
Summary Urban Forum 30/5/2021

The meeting took place online (via ZOOM) and was attended by three (3) participants (Ben, Bernice, Batya, and Elias) - thank you all for joining! At the meeting, Elias invited each participant to introduce themselves, and then introduced the topics and replied to specific questions.

Topics:

- **The fountain on Salame Square on Jabotinsky street**
- **Keren Hayesod light rail path**
- **Kikar Assaf Square**
- **Participants' comments**

- **Projects in Progress**
- **Useful Q&A**
- **Useful Information and links**
- **Contact**

We thank all the urban forum participants for your time to join the forum, and for your positive feedback! We are glad that the forum meetings and summaries contributes to your better understanding of what is happening in the Ginot Hayir neighborhoods and in the city in general, and for being informed in projects or public works that are in the planning and implementation in your neighborhood.

Brief summary of the urban forum discussion:

- **The fountain on Salame Sq. on Jabotisky street**

Elias presented the intension of the City to upgrade the look of Jabotinsky street at three levels: The first, by upgrading the flower beds along the street with new planting. The second, by replacing the existing sidewalk curb with new stone ones. The work on these two levels is already under way. The third level, which has also received a great deal of negative attention, is the construction of a round fountain at Salame Square (junction of Jabotisky with Marcus and Balfour streets). The fountain is budgeted for 2022 and its planning will commence soon. Ginot Hayir has been so far informed about the project, but no plans have been released. As soon as more information becomes available, it will be posted in the Ginot Hayir website Urban section.

For more information you can keep reading here:

<https://jerusalem.mynet.co.il/neighborhoods/article/SkksDFcu00>

- **Keren Hayesod light rail path**

Elias presented the issue of the placement of the path of the light rail that will negatively affect the future of the Sokolov garden, Mendele Mocher Sfarim street and Shalom Aleichem street, and thus the surrounding neighborhood. In addition, the new President Hotel and residential complex under planning has changed phase with a new developer, who at the moment supports the efforts of the community with a traffic planner and others, who prepare an alternative plan for the path of the light rail. To point

out that the path of the light rail is planned to be at the center of Keren Hayesod up to Ehad Haam and then moves to the side, blocking the side streets. With the blocking of the streets, their situation may change drastically: for example, service traffic to the hotel will have to pass through Sokolov street and garden, including supply trucks, buses, minibuses, taxis, and private vehicles (the parking is planned for about 200 vehicles), blocking Mendele means that the street is dead-end and two-way, canceling about all the existing parking spaces, etc. Ginot Hayir and the residents are working with the City to find alternatives that will be acceptable by all sides.

Bernice presented the current updates on the meetings between representatives of Ginot Hayir, the residents, the new developer, and the light rail planning team and the City Engineer, regarding revising the path of the lightrail in order to prevent the closure of Sokolov and Mendele Mocher Sfarim streets.

For more information on the planned development we keep updating the Ginot Hayir page:

<https://www.ginothair.org.il/index.php?dir=site&page=articles&op=item&cs=1920&category=994>

For more information on the light rail in Jerusalem, you are also welcome to view this page:

<https://www.ginothair.org.il/index.php?dir=site&page=content&cs=554>

- **Kikar Assaf Square**

Elias presented the initiative by the representatives of Ginot Hayir board and the Parking Dept. of the City, aiming to re-organize the Kikar Assaf Square in Rehavia (junction of Radak, Molho and Bartenura streets, east of Aza street). The planning produced five (5) initial alternatives, which were narrowed down to two (2) preferable alternatives. The process was based on a number of public discussions with the local residents and residents of Rehavia. These meetings took place over ZOOM, due to the COVID-19 meeting restrictions set by the Ministry of Health. At the last meeting, which took place at the Square on June 2, 2021. At the meeting, which was attended by 24 people, although the two (2) alternatives were positively accepted, yet, it was decided (a) to prefer to improve the existing conditions, without making significant changes that may reduce parking spaces. (b) to set up a group of residents to review alternative parking solutions in the area. The first meeting of the group has been set for July 7 on ZOOM.

For more information on progress on Kikar Assaf please visit the following page:

<https://www.ginothair.org.il/index.php?dir=site&page=articles&op=item&cs=1866&category=994>

Projects in Progress

- **Ussishkin street renovation**

Elias presented the plan of the renovation of Ussishkin street. The plans for the street renovation are available here:

<https://www.ginothair.org.il/index.php?dir=site&page=articles&op=item&cs=1766&category=994>

- **North Hapalmach street renovation**

Elias presented the final plan of the renovation of the northern part of Hapalmach street. The plans for the street renovation are available here:

<https://www.ginothair.org.il/index.php?dir=site&page=articles&op=item&cs=1648&category=996>

English Urban Forum

- **King David street renovation**

The plans for the street renovation and other useful information are available here:

<https://www.ginothair.org.il/index.php?dir=site&page=articles&op=item&cs=1812&category=994>

Useful Q&A

Here are some useful replies to your questions:

- **How can I report a problem I see in the street?**

Call **106** (municipal hotline) and/or download the app '106' of Jerusalem Municipality.

- For traffic violations, call the police **100**.

- **How can I join the Urban Forum Moshavot? Is it in Hebrew?**

The forum is in Hebrew and meets every second Monday at 20:30. For more details and to join, contact Elias by email (contact details below).

Useful Information and links

The 'Urban' page of the Ginot Hayir website is growing and contains helpful information for learning about new planning, new street renovations, and about using the city GIS system (both the maps and three-dimensional model of the city).

- Link to 'Urban' page: [LINK](#)
- **NEW!** Get all urban updates at the **Urban Bulletin Board** of Ginot Hayir: [LINK](#)
- Link to page with useful links: [LINK](#)
- Link to 'Maps' with public uses in the Ginot Hayir areas: [LINK](#)

Contact for Urban Forum:

Elias Messinas, Urban Planner at Community Council Ginot Hair elias@ginothair.org.il

Next English Forum meeting: 27/6/21 at 20:00.

Zoom link to the meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/506844403>