

Urban Forum 13.1.2020 – summary

Present: Ronit, Hava, Zvi, Itai, Avital, Avner, Amos, Noga and Elias

Agenda

Hizkiyahu HaMelech 42 – document of understanding with the developers

Urban forum for English speakers – invitation for 1-2 members of the forum to participate in the first meeting

Entrance to the parking lot of the Jerusalem Theater – update

Climbing wall – update

Purple light rail track and Oranim intersection – update

Historical urban council – update by Avner and Hadas

Gaza and HaPalmach streets – seating areas (suggestions of the planning forum)

Renovation of Gaza and HaPalmach streets – update

Cable car: proposal to convene a meeting with the Baka forum to discuss the implications of the project in the public domain – Avner

Washington 20 and King David St – Keter David – update and recommendation

HaPalmach 27 corner Kovshei Katamon (including expropriation for the widening of HaPalmach St) - submitted for objections

Hizkiyahu HaMelech 42

According to plan no. 2018.0650 for Hizkiyahu HaMelech St 42 the forum discussed the document prepared by members of the forum. It was decided that Elias will give the document to Avital for final updates before it is sent off.

Urban forum for English speakers

The forum discussed the need to split forces and to create a new forum. The advantage of a new forum would be the participation of Katamon residents and the option of creating a Katamon forum for English speaking residents. A representation of participants interested in participating in the discussions of the Moshavot and Talbieh forums will be invited to join the Moshavot forum with the option of simultaneous translation by an on call member

Hava (maybe) and Amos (late) will join the English speakers forum. Nati is out of town.

Entrance to the parking lot of the Jerusalem Theater

The infrastructure department of the Jerusalem Municipality informed the community council of planned changes in traffic arrangements on Sheskin St so as to create a more

convenient and faster entrance and exit to the theater parking lot. According to the plans Sheskin St will become two way with 70cm wide sidewalks on both sides and a traffic circle at the intersection of Kaf Tet B'November and Gedalia Alon .

Due to the geometric change at the intersection, according to Kobi Mamalia, Gdud Halvri St. will not be opened to traffic but according to one of the residents who spoke to the foreman of the site the road will be opened. This has to be clarified.

Also the infrastructure dept. wants to inform residents that as of Friday the road will be closed for two months for construction. In order to enable traffic northwards they recommend changing the direction of the traffic on Dor Dor VeDorshav St and transferring the traffic to Graetz St. As for the road approved from the continuation of Mohilever St north to Dubnov St, the answer was negative. The infrastructure dept has no intention of building a new street.

Following discussion of the subject the forum requests:

Urgent involvement of residents on the proposed changes – times etc

To know how the infrastructure dept. intends to inform the public on the closure of the street

Creation of an accessible and safe path for pedestrians adjacent to Sheskin St (especially for children in schools on HaZefira St.) near the street, through Beit Hansen etc.

To create standard pavements of minimal width 1.30 m instead of the planned 70cm

To examine viable options such as leaving Sheskin St one-way and to build the road planned for the continuation of Mohilever north to Dubnov.

Climbing wall in Liberty Bell Park

The forum discussed the plans for Liberty Bell Park put forward by the Sports and Planning Depts which were raised at the local council on 8.1.20 prior to the discussion in the District Council. It appeared that there are plenty of unanswered questions on the plans. For example who is going to build and maintain the structure. Will it be open free to the public or require tickets. Will it be fenced off or open. According to the plans (aside from the climbing wall itself) it would appear that the rest of the structure will be storage space and not offices.

We raised our concerns as to the height and appearance of the structure and we requested that all service areas be lowered beneath ground level similar to the train theater nearby. Also in a meeting with the planning dept. we requested a 3-D model of the structure so as to estimate its effect on the surroundings and future construction. To conclude:

The forum is awaiting a 3-D model of the structure

The forum will also present its stand at the meeting of the district council

The forum requests public participation for the program

Purple light rail line and Oranim intersection

The plans for the Oranim intersection and the resulting traffic arrangements were presented

Awaiting plans from the traffic masterplan

Awaiting the process of public involvement by the traffic masterplan team

Historic urban council

Avner and Hadas updated the forum on the council meeting of 6.1.20 in the Baka community council which focused on two main points a) a study of the situation and cooperation with municipal bodies b) focusing on how to influence the preparation of the 2020 master plan for Jerusalem.

At the request of the forum the following is a link to the site of the documents for the 2020 master plan of Jerusalem

Gaza and HaPalmach St renovations

The forum was updated on the progress of the renovations. The forum will submit the following points:

To maximize the number of new trees planted along these streets

To count the number of existing and new trees on HaPalmach St

To obtain architectural plans for seating areas for perusal and attention

To promote public participation for the renovations on King David St.

Cable car: meeting with the Baka forum to discuss the effect of these plans on the public space

The forum discussed the fact that the plans do not take into account traffic and transportation issues nor do they relate to the overall effects of the multitude of plans affecting the domain of the first station, Liberty Bell Park etc such as the light rail, regular train, cable car, construction of new housing units, hotels, commerce, employment etc.

The forum decided to send a document listing their concerns regarding the transportation issues with a request to reexamine the subject

Avner will look into who should receive this document

Washington 20 and King David "Keter David"

The forum discussed the plans and its implications on the surroundings due to its proximity to the historical building of the YMCA

The forum will request part of the land for public needs within the framework of the project. The Proposal will be submitted in coordination with the planning policy dept.

HaPalmach 27, corner Kavshei Katamon

The plan was submitted for objections. The plans include expropriation of land for the benefit of HaPalmach St.

Documents will be sent for perusal

The next forum will take place on 27.1.2020 at 20:30 in Beit Yehudit

Recorded by Elias