



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 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 Building is in the final stage of closeout of trades, and is undergoing a phased occupancy plan.

The Forum

Installation of ceiling, ceramic tiling, flooring, permanent lighting and devices. Mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems completion and testing. Starting site work. Curtainwall at west elevation. Exterior GFRC.

Phase 2 Foundations

The foundation contractor is currently performing the following activities: steel erection and shear walls, concrete pile caps, concrete pressure slab, and importing drainage stone. The dewatering system is in operation.

Community News

Wallach Art Gallery Family Afternoon on June 23

Calling all families! Come explore the *Relational Undercurrents: Contemporary Art of the Caribbean Archipelago* exhibit and stay for related art making activities on Saturday, June 23 from 1:00-3:00pm at the Wallach Art Gallery, located in the Lenfest Center for the Arts at 615 West 129th Street. Artist Charles Juhasz-Alvarado will also present.

Relational Undercurrents: Contemporary Art of the Caribbean Archipelago is on view at the Wallach Gallery now through September 23 and is free and open to the public.

Community News

A Campus Built for Sustainability

By Georgette Jasen, Office of Communications and Public Affairs



Wilmouth Elmes, senior engineering advisor at Manhattanville.

It isn't just the important scientific research and art produced and exhibited at Columbia University's new [Manhattanville](#) campus that will be cutting edge. From the outset, the 17-acre site in West Harlem was designed and built to be a model of sustainable architecture, urban design and clean construction practices.

The innovative campus plan—designed by Renzo Piano Building Workshop with Skidmore Owens and Merrill—was awarded a Stage 1 LEED-ND platinum certification for neighborhood development, the highest rating given by the U.S. Green Building Council. It is the first such certification in New York City and the first for a campus anywhere in the country. (LEED stands for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design.)

Among the campus features that helped earn that certification are proximity to public transportation, tree-lined pedestrian-friendly sidewalks, ample public open space, reduced energy consumption and a waste recycling program. The open, accessible campus is intended to provide a public amenity and enhance connections between the community and the renovated Harlem Piers Park west of Riverside Drive.

From its [Earth Institute](#) to its architecture school, Columbia is a globally recognized leader in academic research on climate change and sustainable development. "There is agreement from the top down, the University is committed to helping to protect our environment," said Wilmouth Elmes (SEAS'80), senior engineering advisor at Manhattanville. "The systems we put in place use less energy, less water and less electricity."

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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 early 2019.
 - West 130th Street between Broadway and 12th Ave is a no standing or parking zone.
 - West 129th Street between Broadway and West 125th Street is closed until approximately July 2018.

Community Amenities and Benefits

To access the Columbia University's [Community Services Website](http://manhattanville.columbia.edu), 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 fourth quarter 2017 (October 1 to December 31), Columbia paid \$41,168,110 to MWL firms, representing 64 percent of total construction spend. \$36,610,558 of that figure was paid to local companies.

Cumulatively from August 1, 2008, through December 31, 2017, Columbia paid \$249,966,374 to MWL firms, representing 42 percent of total construction spend, excluding the amount paid to the construction manager. \$131,314,168 of that figure was paid to local companies.

Construction Workforce

In the fourth quarter 2017 (October 1 to December 31), the MWL construction workforce delivered 49,387 hours worked, representing 51 percent of the total workforce hours for the construction of the new Manhattanville campus. 4,827 hours of that figure were performed by the local workforce.

Cumulatively from August 1, 2008, through December 31, 2017, the MWL construction workforce delivered 1,485,063 hours worked, representing 49 percent of the total workforce hours for the construction of the new Manhattanville campus. 257,517 hours of that figure were performed by the local workforce.

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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 Forum), Lendlease (for Phase 2 foundations/below-grade), and Turner Construction (for the Business School) 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. Please note that construction activities are subject to change based on field conditions. We appreciate the patience and cooperation of everyone who is temporarily inconvenienced by these projects.

Should you have questions about construction activity, call the Columbia Facilities Services Center at (212) 854-2222, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, or e-mail projx@columbia.edu. For more project information, to view upcoming bid opportunities, and to sign-up for our e-mail updates visit manhattanville.columbia.edu.

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 917-439-4630 or west125@zetlin.com.
- 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?

Columbia University's new Jerome L. Greene Science Center in Manhattanville occupies land that in the early part of the 20th century was owned by Sheffield Farms, a historic private commercial endeavor that successfully addressed one of the most critical health issues of that time: the challenge of supplying healthy milk to expanding urban populations increasingly distant from rural dairy farms.

To commemorate this rich and largely unknown history of our community, Columbia has developed an exhibit called *Sheffield Farms, the Milk Industry, and the Public Good*. It's part of a broader understanding of this once-thriving industrial area that leads us to see Manhattanville as a true New York Nexus.

The exhibit is located at in the Nash Building at 560 W. 133rd St. and is free and open to the public. Please email projx@columbia.edu to schedule a viewing.

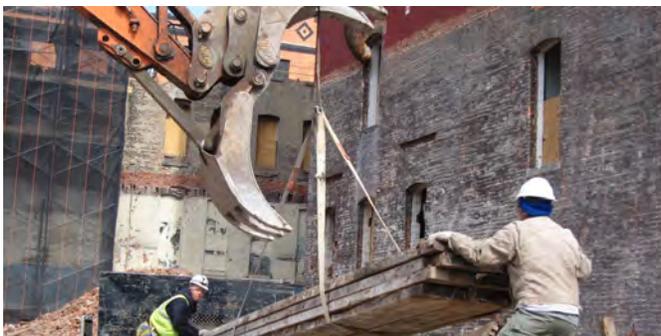


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A Campus Built for Sustainability – continued from page 1

A central energy plant beneath the first two buildings open on campus, the [Jerome L. Greene Science Center](#) and the [Lenfest Center for the Arts](#), reduces energy consumption by 27 percent compared to conventional systems.

It also minimizes the release of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere—a factor in climate change—as well as other pollutants. “There’s a lot of stuff we would be breathing if we didn’t do this,” said Elmes. “We take that very seriously.”



More than 90 percent of building materials from demolition at the new Manhattanville campus have been recycled, including longleaf pine, which the University has used to create reclaimed conference tables and other furniture.

The Greene Science Center, home to the Mortimer B. [Zuckerman Mind Brain Behavior Institute](#), is one of the most energy efficient buildings in Manhattan, he said. Also designed by Renzo Piano, the building and its technical systems won a Diamond Award, the highest, from the American Council of Engineering Companies of New York. Its structure and systems are designed to reduce heat loss in winter and stay cooler in summer, with a building-management system that can respond to changing outdoor temperatures and energy use indoors. The double-glass exterior allows abundant natural light and virtually eliminates noise from the nearby elevated subway. The floors were reinforced to reduce vibrations from the subway that could damage sensitive scientific instruments.

At the outset of construction, the University worked with the Environmental Defense Fund to develop practices that contractors must use to reduce the impact on the environment and minimize disruption to the community. Every truck or crane that enters the site must use the latest pollution-control equipment, and idling motors are not permitted. As construction vehicles leave the site, their wheels are washed so dust isn’t tracked through neighborhood streets.

“We know asthma is a problem in Harlem,” Elmes said. “Practices like these could save a child’s life.” Other efforts to reduce the impact on the neighborhood and the environment include sound monitors around the site that ensure compliance with city noise codes. And construction waste is recycled, with recovered materials now being used in projects around the world.

“I’ve been in this business 50 years, and this is the most exciting thing I’ve worked on,” said Elmes.

Community News

Columbia-Harlem SBDC and Columbia Dining Partner to Launch the Uris Incubator Program

By: Bashar Makhay, Office of Government and Community Affairs

The Harlem Local Vendor Program (HLVP)—a partnership between the Columbia-Harlem Small Business Development Center (SBDC), Harlem Park to Park, Hot Bread Kitchen Incubates, Whole Foods

Market, and others—is designed to help manufacturers of locally made consumer goods increase their business acumen and capacity so that they may contract with more and larger retailers. Columbia Dining supports these local vendors with its purchasing power, having spent over \$100,000 to date, and is furthering its efforts and solidifying its commitment to local vendors through the launch of the Uris Incubator Program.

The new Uris Incubator Program connects select graduates of the HLVP to Columbia University students by selling their products at Blue Java Cafe at Uris Hall and hosting monthly demonstrations so that students can meet the producers and sample their new products. If successful, products will be expanded to other cafes throughout Columbia University, and in some cases they will be incorporated into student meals in dining halls.

While they are developing their products, HLVP participants have the opportunity to receive advice from Columbia MBA students with expertise in marketing, operations, and finance. In the spring, tables are set up weekly in Uris Lobby for HLVP business owners to learn about pricing, packaging, positioning, and promotion from their eventual customers, Columbia University students.

Students have continuously expressed a desire to buy local, sustainably sourced food and other products; sourcing from the HLVP is one of many opportunities that Columbia University has developed in response. Current vendors include Hot Bread Kitchen, which hires new Americans to bake breads that are used throughout the University Dining system; Spadét, a Green America–certified business that sells olive oil–based soaps and beauty products, available in restrooms in Faculty House and for sale at the Jerome L. Greene Science Center; Clean Plate Co., which sells the Hot Bread Kitchen Incubator–made (and often sold-out) smoked gouda macaroni and cheese in the Uris Blue Java Cafe; Kamuni Creek Beverages, Caribbean beverages using tropical super fruits; and Vy Higginsen’s Mama’s One Sauce, which can be found throughout campus dining halls.



Vy Higginsen (left), proprietor of Mama’s One Sauce, and Davie Simmons, owner of Kamuni Creek Beverages, displaying two of the Harlem-born products for sale at Columbia University as part of the Uris Incubator Program. Photo credit: Bashar Makhay, Office of Government and Community Affairs

To learn more about the HLVP and the Uris Incubator Program, visit the Columbia-Harlem SBDC website at www8.gsb.columbia.edu/sbdc and, while visiting campus, be sure to look out for locally made products sold by HLVP graduates.

This article was originally featured in The Columbia Newsletter and can be found on the Office of Government and Community Affairs website: gca.columbia.edu

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Construction Progress Images



Phase 2 foundations site, looking northeast



(From L to R): Lenfest Center for the Arts, Jerome L. Greene Science Center, and the Forum (under construction)



The Forum, looking east



Aerial view looking northeast

Sustainable Partnerships

