\*, is:

- 61.7 feet in length
- 60 feet in width
- 34 feet from curb to curb
- 13 feet wide are concrete sidewalks located on the north and south side of the bridge span
- One way traffic only flowing westbound.

\*This crossing was originally constructed in 1889.

Due to deteriorated condition of the existing bridge, The New York City Department of Transportation's Bridge Division proposes to rehabilitate the current bridge either by correcting or improving several non-standard design features. To accomplish this objective there will be an increase in the vertical clearance over the Metro North tracks, increase the stopping sight distance, and utilizing cost effective methods, with disruption to the Metro North and neighboring manufacturing community. The project's time line approximates 25months.

Key community impact considerations for this project include:

- One 13-foot minimum lane of traffic on East 175<sup>th</sup> Street at all times during construction.
- One 15-foot lane on Park Avenue will be available at all times during construction.
- One sidewalk will be open across East 175<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge at all times during construction.
- Bike lane on Park Avenue will be diverted into the travel lane.
- On street parking within the construction area will be reduced by approximately 10 spaces to accommodate construction;



- Traffic control agents will be requested and be posted to direct traffic when necessary;
- Night work will take place
- Maintain clearance for railroad operations at all times.

The scope of work associated with this project includes:

- Replace bridge deck;
- Reconstruct approach roadway pavement
- Reconstruct approach sidewalks, curbs, pedestrian ramps and street lights
- Install new bridge railings and pedestrian fencing
- Provide new pavement striping on bridge and approaches
- Relocating of Con Edison deck utilities

Development of the surrounding community is composed of a mix of low-rise and mid-rise manufacturing buildings. Both sides of Park Avenue have manufacturing businesses along their corridor. Metro-North Railroad service is located at Tremont Station approximately two blocks north of the site on East Tremont Avenue. Bus transportation is provided by the BX15 along Third Avenue, BX 41 local/SBS along Webster Avenue, and BX40/42 along East Tremont Avenue. The closest subway access is available by the B and D lines on the Grand Concourse approximately 2/3 mile away from the site.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW AND ULURP CERTIFICATION**

This application has been reviewed pursuant to CEQR and SEQR and received a Negative Declaration. The City Planning Commission certified this application as complete on September 18, 2019.

#### **BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD PUBLIC HEARING**

Bronx Community Board #6 did not hold a public hearing on this matter.

#### **BOROUGH PRESIDENT'S PUBLIC HEARING**

A public hearing was convened by the Bronx Borough President on November 26, 2019. Representatives of the applicant were present and spoke in favor of this application. There being no members of the public in attendance and the hearing was closed.

#### **BRONX BOROUGH PRESIDENT'S RECOMMENDATION**

Maintaining safe bridges and related infrastructure is essential for the safety and wellbeing of everyone. I am therefore pleased to endorse the reconstruction of this bridge. I am also satisfied that the city's Department of Transportation's Bridge Division is taking the necessary steps to assure that traffic congestion and the noise associated with this project are managed and minimized.

I recommend approval of this application.