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INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS
OFFICE OF DIRECTOR

MAYOR'S OFFICE OF OPERATIONS
MONTE KURS

August 1, 1984

Hadley
Rosemary

Please review the attached memo of further activities concerning the White Street jail. I'd appreciate your views on the course chosen by DGS. I will pursue item #4, Correction's desire to close White Street.

Thank you.

Monte

c: Stefanie Barth



ROBERT M. LITKE
COMMISSIONER

CITY OF NEW YORK
DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES
DIVISION OF PUBLIC STRUCTURES
MUNICIPAL BUILDING
16TH FLOOR
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10007

GREGORY JOHNSON
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER

July 30, 1984

MEMORANDUM

TO: Monte Kurs, Assistant Director of Enforcement Services
Mayor's Office of Operations

FROM: Gregory Johnson
Deputy Commissioner

SUBJECT: White Street Jail Land Use Matters

The following is a summary of the issues and procedures for approvals for land use actions related to the White Street Jail site.

There are four issues which need to be addressed: disposition of the north portion of the site; construction of a bridge over White Street; construction of a tunnel under White Street; and the use of White Street.

1) Disposition of the north portion of the site.

The north portion of the site is to be leased to a local development corporation for a commercial and housing development; the housing will be developed under the sponsorship of Phipps Family Housing.

Lease of the site requires ULURP action. The Division of Real Property is preparing the ULURP application, which requires details on both the housing and commercial developments. The Project Data Statement (PDS) has been submitted for a preliminary City Environmental Quality Review (CEQR); the complete ULURP application should be submitted in several weeks.

2) Bridge over White Street.

A bridge will be constructed across White Street between the second floors of the new White Street Jail and the existing Manhattan House of Detention ("Tombs"). In order to construct the bridge, there are two options: a revocable consent from the Bureau of Franchises or the demapping of the air space.

Demapping is a lengthy process, involving the preparation of official maps and surveys, all-agency conferences, ULURP and a demapping agreement. Due to the time constraints of the construction schedule, the decision was made to apply for a revocable consent, which involves only the ULURP process, which, with its maximum time frame of six months, can meet the anticipated construction start.

The Franchise application (petition and drawings) was submitted to the Bureau of Franchises on July 12, 1984, and has already been distributed to the appropriate City agencies for comment. Comments and reports should be completed in two weeks, at which time City Planning will review the application for certification to begin the ULURP process.

3) Tunnel beneath White Street.

A tunnel will connect the basement levels of the White Street Jail and the Tombs. As with the tunnel, the two procedural options are demapping of the tunnel area or a revocable consent.

The decision to proceed with the revocable consent for the tunnel was even more pressing than that for the tunnel: the foundation contract has already been let, and the contractor will have to schedule his work around the tunnel approval. Work on the tunnel should begin no later than February.

The application to the Bureau of Franchises was submitted at the same time as the application for the bridge. As agreed to by City Planning and the Bureau of Franchises, both items will proceed as one ULURP application, but will be calendared for Board of Estimate purposes as two separate petitions.

In order to streamline the approval process on related actions, DRP and DPS are coordinating their respective ULURP applications so that certification will be concurrent, and all related ULURP actions (lease, bridge and tunnel) will go through the ULURP approval process together.

4) Treatment of White Street.

The Department of Correction wishes to control access to White Street for security reasons. There are several options: demapping, restricted use or limited access designation.

Demapping would remove the street entirely from public ownership and make it part of the White Street Jail property. However, as outlined above, demapping involves a lengthy approval process which is not necessary to meet the objective of control of street access. Restricted use designation closes the street to general public vehicular use for 24 hours a day, but requires ULURP action. Limited access use closes the street to through traffic for a portion of the day, and does not involve any lengthy approval processes. It is an administrative action by the Department of Transportation. DOT has already agreed to give its consent to a limited access designation, which involves the installation of signs around the area (by DOT). DOT must also approve any special treatment of the area, such as special paving or street furniture.

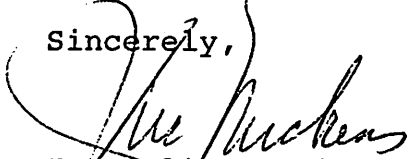
Monte Kurs, Assistant Director
C-109, White Street Limited Access
23 August 1984

5. Required access by police and fire department vehicles shall not be restricted.
6. A Saint Andrew's Plaza effect is visualized in order to capture a similar spirit such as exists at the Municipal Building, Police Headquarters, Federal Court Building and St. Andrew's Church. This is meant to add to the ambiance of the commercial/residential flavor of the community.

Urban & Litchfield, Grossfield, the architectural consultants are designing the "Plaza" with special paving, seating areas, landscaped trees and greenery, and an artfully decorated clock tower.

While my Department and the Department of General Services are well aware of the security and logistical support and operations required for these two (2) correctional institutions. We along with the architectural consultants want the community to be enriched as well in this civic endeavor.

Sincerely,



Jacqueline McMickens
Commissioner

JMM:rar

cc: Sharon M. Keilin, Deputy Commissioner, C.D.S.S.
Gloria Lee, Chief of Operations
Jerome N. Pasichow, Assistant Commissioner, C.P.D.B.