

WHEDco: Have your say on the Jerome Avenue Rezoning



A WHEDco community event in the Jerome Avenue Rezoning area. WHEDco's building is pictured in the rear. (photo: WHEDco)

by Gary Axelbank

January 24, 2018

[WHEDco](#) is giving local residents a chance to have input into the final shape of the [Jerome Avenue Rezoning](#). They have published a [Community Needs Survey](#) to find out how people who live, work, or go to school in the 10452 Or 10453 zip codes view their neighborhood in hopes it can influence the final plan.

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“We want to understand what is the quality of the business corridor and housing? What are the community’s educational goals? Are they happy with their school, their after school, their day care programs?” said WHEDco Senior Program Manager Alix Fellman. “The answers to all of those questions will help guide our work and the services we provide to Bronx families.”



WHEDco on EAST 168th Street (photo: WHEDco)

Ms. Fellman says this is the first time they’ve ever done this type of survey in this particular area. WHEDco, the Women’s Housing and Economic Development Corporation whose headquarters are just up the block from Jerome Avenue on East 168th Street, will also use the information received to

represent community imperatives to the local Community Board and Councilmember, who will have significant influence on the Council's final vote on the plan.

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The City's effort to develop a [rezoning plan](#) for the a 92-block area around Jerome Avenue between 165th and 184th Streets is part of *Housing New York*, the Mayor's housing plan to build and preserve affordable housing through community development initiatives and foster a more equitable and livable New York City.

But even though the plan has been recently [approved by the City Planing Commission](#), it's had a bumpy ride when it comes to [convincing local residents](#) and business owners.

In fact, WHEDco has some of its own on-going questions.

"We certainly have concerns about the affordability of the housing being proposed," said Ms. Fellman. "We want to make sure they are affordable to people already living in the neighborhood. We have concerns about the future of businesses who are already here in the neighborhood."

The survey, though, is not about what WHEDco thinks. It's about the residents of the two zip codes who will be most affected and everyone who qualifies is urged to take the survey.

"Want to see what people are saying," she said.

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The survey will be closed at midnight on January 31, 2018.

Link: <http://www.thisisthebronx.info/whedco-say-jerome-avenue-rezoning/>