Growing Together
Monthly Newsletter for Columbia University’s Manhattanville in West Harlem Development

Columbia’s long-term plan for the old Manhattanville manufacturing area will revitalize the four former industrial blocks from 125th/129th to 133rd Street between Broadway and 12th Avenue, and three small blocks along the east side of Broadway from 131st to 134th Street, into an environmentally sustainable and publicly accessible center for academic and civic life woven into the fabric of the West Harlem community.

Project Scope
The initial phase of development will include the Jerome L. Greene Science Center, the Lenfest Center for the Arts, a new home for the Columbia Business School, and the University Forum. Later phases will emphasize interdisciplinary scholarship, including biomedical engineering, nanotechnology, systems biology, and urban and population studies, as well as housing for graduate students and faculty.

Current Construction Activity

Jerome L. Greene Science Center
The first of the Synapse media displays is installed in the urban layer lobby. The installation of the IT, security, fire alarm and audio visual systems are nearing completion. Furniture installations are nearing completion. Temporary certificate of occupancy has been granted by the New York City Department of Buildings.

Lenfest Center for the Arts
The installation of IT, security, audio/visual and fire alarm are in progress. Shade installation and venue space flooring are underway throughout the building. Furniture installation is underway.

University Forum
Steel erection, bolting, welding and decking are ongoing until the end of March.

Central Energy Plant (CEP)
Third-party inspection of fire alarm devices is ongoing. Required annual testing of fire alarm devices is ongoing. Boiler testing equipment setup and testing is ongoing. Training for systems is ongoing. Mechanical system testing is ongoing.

Small Square
The first phase of Manhattanville’s open space project, which lies north of W129th Street, south of Lenfest, and west of the Jerome L. Greene Science Center, is nearing completion. Upcoming work will include completion of remaining waterproofing and installation of planter walls on both sides of Lenfest Center for the Arts.

Phase 1 Emergency Generator Project
Furnish and install emergency generator plant on the roof of the Studebaker building to provide emergency power to the Manhattanville campus. Automatic transfer switch commissioning at the Central Energy Plant/Jerome L. Greene Science Center is underway. Operations training is ongoing. System test performance under loss of utility power is ongoing.

Phase 2 Foundations
Mass excavation work (east and west portions of site between W.130th and W.131st streets). Continue dewatering drawdown tests. Installation of eastern soldier pile wall (east property line for a project site located between W.130th and W.131st streets). Install fence in front of Studebaker building for emergency egress on W.131st Street. Ramp excavation, tieback installation and walers at project site towards 12th Ave, between W.125th and W.130th streets.

What to Expect
Although contractors carefully stage construction activities to minimize disruption to the surrounding community, the nature of construction work is such that some disruptions will occur. The community should expect the following in the coming months:

- Regular work hours are 7:00am - 6:00pm Monday through Friday
  - Weekend work may be performed.
- Closure of certain traffic lanes, parking lanes, sidewalks and crosswalks, including:
  - No standing on West 125th Street between Broadway and West 129th Street.
  - There is a no parking zone in effect on the west side of Broadway from West 125th to 129th Streets.
  - Broadway sidewalk is open from West 129th to West 130th Street. The Broadway parking lane is a no parking zone.
  - West 131st Street between Broadway and 12th Ave is closed and will remain closed until fall 2018.
  - West 129th Street (between Broadway and West 125th Street) has closed. It is anticipated that W.129th Street will reopen in March 2017.
  - West 130th Street between Broadway and 12th Ave is a no standing or parking zone.

(Over)
Community Amenities and Benefits
To access the Columbia University’s Community Services Website, please visit: manhattanville.columbia.edu then click “Community” in the navigation menu.

Minority, Women, and Local Businesses and Workforce
Columbia has made a significant commitment to the minority, women, and local (MWL) construction contracting and workforce community throughout the course of the project: MWL construction trade contracting goal of 35 percent and MWL construction trade workforce goal of 40 percent. Working with construction contractors and the building trades, Columbia is working to enhance the role MWL firms and workers play in building the new campus. All figures represent non-specialty construction services and related materials.

Construction Contracting
In the third quarter 2016 (July 1 to September 30), Columbia paid $4,754,381 to MWL firms, representing 36 percent of total construction spend. $570,609 of that figure was paid to local companies.

Cumulatively from August 1, 2008, through September 30, 2016, Columbia paid $137,394,623 to MWL firms, representing 35 percent of total construction spend, excluding the amount paid to the construction manager. $44,488,467 of that figure was paid to local companies.

Construction Workforce
In the third quarter 2016 (July 1 to September 30), the MWL construction workforce delivered 68,569 hours worked, representing 51 percent of the total workforce hours for the construction of the new Manhattanville campus. 7,502 hours of that figure were performed by the local workforce.

Cumulatively from August 1, 2008, through September 30, 2016, the MWL construction workforce delivered 1,279,639 hours worked, representing 50 percent of the total workforce hours for the construction of the new Manhattanville campus. 234,705 hours of that figure were performed by the local workforce.

Jobs and Opportunities
As the project progresses, we expect additional opportunities for people with a wide range of skills and experience in the coming years.

We are working with our construction partners Skanska USA/the Velez Organization (for the University Forum) and Lendlease (for Phase 2 foundations/below-grade) to assist those interested in employment with construction firms currently working at Columbia. For more information, please visit the Manhattanville Employment Opportunities page at manhattanville.columbia.edu/jobs-opportunities.

Additional Information
This newsletter and our weekly construction updates (which contain more specific information about construction impacts) will be available on the web at manhattanville.columbia.edu and at various locations at the project site and throughout the Manhattanville area.

Neighboring construction projects not related to Columbia
- New York City Economic Development Corporation’s West 125th Street Streetscape Improvement Project, please contact Patrick Jordan at 347-840-0914 or west125@zetlin.com.
- New York City Transit’s Portal Repairs on the Broadway–7 Avenue Line please click here or visit MTA.info and search “Portal Repairs on the Broadway–7 Avenue Line”
- New York City Department of Transportation’s Protective Coating of the Riverside Drive Viaduct from St. Clair Place to 135th St., please contact Community Liaison Hugh Smith at 917-434-1385 or via e-mail at riversideviaduct@gmail.com

Did You Know?
Apply to be part of the next cohort of Columbia’s Community Scholars

Applications for the fall 2017 Community Scholars cohort are being accepted through April 27. The program offers adults from northern Manhattan free access to Columbia University services and resources; it was designed to support and facilitate the work of individuals toward the completion of a particular project, or toward attaining skills in a specific area of interest. Services and resources include access to all University libraries, course auditing privileges, dialogue with scholars in their field of study, and the ability to participate in seminars and social events developed specifically for the group. Since 2013, Columbia has selected a total of 18 local community residents to participate as Community Scholars.

In order to apply, you must be a Borough of Manhattan resident living north of 96th Street and cannot have a current affiliation with Columbia University. Applications and more information are available at the Government and Community Affairs website, gca.columbia.edu/columbia-community-scholars-program.
Steep Rock Bouldering to Be First Retail Tenant at New Manhattanville Campus

Steep Rock Bouldering, a New York City-based indoor climbing facility, will be the first retail tenant at the University’s new Manhattanville campus. The all-bouldering facility will join a Community Wellness Center, an interactive installation about brain research and an Education Lab as part of the civic and retail spaces that will define the street level experience of the campus.

Steep Rock Bouldering was selected for its high-quality service, successful track record and community engagement. "The addition of Steep Rock Bouldering to the Manhattanville campus in the Jerome L. Greene Science Center makes a physically and mentally demanding activity, that is currently available only in limited locations in the city, accessible to Columbia and Upper Manhattan," said David M. Greenberg, executive vice president of Columbia University Facilities and Operations. “Steep Rock Bouldering was selected for its high-quality service, successful track record and community engagement.”

Columbia University and Steep Rock Bouldering anticipate partnering to pursue community initiatives at the Manhattanville location to extend the programming and make it more accessible to more people throughout the Columbia and local community. At its East Side location, Steep Rock Bouldering partners with physical education teachers at local public schools to bring classes to the facility, and children transitioning through a nearby homeless shelter in East Harlem have access to the facility, pro bono, two days a week.

Bouldering does not require harnesses or ropes and is a healthy, unique, and fun activity that demands mental concentration and analytical skills. “Climbing is both mentally and physically demanding; the amount of energy and time that you dedicate to it is directly transferrable to your success," said Sasha DiGiulian, a 2016 Columbia College graduate and world-champion climber. “As a community, climbing is a tremendous activity for kids and adults alike to augment spatial awareness, problem solving and teamwork skills.”

The Manhattanville bouldering facility will have a number of offerings, ranging from lessons to monthly memberships to community events. Day passes will be available to ages 13 and up on weekdays and ages 8 and up on weekends. The facility will also be open to community spectators during world-class bouldering competitions. Steep Rock Bouldering’s inaugural events will include an open house to give community members an opportunity to familiarize themselves with bouldering and the facility’s offerings.

At street level, the buildings throughout Columbia’s new Manhattanville campus will be transparent in design, open to the public and programmed to engage the Columbia community and community-at-large. In addition to Steep Rock Bouldering, the street-level public spaces in the Jerome L. Greene Science Center include:

- A Community Wellness Center offering blood pressure and cholesterol screenings, as well as mental health and stroke prevention training, under the direction of Dr. Olajide A. Williams, chief of staff/chief medical officer of Neurology at Columbia University Medical Center and Dr. Sidney Hankerson, assistant professor of Clinical Psychiatry at Columbia University College of Physicians & Surgeons
- An Education Lab offering public programs on brain science for the community and K-12 schools, with hands-on activities that harness the Mortimer B. Zuckerman Mind Brain Behavior Institute’s research
- The Synapse, an interactive installation where the public can learn about the brain research being conducted in the building
- Two more retail locations, likely a coffee/grab-and-go type of establishment and a restaurant

In addition, the first open space to be completed on the new campus, the Small Square, will offer an informal, 10,000-square-foot outdoor plaza designed to engage the public and University community with seating areas and free Wi-Fi.

Steep Rock Bouldering is anticipated to open this spring.
The Lenfest Center of the Arts (left) and Jerome L. Greene Science Center (right) looking northeast
(© Columbia University/Frank Oudeman)

The Lenfest Center of the Arts (left) and Jerome L. Greene Science Center (right) looking northeast
(© Columbia University/Frank Oudeman)

The University Forum site, looking south

Aerial view looking northeast

Sustainable Partnerships

LEED ND
Stage 1
Platinum
Certified Plan

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
Facilities and Operations