

Brooklyn Marine Terminal

Advisory Task Force Meeting #6 Minutes

Follow-up Items and Feedback Summary

The following document includes key follow-up items and feedback received during Advisory Task Force (ATF) meeting six for the Brooklyn Marine Terminal (BMT) planning process. The meeting was open for ATF Members to participate, and for members of the public to observe. The full list of ATF members is available [here](#).

The focus of the meeting was to review the proposed transportation framework for BMT, including site access, the Pedestrian-First District, Transit Priority, and Car-Lite strategies. At the ATF's request, this session was held as a single full-group discussion. ATF member feedback will inform the project team's work to develop the Design Guidelines for the General Project Plan.

Date: Thursday, September 24th, 2026

Time: 2pm – 4:15pm

Format: Zoom Webinar

Link to Presentation: [LINK](#)

Meeting Attendees

Project Team

- Rebecca Gafvert, *NYCEDC*
- Jennifer Sun, *NYCEDC*
- Nate Gray, *NYCEDC*
- Jazmin Ramirez, *NYCEDC*
- Sam Justiniano, *NYCEDC*
- Seth Ullman, *NYCEDC*
- Matt Roosa, *NYCEDC*
- Chris Canary, *NYCEDC*
- Tali Goldman, *NYCEDC*
- Michele Lamberti, *NYCEDC*
- Lizette Chaparro, *NYCEDC*
- David Lowin, *NYCEDC*
- Anna Pycior, *ESD*
- Destiny Burns, *ESD*
- Alice Shay, *Buro Happold*

- Isabel Mulay, *Buro Happold*
- Jeff Smithline, *TYLin*
- Moon Mengqi He, *WXY*
- Adam Lubinsky, *WXY*
- Bahij Chancey, *WXY*
- Mat Staudt, *OFTN*

Agency Representatives

- Huma Husain, NYC DOT
- Tiffany-Ann Taylor, NYC DOT

Advisory Task Force

- NY Assembly Member Jo Anne Simon
- NY Assembly Member Marcela Mitaynes
- NY State Senator Andrew Gounardes
- Arif Sunmonu, Columbia Street Waterfront District Resident
- Bennette Kramer, Cobble Hill Association (alternate)
- Bryan Woll, Columbia Street Waterfront Association
- Carly Baker-Rice, Red Hook Business Alliance
- Jesse Solomon, Southwest Brooklyn Industrial Development Corporation
- Cristian Macario, Office of State Senator Kirsten Gillibrand
- Karen Blondel, Red Hook Houses West Tenants Association
- Louis Cox, Cobble Hill Association
- Ousmane Diallo, Office of Assembly Member Charles D. Fall
- Samantha Razook, Red Hook Resident Representative
- Sharon Gordon, Columbia Street Waterfront Association (alternate)
- Sabine Aronowsky, Office of Council Member Shahana Hanif
- Thomas Barattini, Shipping Association of NY & NJ
- Jim Tampakis, Shipping Association of NY & NJ
- Tori Kelly, Office of State Senator Andrew Gounardes
- Nse Esema, Mayoral Representative
- Catherine McBride, Red Hook Initiative

Follow Up Items

The Project Team will address the following comments, questions, and requests for Information from the ATF in writing and/or during future ATF meetings.

- A request to increase in-person community engagement by having public sessions in accessible locations.
- A request to have more tangible items at tabling events to help the community envision the result as opposed to 2-D items.
- A request for information regarding community engagement sessions to be shared publicly and with the ATF.
- A request for more collaborative, dialogue-based engagement that recognizes shared goals and supports meaningful partnership with the community.
- A concern that the GPP process is moving too quickly and may not allow enough time to incorporate useful information and language.

BQE Central: Proposed Rehabilitation

- A request for NYC DOT to share a 3D-rendering of the temporary bypass structures.
- A suggestion for NYC DOT to use Pier 7 as a modular site for prefabricating roadway components, which might expedite BQE repairs and shorten the construction period by reducing onsite concrete work.
- A request for follow up from DOT regarding Weight in Motion and its enforcement.
- A request for NYC DOT to discuss the congestion stemming from two-lanes and how to navigate any increase in traffic during the construction period.
- A request for NYC DOT to clarify the target demographics for the BQE engagement sessions.

Blue Highway and BMT Port

- Suggestions to improve port operations at BMT, including:
 - A suggestion for future port operator to utilize standardized bike containers to improve operational efficiency for logistics personnel handling micro freight.
 - A request to organize designated chassis by ZIP code groupings rather than managing them individually.
 - A suggestion to streamline Blue Highways operations by breaking down shipments at BMT, retaining containers onsite, establishing cold storage in

Red Hook using available state funding, and transferring goods into smaller containers for water-based distribution.

- A question about how the proposed plan will address potential conflicts with siting residential uses close to an operating port.
- A request to explore innovative technologies and best practices that could enhance environmental safety protocols within port operations.
- A question if the draft GPP will be completed before the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS).
- A comment that the public comment period for Creighton at Pier 10 was not mentioned to the community.
- A question about how the project will be designed to ensure the mixed-use district functions well without restricting future port operations.

ATF Plan Feedback

BQE Central

- A concern that prior commitments to a safer Atlantic Avenue and the projected BQE timeline have shifted, creating uncertainty around anticipated deliverables.
- A concern that the proposed rehab may not adequately reflect the needs of the area regarding significant pedestrian activity.
- A request to close the Atlantic Avenue on-ramp to improve pedestrian safety, particularly during BQE construction.
- A concern regarding rerouting heavy vehicles off the BQE.
- A concern regarding the current traffic conditions and the potential for increased congestion during BQE repairs.
- A concern regarding pedestrian mobility and safety on Atlantic Avenue from proposed development and the northbound BQE on-ramp remaining in place.
- A concern regarding a lack of transportation options and heavy reliance on bus service.

Blue Highway and BMT Port

- A concern regarding the operational efficiency of moving freight from barge to land, and the logistical flow of containers arriving at BMT, being transported to Hunts Point, and moved back to BMT.
- A concern regarding the environmental and pedestrian safety impact of the BMT project, specifically on Atlantic Avenue.

- A concern that the operating agreement between the Port Authority and Red Hook Container Terminal (RHCT), and inherited by NYCEDC, does not provide sufficient certainty for RHCT to make the investments necessary to maximize its operational and economic potential.
- A request for the planned cold storage investment to remain at BMT and a concern that relocating cold storage to Hunts Point may redirect employment benefits away from underserved Brooklyn communities and increase local food insecurity if access to Bronx facilities is disrupted.
- A concern that until the Port Operator RFP is released, the port and port equipment will not have investment.
- A concern regarding the timeline for entering into an agreement with a container terminal operator, and how this may affect current terminal business operations.
- A request for EDC to continue working with RHCT and Portside and a desire for both to remain a part of BMT.
- A desire to recognize the port's growth potential beyond fruit imports, including support for expanding Blue Highway operations and developing on-site cold storage at BMT.
- A request to incorporate community input into the Port Operator RFP to help ensure excessive limitations are not being put on port operations.