

**BRONX BOROUGH PRESIDENT'S RECOMMENDATION
ULURP APPLICATION NO: C 190043 MMX
EAST 180TH 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 180th Street between Park Avenue East and Park Avenue West;

In Community District #6, Borough of The Bronx, in accordance with Map No. 13143 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 180th 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 Metro North Railroad's four-track-right-of-way. The current bridge, constructed in 1936*, is:

- 61 feet in length
- 80 feet in width
- 44 feet from curb to curb
- 18 feet wide are concrete sidewalks located on the north and south side of the bridge span
- 2,684 square feet of total deck area
- Traffic flows both east and west across the bridge

*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 reconstruct the current bridge, replacing it with new structure. To accomplish this objective the overall project area encompasses 350 feet along East 180th Street and 200 feet along both sides of Park Avenue. As this span crosses over an active railroad right-of-way, a portion of the work associated with this project will take place after 9 p.m. and conclude at approximately 5:00 a.m. Monday through Friday. The project's time line approximates 22 months.

Key community impact considerations for this project include:

- Two 11-foot lanes for traffic will be available on East 180th Street at all times;
- One 11-foot travel lane on Park Avenue will be available at all times;
- One sidewalk over the railroad right-of-way will be available at all times;
- A segment of Park Avenue, north bound will be closed to traffic for three months;
- 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;
- Maintain clearance for railroad operations at all times.

The scope of work associated with this project includes:

- Replace bridge deck;
- Install new infrastructure including gas mains, electric conduits and water mains;
- Install new bridge railings and pedestrian fencing;
- Reconstruct sidewalks, pedestrian ramps;
- Install new streetlights;
- Restripe pavement on the bridge and on bridge approaches.

Development of the surrounding community is composed of low-rise and mid-rise residences as well as one-story industrial buildings. Commercial activity is found on Webster Avenue, one block west of Park Avenue. Mass transportation via bus is provided by the Bx36 operating on East 180th Street and the Bx41 Select Bus Service (SBS) and local service on Webster Avenue. Access to Metro North Railroad is available at the Tremont Station on East Tremont Avenue, approximately three blocks south of the construction area. The closest subway access is at the 182nd-183rd Streets Station for the B and D trains approximately a half mile uphill northwest of this project.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW AND ULURP CERTIFICATION

This application has been reviewed pursuant to CEQR and SEQRA and received a Negative Declaration. The City Planning Commission certified this application as complete on September 23, 2019.

BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

Bronx Community Board #6 held a public hearing 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.