

Belmont Development

Public Hearing Jan 9, 2019

Comments by Frank Gunther, Floral Park resident and member of the Floral park Mayor's Task Force

I have reflected on comments heard at last night's hearing and the proposed Belmont Project time line, which schedules:

DEIS 4Q18

FEIS 2Q 19

Start construction 2Q 19

I must ask how responsive and real the ESD's commitment is to complying with the UDC act 6266(1) which mandates it to "work closely, consult and cooperate with local elected officials and community leaders..."

How will the comments expressed under the DEIS public hearing process be responded to and addressed completely and responsibly - all within less than 90 days until start of construction?

The Village of Floral Park has communicated numerous times to ESD and to our elected officials in matters about the project that affect our communities. I am asking where will be found specific responses to the following VFP letters which followed Listening sessions

Dec. 11, 2017 letter

- Islanders identified significant changes as necessary components of the project: increase the capacity of the CIP and feeder roads leading to Belmont.

Dec 12, 2017 letter

- Reservations about a process that excludes a comprehensive Master Plan for Belmont that includes NYRA future plans for the property, which remain insistent but vague as of this date.
- UDC Act 6266(1) requirement that ESD "give primary consideration to local needs and desires and (to) foster local initiative and participation in connection with the planning and development of its projects..."
- Impact on Local Communities: Questions 1 & 2: Offset to costs incurred by neighboring villages (fire, police, rescue and sanitation)
- Environmental Impacts Question 7: Preventing honking of car horns, often notorious before and f]after events
- Impact on Existing Services Question 24: How does the proposed project plan to accommodate population east of the site with mass transit via the LIRR
- Socio-economic impacts Question 29: beautification/improvement of Hempstead Tpke.?
- Long term/Operational Phase Questions 7 & 8: need written commitments regarding Plainfield and Mayfair gates; question 17