Brooklyn Marine Terminal
Advisory Task Force Meeting #8 Minutes
Follow-up Items and Feedback Summary

The following document includes key follow-up items and feedback received during Advisory Task Force (ATF) meeting eight 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 urban and open space design updates in the Atlantic Basin district, shown through bird's eye, plan, section, and eye-level views, in response to ATF comments received earlier this year. This was the second of two October meetings on BMT urban design updates. ATF member feedback will inform the project team's work to develop the Design Guidelines for the General Project Plan.

Date: Wednesday, October 21st, 2026
Time: 10:00 AM-12:00 PM
Format: Zoom Webinar
Link to Presentation: BMT Advisory Task Force Meeting #8 Presentation

Meeting Attendees

Project Team

- *Ally La Pinta, NYCEDC*
- *Alexis Taylor, NYCEDC*
- *Allison Dees, NYCEDC*
- *David Lowin, NYCEDC*
- *Jennifer Sun, NYCEDC*
- *Lizette Chaparro, NYCEDC*
- *Maisie Jarrell, NYCEDC*
- *Max Taffet, NYCEDC*
- *Michele Lamberti, NYCEDC*
- *Nate Gray, NYCEDC*
- *Rebecca Gafvert, NYCEDC*
- *Sam Justiniano, NYCEDC*
- *Seth Ullman, NYCEDC*
- *Tali Goldman, NYCEDC*
- *Tommy Herrera, NYCEDC*

- *Gabriella Green, ESD*
- *Wilmer Cabral, ESD*
- *Christopher Wassif, ESD*
- *Bahij Chancey, WXY*
- *Adam Lubinsky, WXY*
- *David Vega-Barachowitz, WXY*
- *Moon Mengqi He, WXY*
- *Alice Shay, Buro Happold*
- *Isabel Mulay, Buro Happold*
- *Jeff Smithline, TY Lin*
- *Pippa Brashear, SCAPE*
- *Linh Pham, SCAPE*

Advisory Task Force

- Arif Sunmonu, Columbia Street Waterfront District Resident
- Assembly Member Jo Anne Simon
- Assembly Member Marcela Mitaynes
- Bennette Kramer, Cobble Hill Association (alternate)
- Carly Baker-Rice, Red Hook Business Alliance
- Destiny Burns, Governor's Office
- Hank Gutman
- Jim Tampakis, Marine Spares International
- John Leyva, Columbia Street Waterfront Association (fill-in)
- Karen Blondel, Red Hook Houses West Tenants Association
- Louis Cox, Cobble Hill Association
- Maulin Mehta, Regional Plan Association
- Sabine Aronowsky, Office of Council Member Shahana Hanif
- Spencer Williams, Brooklyn Borough President's Office
- Susan Povich, Red Hook Business Alliance
- Susannah Pasquantonio, Office of Assembly Member Jo Anne Simon
- Tom Barattini, Shipping Association of NYNJ (alternate)
- Tom Conoscenti, Governor's Office
- Tori Kelly, Office of State Senator Gounardes

ATF Plan Feedback

General and Process

- A request that the Project Team share updates on items identified at the conclusion of the BMT Vision Plan phase, including funding for sewer upgrades, traffic plan, including impacts and mitigations, finances, project timeline, and continued port operations, at future BMTDC meetings.
- A question about how the commitments in the Vision Plan will be enforced.
- A call to reset how the ATF engages, and a note that weekday daytime meetings are hard to attend for members who do not work for a government agency or an elected official's office.

Urban Design and Open Space

- A concern about the height of the proposed floodwall along the Greenway next to the port on Conver Street and its effect on views of the water, noting the public reaction to the flood barrier at Battery Park City, and a request to further explore alternatives to avoid a solid wall.

Transportation and Port Access

- A concern about conflicts between trucks and people walking and biking near the port's entry and exit points, including trucks queues extending onto Summit Street and Conover Street.
- A suggestion to route pedestrians and cyclists away from the port area.

Port Planning and Operations

- A request to clarify whether New York State or New York City procurement policy applies to the future port operator RFP.
- A request to advance port planning, including a port lease, in step with the GPP affirmation and public approvals.
- Support for siting cold storage at BMT, acknowledging refrigerated containers are trucked to New Jersey and back, adding congestion and pollution.
- A desire to support the existing port operator by considering a lease extension and a request to give maritime uses more focus in the project.

- A desire for the BMT project, informed by a recent community forum on the working waterfront, to provide more support to working waterfront jobs and the Blue Highway.

Financing and Housing

- A concern that the financial assumptions behind the 40% affordable housing commitment have not been shown to be viable, with a request that the Project Team show what has changed since the task force's final meetings.