“Reclaiming the Bronx River”

Engaging the Environmental Justice Community Based Perspective
THE POINT CDC

By Kellie Terry
THE POINT CDC’s Mission

THE POINT Community Development Corporation is a non-profit 501 (c)(3) dedicated to youth development and the cultural and economic revitalization of the Hunts Point section of the South Bronx.

We work with our neighbors to celebrate the life and art of our community, an area traditionally defined solely in terms of its poverty, crime rate, poor schools and substandard housing. We believe the areas residents, their talents and aspirations, are THE POINT’s greatest assets.
Community Development

• Helping people find common cause on issues that affect them
• Helping people work together on such issues under their own control
• Building the strengths and independence of community groups, organizations and networks
Community Development

- Empowering people and their organizations where appropriate to influence and help transform public policies and services and other factors affecting the conditions of their lives

- Advising and informing public authorities on community needs, viewpoints and processes and assisting them to strengthen communities and work in genuine partnership with them

- Building equity, inclusiveness, participation and cohesion amongst people and their groups and organizations
The ABCD’s
Asset Based Com Development

- Based on the principles of appreciating and mobilizing individual and community talents, skills and assets
- Community-driven development rather than development driven by external agencies
The Approach

THE POINT offers a multi-faceted approach to asset based community development. Youth Development, Arts and Culture and Community Development all aimed at the comprehensive revitalization of Hunts Point.
Principles of Environmental Justice

PREAMBLE

WE, THE PEOPLE OF COLOR, gathered together at this multinational People of Color Environmental Leadership Summit, to begin to build a national and international movement of all peoples of color to fight the destruction and taking of our lands and communities, do hereby re-establish our spiritual interdependence to the sacredness of our Mother Earth; to respect and celebrate each of our cultures, languages and beliefs about the natural world and our roles in healing ourselves; to ensure environmental justice; to promote economic alternatives which would contribute to the development of environmentally safe livelihoods; and, to secure our political, economic and cultural liberation that has been denied for over 500 years of colonization and oppression, resulting in the poisoning of our communities and land and the genocide of our peoples, do affirm and adopt these Principles of Environmental Justice:
• Hunts Point has one of the highest concentrations of truck traffic in New York City. Upwards of 20,000 per day.

• Over 15 waste transfer stations in the community as well as a number of waste related facilities such as the NYS Department of Environmental Protection's wastewater treatment facility.

• Until recently Hunts Point had one of the smallest resident-to-parkland ratios while being surrounded by three major highway arteries - The Bruckner Expressway, the Cross Bronx Expressway and the Sheridan Expressway.
Come tell the Mayoral Candidates the Bronx wants Environmental Justice!

1) GARBAGE FAIR SHARE: let every borough handle its own trash - and open the Upper East Side Marine Transfer Station!

2) CLEAN AIR: we need to reduce the number of polluting trucks and garbage coming to the Bronx. We say No to "Waste-to-Energy" incinerators!

Upper East Side Marine Transfer Station:

Other NYC waste transfer stations:

WHAT: Bronx Mayoral Candidates Forum Protest
WHERE: Hostos Community College entrance
450 Grand Concourse (@ 149th St)
WHEN: Wednesday, June 12th, 5:30 pm
Other Noteworthy Uses:

- **Waste related** - Water Pollution Control Plant and NYOFCo
- **Detention Facilities** - Prison Barge and Spofford Juvenile Detention Facility
- **Parks** - Barretto Point Park, Drake Park and Hunts Point Riverside Park
- **HP EDC**
- **The Point**: Local LDC with Community rooms, theater, and art spaces
South Bronx Greenway – Update June 2010

- Phase 1 Projects:
  - Lafayette Avenue Streetscape
  - Hunts Point Avenue Streetscape
  - Hunts Point Landing
  - Food Center Drive
  - Randall’s Island Connector

Hunts Point Landing – Anticipated construction start: August 2010

In 2006, the Mayor released the South Bronx Greenway Master Plan, which proposes a network of green streets and waterfront access points in the Hunts Point and Port Morris neighborhoods.

Five Phase I projects are in development, with approximately $53 million in City, State and federal funds. Three of the Phase I projects will begin construction in Summer 2010, with the remaining projects to begin in late 2010 and mid 2011.

For more information, visit: www.nycedc.com/southbronxgreenway
Point Riverside Campus for Arts and The Environment
One of THE POINT's Hunts Point Re-Envisioning Projects, The Campus is the first stop on the South Bronx Greenway, at 1399 Lafayette Avenue and is adjacent to the Hunts Point Riverside Park. The goal of the site is to enhance the community's access to the Bronx River while creating new opportunities for the arts and environment beyond the reach of THE POINT's door.
THANK YOU!

KELLIE TERRY

Kelliethepoint@gmail.com

www.thepoint.org