

DRAFT Meeting Notes

Local Planning Committee Meeting #1

Monday, August 31, 2026

5:30 – 7:30 PM

Yonkers Riverfront Library

LPC Members in attendance:

Susan Gerry
Marsha Gordon
Joseph Apicella
AJ Chiarella
James Hassell
Marisol Mancebo
Luis Muniz
Richard Nightingale
Michael Oates
Katori Walker
Sam Wallis

City Staff

Akeem Jamal, Melissa Kaplan, Nick Chiarella, Abby Dedman

NYS Staff

Amanda Wild, Eric Warren

Consultant Team Staff

Valerie Monastra, Bill Brady

- Ms. Gerry welcomed the LPC members, staff, and public on behalf of Mayor Spano and the City.
- The LPC, NYS and City staff, and consultants from Nelson Pope Voorhis introduced themselves.
- LPC members will provide their Code of Conduct forms to Ms. Wild, and members will also provide Recusal forms when any conflict of interest arises.
- Ms. Wild gave an overview of the DRI program, process and timeline. She also noted that the Open Call for Projects period will run from September 10 through October 16. Ms. Wild discussed eligible and ineligible types of projects, and how projects will be evaluated.

- Following the showing of the video that was created by the City for its winning application to the REDC for the DRI program, Ms. Gerry gave an overview of the City's currently proposed DRI projects.
- Ms. Gerry reviewed the updated proposed DRI Boundary Area. The LPC discussed the boundary and unanimously approved it as proposed.
- Mr. Brady gave an overview of the proposed Public Outreach Plan, which will include attendance at the Yonkers Riverfest on September 19, outreach at the Yonkers Train Station, a public workshop at the Riverfront Library on December 17, and online engagement through social media, the DRI website, email blasts, and an online survey. The LPC recommended outreach in other parts of the City, such as at the Will Library and at the McLean Avenue Fall Festival on September 26.
- Ms. Monastra led a discussion on the draft DRI Vision and Goals. The LPC agreed to the Vision as drafted. The LPC provided recommended edits to the draft Goals. The consultant team will update the draft Goals to incorporate the suggestions and will provide the updated draft to the LPC for their review and adoption at LPC Meeting #2.
- The public was given an opportunity to make comments. It was also noted that the public can visit the DRI website and submit questions by email.
- The next LPC meeting will be held on Thursday, September 24 at the Riverfront Library at 5:30 PM.
- Ms. Monastra noted that the meeting presentation will be posted on the DRI website, which will include information on all meetings, the Open Call for Projects, and presentations. The website can be found at: www.yonkersdri.com.
- The public and the LPC can contact Ms. Monastra with any questions about the DRI program at: Yonkers_DRI@nelsonpope.com.