

## **New York Methodist Hospital Plans**

### **The Project**

In a few weeks, New York Methodist Hospital will begin preparing for construction of a new outpatient care center: the Center for Community Health (CCH). The new building will replace a number of Hospital-owned low-rise buildings located on the NYM campus on Sixth Street, Eighth Avenue and Fifth Street. The Hospital has worked closely with Park Slope community organizations and residents to develop the façade design.

The facility to be built consists of a six-story building that will house an ambulatory surgery center, endoscopy suite, cancer center and specialty institutes, as well as an after-hours immediate-care center. Underground parking will expand capacity in our current underground garage.

### **The Construction Process**

There will be a number of phases making up the construction process. The first of these, which will actually prepare for construction, involves abatement and demolition of the current buildings. (The four phases to follow include placing the foundation, erecting the structure, developing the interior and completion.)

Construction vehicles, workers and deliveries to the construction site will report to the staging area, currently used for physician parking, on Sixth Street, off Eighth Avenue. Drivers of construction vehicles are being instructed to enter the area via Ninth Street,



**Entrance to the Sixth Street Lobby of the New York Methodist Hospital CCH**

turn left onto Eighth Avenue and then left on Sixth Street. The usual work hours will be 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. We do not anticipate any extended work hours or weekend hours during the month of May but will notify the community board and publish special issues of this newsletter if these work hours change.

Our contractor, Lend Lease Construction, has asked its employees and has instructed its subcontractors to ask their employees not to drive cars to the site.

We are currently arranging to have decorative ironwork and any other exterior or interior ornaments worth preserving “adopted” by organization or individuals that express an interest and ability to remove them.

Lend Lease will contact owners of buildings within 90 feet of the new construction to offer to arrange for existing conditions surveys. These buildings can be secured (with roof protection and/or scaffolding, if indicated) and monitored throughout the construction period.

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## **Phase I: Abatement and Demolition**

The abatement and demolition phase is expected to take approximately seven months.

This phase will be broken into three overlapping stages. As the phase begins, trucks will deliver plywood and barriers that will be used to build the construction fence and scaffolding that will protect pedestrians.

Before the buildings can be taken down, all potentially hazardous substances (asbestos, oil tanks, etc.) must be safely removed (abatement). *There are strict NYC Department of Environment (DEP) regulations for this. The DEP also dictates noise and dust mitigation plans that will be followed throughout the construction by Lend Lease.*

During the coming month, workers will install perimeter fencing and sidewalk bridging and temporary electrical service. By the end of the month, abatement activities will begin on the five Eighth Avenue buildings. As the abatement portion of this stage concludes, work will begin on the eight Sixth Street buildings. The final stage of abatement and demolition will focus on the three Fifth Street buildings being taken down

The safety of the community and those living and working in and around this site is of paramount importance to Lend Lease, as it is to New York Methodist Hospital.

No street parking spaces will be taken during this phase.

An after-hours security guard will be stationed on-site throughout the entire construction process.

## **Community Advisory Group**

At the time that Community Board Six approved the project, the Board asked that, when construction began, the Hospital participate in a construction task force (CTF) to act as a liaison between the Hospital and near neighbors who would be affected by the construction. The group (CTF) has now been formed and it includes representatives of community organizations, elected officials, city agencies and individuals who live near the project. This group will meet regularly during the entire construction process to help ensure that disruption to our neighbors is kept to a minimum. A representative from Lend Lease, our contractor, will be at every meeting.

## **Other Avenues of Communication**

The Hospital and the Building Contractor are committed to doing everything possible to minimize the disruption and inconvenience caused by the building process. One way of accomplishing this is the publication and distribution of this newsletter. **The newsletter will be available on the Hospital's website, [www.nym.org](http://www.nym.org) (on the Homepage, click on the link to the Center for Community Health on the lower left). Interested members of the community can also request that the newsletter be sent directly to their email addresses by making this request to [build@nym.org](mailto:build@nym.org). In addition, requests for mailing the newsletter to homes in the vicinity of the project can be sent to this address or can be phoned into NYM's Department of Public Relations., 718 780-5367.**

Questions/concerns about the project may be addressed to Lyn Hill, Vice President for Communication and External Affairs, at [lyh9001@nyp.org](mailto:lyh9001@nyp.org) or (718) 780-3301.

Questions/concerns about the construction should be addressed to Sharon Stern, Community-Project PR Liaison at Lend Lease, [ProjectNYMHCCHNYC@lendlease.com](mailto:ProjectNYMHCCHNYC@lendlease.com) or (212) 592-6826.