

The resolution that the Board passed endorsing the principle of the Hudson Valley Greenway's location as close as possible to the river (from the May 2012 CB8 Board meeting minutes):

2. B. Bender presented the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Senator Charles E. Schumer provided \$1 million to plan the Hudson River Greenway Link between Manhattan and the Westchester Greenway in Yonkers;

WHEREAS, the New York Metropolitan Transportation Council (NYMTC) was designated by the State to manage the planning process and intends to complete the plan by the end of 2012;

WHEREAS, the NYMTC has released its preliminary choice for the preferred route that includes more than a 2-mile stretch that is on the waterfront;

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WHEREAS, the Riverdale community has repeatedly supported “access to the waterfront” as one of its priorities;

WHEREAS, NYMTC recommends that the Henry Hudson Bridge (Bridge) be utilized for the Greenway to cross the Harlem River, and reports that the Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA) has a conceptual design for a cantilever off of the west side of the lower level of the Bridge that would carry the Greenway and accommodate a standard sized walking and biking trail – and that the MTA estimates a cost of \$15 million to

build the cantilever;

WHEREAS, NYMTC recommends that the MTA consider a NYMTC plan to improve the Henry Hudson Bridge crossing for bikers and walkers for the period prior to the construction of the cantilever by eliminating the breakdown lane on west side of the lower level of the Bridge and enlarging the walking and biking route across the Bridge;

WHEREAS, the Henry Hudson Bridge is eligible for listing on the register of historic places and the addition of the cantilever will be subject to review by the State Historic Preservation Office;

WHEREAS, NYMTC recommends that the preferred route should go from Palisade Avenue at West 232nd Street through Riverdale Park to a new bridge that will cross the railroad tracks and land on the waterfront on the west side of the tracks;

WHEREAS, NYMTC recommends a careful study of the Riverdale Park between West 232nd Street and the NYC Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) pumping station located approximately 150 yards north of West 232nd Street to identify the route that would have the least damaging effect on the natural resources of the Park;

WHEREAS, Riverdale Park is designated a “natural resource area” and “forever wild” by the City;

WHEREAS, the Bronx Community Board No. 8 believes that the Hudson River is one of the greatest natural resources of the community and that connecting Riverdale Park

to the waterfront will materially improve the natural resources of the Park and provide public access to those natural resources;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, THAT Bronx Community Board No. 8:

1. supports the NYMTC choice of its preliminary preferred route, particularly because it provides generous public access to the waterfront;
2. supports the use of the Henry Hudson Bridge as the Greenway route and the proposal to build a cantilever off the west side of the lower level to carry the Greenway;
3. supports the plan to improve the Henry Hudson Bridge crossing for bikers and walkers for the period prior to the construction of the cantilever by eliminating the breakdown lane on the west side of the lower level of the bridge and enlarging the walking and biking route across the bridge;
4. supports the NYMTC recommendation that the preferred route go from Palisade Avenue at West 232nd Street through the Riverdale Park to a new bridge that will cross the railroad tracks and land on the waterfront on the west side of the tracks;

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5. supports the NYMTC efforts to study the area between West 232nd Street and the pumping station in order to design a route that will have the least damaging

effect on the natural resources of the Park;

6. urges the NYC Department of Parks and Recreation to recognize natural resource enhancement of Riverdale Park that results from the connection to the waterfront.

Vote: 35 in favor, 1 opposed, and 1 abstention with cause

In Favor –

R. Abbott, S. Alexander, S. Balicer, R. Bender, B. Contant, E. Corcino, A. P. Creaney,

T. Durham, R. Fanuzzi, A. G. Feldmeier, P. Friedman, S. Froot, M. Goodman, M.

Heller, M. Khury, I. Ladimer, T. Lim, R. Pochter Lowe, S. Marquez, D. McShane,

A. Moore, P. Mullen, D. Padernacht, K. Pesce, J. Pilsner, A. Piscitelli, R. Press,

P. Reyes, X. Sanchez, G. Santiago, A. A. Spett, I. W. Stone, S. Villaverde, M. Wolpoff,

H. Young

Opposed –

R. Ginty

Abstention With Cause –

C. Moerdler

