

Reference #	Full Name	Comments	NYCT Responses
190930-000897	MONIQUE THOMAS	<p> MONIQUE THOMAS (Customer on 09/30/2019) We appreciate the MTA's decision of having to renovate the unsafe area of La Finca, leaving it a safer and more symmetrical space to utilize and enjoy, but please follow up on the promise of leaving the designated section discussed, after renovations- equal to or even better than what it was before. Removal of diseased trees and modernizing the subway venting system that takes up so much active space is necessary and appreciated. Hopefully, completion of this great task can be accomplished in a minimum of time. Thank you.</p>	<p>La Finca del Sur will be restored to its existing conditions or better. Excavation must be performed to rehabilitate the ventilator structure. As a result, the 8 trees within the immediate area of the vent structure will have to be removed. These trees will be replaced in accordance with New York City Department of Parks and Recreation (NYCDPR) requirements.</p>
190929-000173	Frances Perez	<p> Frances Perez (Customer on 09/29/2019) My name is frances & I've been a member of La Finca for over 3 years. It is a place to grow food and medicine, a safe space to remember our relationship to the land. A staple in the community, not just local and citywide but also in the urban agricultural conversation, at large.</p> <p>This project saddens me because of the ecological impact. The removal of homes for birds and other animals.</p> <p>Please cut down as little trees as possible.</p> <p>Please stage on the NE side of the farm so as to save our trees. I understand that any growing spaces or structures that are removed during construction will be rebuilt or replaced by the MTA. I am requesting that La Finca and the MTA use this as an opportunity to work together to make La Finca more ADA compliant by rebuilding beds to make them more accessible for all and putting down turf and paving stones for easier entry and movement around the farm. Also, please consider using resin polyethylene to reconstruct the new beds as it will be more sustainable for us long term.</p> <p>As the proposed removal of the 8 trees closest to your ventilation system will leave us with limited natural shade on the farm, I am suggesting that the MTA help to build more shade structures with new picnic tables and benches for gatherings and community programming. Please also plant new trees in areas where they will not pose future problems.</p> <p>The proposed reconstruction will also interrupt existing watering and irrigation system we have in place for our garden beds. I suggest that MTA assists us to reroute and/or replace this system including hoses, hose heads, sprinklers, and irrigation tubing to allow us to continue to operate.</p> <p>Finally, following a recent theft at La Finca and in order to keep both La Finca and MTA equipment safe I would like to propose increased security in the form of more secure fencing around the back on the farm and along the Metro North line, and increased lighting on the farm with flood lights.</p> <p>To summarize please see list of replacement items requested:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - new secure fencing installed in the back of the farm and along the Metro North line - flood lights 	<p>Excavation must be performed to rehabilitate the ventilator structure. As a result, the 8 trees within the immediate area of the vent structure will have to be removed. It is not possible to relocate the staging area to save these trees. This project is federally funded by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), and only limited scope related to the vent repair is approved. Therefore, it is not possible to provide security cameras, fencing, flood lights, or ADA access within the park.</p> <p>In order to restore the garden to its current condition, NYCT will replace the irrigation system, and coordinate with La Finca Gardeners to reroute it. NYCT will also replace the vine pergola, replace all garden beds that are compromised during construction.</p> <p>Tree removal and replacement is being coordinated with NYC Department of Parks and Recreation (NYCDPR) and will follow their requirements. In addition, NYCT will provide more picnic benches.</p>

- security cameras
- all materials needed to rebuild garden beds: power tools, lumber or resin polyethylene and any hardware needed, organic soil, peat moss, organic compost, and raised bed liner
- shade structures
- new picnic tables and benches
- hoses, hose heads, sprinklers, and irrigation materials

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the proposed MTA ventilator reconstruction that will happen above the 4/5 train line over the next 2 years.

Frances

PS- Rat abatement! This project is going to bring all of the animals out and we need your help with that.

190929-000164 Rosanne Cosentino

|| Rosanne Cosentino (Customer on 09/29/2019) || I have been a member of La Finca del Sur Community Farm for 1 year. Being a member of La Finca gives me a place for my family, my community, and I to connect, grow food, feed each other, and relax. I understand that any growing spaces or structures that are removed during construction will be rebuilt or replaced by the MTA. I am requesting that La Finca and the MTA use this as an opportunity to work together to make La Finca more ADA compliant by rebuilding beds to make them more accessible for all and putting down turf and paving stones for easier entry and movement around the farm. Also, please consider using resin polyethylene to reconstruct the new beds as it will be more sustainable for us long term. We can work together to inventory what is removed and determine materials needed to replace each garden bed including cubic yards of soil and other soil amendments like peat moss and compost.

As the proposed removal of the 8 trees closest to your ventilation system will leave us with limited natural shade on the farm, I am suggesting that the MTA help to build more shade structures with new picnic tables and benches for gatherings and community programming.

Please also plant new trees in areas where they will not pose future problems.

The proposed reconstruction will also interrupt existing watering and irrigation system we have in place for our garden beds. I suggest that MTA assists us to reroute and/or replace this system including hoses, hose heads, sprinklers, and irrigation tubing to allow us to continue to operate.

Following a recent theft at La Finca and in order to keep both La Finca and MTA equipment safe I would like to propose increased security in the form of more secure fencing around the back on the farm and along the Metro North line, increased lighting on the farm with flood lights, and security camera.

To summarize please see list of replacement items requested:

- new secure fencing installed in the back of the farm and along the Metro North line
- flood lights
- security cameras
- all materials needed to rebuild garden beds: power tools, lumber or resin polyethylene and any hardware needed, organic soil, peat moss, organic compost, and raised bed liner

Excavation must be performed to rehabilitate the ventilator structure. As a result, the 8 trees within the immediate area of the vent structure will have to be removed. This project is federally funded by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), and only limited scope related to the vent repair is approved. Therefore, it is not possible to provide security cameras, fencing, flood lights, additional shading, or ADA access within the park.

In order to restore the garden to its current condition, NYCT will replace the irrigation system, and coordinate with La Finca Gardeners to reroute it. NYCT will also replace the vine pergola, replace all garden beds that are compromised during construction.

Tree removal and replacement is being coordinated with NYC Department of Parks and Recreation (NYCDPR) and will follow their requirements. In addition, NYCT will provide more picnic benches.

- shade structures

- new picnic tables and benches

- hoses, hose heads, sprinklers, and irrigation materials

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the proposed MTA ventilator reconstruction that will happen above the 4/5 train line over the next 2 years.

Sincerely,

Rosanne Cosentino

190929-000064 Stacey Ellis

|| Stacey Ellis (Customer on 09/29/2019) || La Finca del Sur has been a community space for 10 years. It is our goal to continue to serve the South Bronx with education, hands on experience about farming and with, of course, healthy food. Throughout the oncoming changes we need to maintain that commitment and ensure our soil is healthy for growing. Our commitment is not limited to these things as we also bring activities to the community and need our patrons, visitors and farmers to be confident that they are coming to a safe space.

I understand that any growing spaces or structures that are removed during construction will be rebuilt or replaced by the MTA. I am requesting that La Finca and the MTA use this as an opportunity to work together to make La Finca more ADA compliant by rebuilding beds to make them more accessible for all, putting down turf and paving stones for easier entry and movement around the farm inclusive of the handicapped. Also, please consider using resin polyethylene to reconstruct the new beds as it will be more sustainable for us long term. We can work together to inventory what is removed and determine materials needed to replace each garden bed including cubic yards of soil and other soil amendments like peat moss and compost. As the proposed removal of the 8 trees closest to your ventilation system will leave us with limited natural shade on the farm, I am suggesting that the MTA help to build more shade structures with new picnic tables and benches for gatherings and community programing. Please also plant new trees in areas where they will not pose future problems. The proposed reconstruction will also interrupt existing watering and irrigation system we have in place for our garden beds. I suggest that MTA assists us to re-route and/or replace this system including hoses, hose heads, sprinklers, and irrigation tubing to allow us to continue to operate.

Finally, following a recent theft at La Finca and in order to keep both La Finca and MTA equipment safe I would like to propose increased security in the form of more secure fencing around the back on the farm and along the Metro North line, increased lighting on the farm with flood lights, and security cameras. To summarize please see list of replacement items requested: - new secure fencing installed in the back of the farm and along the Metro North line - flood lights - security cameras - all materials needed to rebuild garden beds: power tools, lumber or resin polyethylene and any hardware needed, organic soil, peat moss, organic compost, and raised bed liner - shade structures - new picnic tables and benches - hoses, hose heads, sprinklers, and irrigation materials

This will indeed affect our growing/activities schedule and production so we feel our requests are reasonable. Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the proposed MTA ventilator reconstruction that will happen above the 4/5 train line over the next 2 years.

Stacey Ann Elis La Finca Farmer

Excavation must be performed to rehabilitate the ventilator structure. As a result, the 8 trees within the immediate area of the vent structure will have to be removed. This project is federally funded by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), and only limited scope related to the vent repair is approved. Therefore, it is not possible to provide security cameras, fencing, flood lights, additional shading, or ADA access within the park.

In order to restore the garden to its current condition, NYCT will replace the irrigation system, and coordinate with La Finca Gardeners to reroute it. NYCT will also replace the vine pergola, replace all garden beds that are compromised during construction.

Tree removal and replacement is being coordinated with NYC Department of Parks and Recreation (NYCDPR) and will follow their requirements. In addition, NYCT will provide more picnic benches.

190928-000059 Nancy Ortiz-Surun

|| Nancy Ortiz-Surun (Customer on 09/28/2019) || Dear MTA Administrators -

Adding this message in further support of the requests made by other farmers/volunteers of La Finca Del Sur/South Bronx Farmers. In addition to urgent requests for wrap around iron fencing in the back (similar to what is in place in the front), that will not be vulnerable to wire cutters, and flood lights in front and rear public areas of the farm, I would like to suggest/request: Replacement of any healthy trees, planting boxes, soil, and plants uprooted/removed during the vent/exit work.

Help with rodent abatement, control, which might be exacerbated by opening up subway vents, exits.

Use of a forklift to raise a newly placed shipping container to reinforce/level the unit, and place additional foundational support (by farmers).

Careful handling of tree removal (specifically old london planes) to minimize release / spread of mineral infused soil particles across farm site.

Periodic meeting schedule with farmers to update progress/monitor land use.

I also want to know if MTA liability would apply to farm site during the construction work? We would like to request this.

Thank you in advance; I look forward to your reply and next steps in the orientation process for our farmers.

Sincerely,
Ms. Nancy Ortiz-Surun
Farmer / Co Founder/ Educator
La Finca Del Sur / South Bronx Farmers

In order to restore the garden to its current condition, NYCT will replace the irrigation system, and coordinate with La Finca Gardeners to reroute it. NYCT will also replace the vine pergola, replace all garden beds that are compromised during construction. Rodent control is included in our contractor's requirements for performing the work. MTA liability covers the construction site. The farmers will be informed of the project's progress through coordination with NYCDPR and Greenthumb.

190928-000024 Rameley Uribe

|| Rameley Uribe (Customer on 09/28/2019) || I have been a member of La Finca del Sur Community Farm for a year now, and what an incredibly year it has been. This urban farming community and their wide & deep knowledge of land, growing food, and building an intentional community has been beautiful to be part of and invite my own loved ones into. It is a vital space for all folks but especially Bronx residents and Bronx youth.

I understand that any growing spaces or structures that are removed during construction will be rebuilt or replaced by the MTA. I am requesting that La Finca and the MTA use this as an opportunity to work together to make La Finca more ADA compliant by rebuilding beds to make them more accessible for all and putting down turf and paving stones for easier entry and movement around the farm. Also, please consider using resin polyethylene to reconstruct the new beds as it will be more sustainable for us long term. We can work together to inventory what is removed and determine materials needed to replace each garden bed including cubic yards of soil and other soil amendments like peat moss and compost.

As the proposed removal of the 8 trees closest to your ventilation system will leave us with limited natural shade on the farm, I am suggesting that the MTA help to build more shade structures with new picnic tables and benches for gatherings and community programing. Please also plant new trees in areas where they will not pose future problems.

The proposed reconstruction will also interrupt existing watering and irrigation system we have in place for our garden beds. I suggest that MTA assists us to reroute and/or replace this system including hoses, hose heads, sprinklers, and irrigation tubing to allow us to continue to operate.

Finally, following a recent theft at La Finca and in order to keep both La Finca and MTA equipment safe I would like to propose increased security in the form of more secure fencing around the back on the farm and along the Metro North line, increased lighting on the farm with flood lights, and security cameras.

Excavation must be performed to rehabilitate the ventilator structure. As a result, the 8 trees within the immediate area of the vent structure will have to be removed. It is not possible to relocate the staging area to save these trees.

This project is federally funded by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), and only limited scope related to the vent repair is approved. Therefore, it is not possible to provide security cameras, fencing, flood lights, additional shading, or ADA access within the park.

In order to restore the garden to its current condition, NYCT will replace the irrigation system, and coordinate with La Finca Gardeners to reroute it. NYCT will also replace the vine pergola, replace all garden beds that are compromised during construction.

Tree removal and replacement is being coordinated with NYC Department of Parks and Recreation (NYCDPR) and will follow their requirements. In addition, NYCT will provide more picnic benches.

To summarize please see list of replacement items requested:

- new secure fencing installed in the back of the farm and along the Metro North line
 - flood lights
 - security cameras
- all materials needed to rebuild garden beds: power tools, lumber or resin polyethylene and any hardware needed, organic soil, peat moss, organic compost, and raised bed liner
 - shade structures
 - new picnic tables and benches
- hoses, hose heads, sprinklers, and irrigation materials

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the proposed MTA ventilator reconstruction that will happen above the 4/5 train line over the next 2 years.

190927-000931

I have been a member of La Finca del Sur Community Farm for a year. Being a part of La Finca, has been important to me because Chenchita's Garden has been taken as an affordable housing site and it will be several years before I will be able to return. In the meantime La Finca is a place where I have been welcomed and can continue to grow crops and relax in a peaceful environment.

I understand that any growing spaces or structures that are removed during construction will be rebuilt or replaced by the MTA. I am requesting that La Finca and the MTA use this as an opportunity to work together to make La Finca more ADA compliant. The pathways need to be more accessible for all and putting down turf and paving stones for easier entry and movement around the farm. Also, please consider using resin polyethylene to reconstruct the new beds as it will be more sustainable for us long term. You should also put down barrier /weed cloth when you have finished.

We can work together to inventory what is removed and determine materials needed to replace each garden bed including cubic yards of soil and other soil amendments like peat moss and compost.

The proposed reconstruction will also interrupt existing watering and irrigation system we have in place for our garden beds. I suggest that MTA assists us to reroute and/or replace this system including hoses, hose heads, sprinklers, and irrigation tubing to allow us to continue to operate.

Finally, following a recent theft at La Finca and in order to keep both La Finca and MTA equipment safe I would like to propose increased security in the form of more secure fencing around the back on the farm and along the Metro North line, increased lighting on the farm with flood lights, and security cameras. The fence should be like the one in front that doesn't allow someone to cut through the gate and enter at will.

To summarize please see list of replacement items requested:

- new secure fencing installed in the back of the farm and along the Metro North line
- flood lights
- security cameras
- all materials needed to rebuild garden beds: power tools, lumber or resin polyethylene and any hardware needed, organic soil, peat moss, organic compost, and raised bed liner
- shade structures
- new picnic tables and benches
- hoses, hose heads, sprinklers, and irrigation materials

Excavation must be performed to rehabilitate the ventilator structure. As a result, the 8 trees within the immediate area of the vent structure will have to be removed. It is not possible to relocate the staging area to save these trees. This project is federally funded by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), and only limited scope related to the vent repair is approved. Therefore, it is not possible to provide security cameras, fencing, flood lights, or ADA access within the park.

In order to restore the garden to its current condition, NYCT will replace the irrigation system, and coordinate with La Finca Gardeners to reroute it. NYCT will also replace the vine pergola, replace all garden beds that are compromised during construction.

Tree removal and replacement is being coordinated with NYC Department of Parks and Recreation (NYCDPR) and will follow their requirements. In addition, NYCT will provide more picnic benches. Rodent control is included in our contractor's requirements for performing the work..

|| Gloria Weiss (Customer on 09/27/2019) || I have been a member of La Finca del Sur Community Farm for 9 years. I learned about it as I taught Green Job Training classes for a variety of community based organizations through a US Department of Labor Grant in the Bronx and through out NYC that included Green City Force, SOBRO, and The Osborne Association. La Finca del Sur, which was a site my students were assigned to, offered and continues to offer invaluable resources for hands-on training in urban agriculture and sustainable construction for both youth and adults for job training and recreation. The beautiful green and growing environment is essential for many people in the community who are members or who visit to be close to nature and learn how to grow their own vegetables and those sold at the South Bronx Farmer's market. La Finca del Sur is a jewel in the city and needs to be protected and supported. I am honored to be a member and grateful for its existence as so many others are.

As a member of La Finca, I understand that any growing spaces or structures that are removed during construction will be rebuilt or replaced by the MTA. I am requesting that La Finca and the MTA use this as an opportunity to work together to make La Finca more ADA compliant by rebuilding beds to make them more accessible for all and putting down turf and paving stones for easier entry and movement around the farm. Also, please consider using resin polyethylene to reconstruct the new beds as it will be more sustainable for us long term. We can work together to inventory what is removed and determine materials needed to replace each garden bed including cubic yards of soil and other soil amendments like peat moss and compost.

As the proposed removal of the 8 trees closest to your ventilation system will leave us with limited natural shade on the farm, I am suggesting that the MTA help to build more shade structures with new picnic tables and benches for gatherings and community programming. Please also plant new trees in areas where they will not pose future problems.

The proposed reconstruction will also interrupt existing watering and irrigation system we have in place for our garden beds. I suggest that MTA assists us to reroute and/or replace this system including hoses, hose heads, sprinklers, and irrigation tubing to allow us to continue to operate.

Finally, following a recent theft at La Finca and in order to keep both La Finca and MTA equipment safe I would like to propose increased security in the form of more secure fencing around the back on the farm and along the Metro North line, increased lighting on the farm with flood lights, and security cameras.

To summarize please see list of replacement items requested:

- new secure fencing installed in the back of the farm and along the Metro North line
- flood lights
- security cameras
- all materials needed to rebuild garden beds: power tools, lumber or resin polyethylene and any hardware needed, organic soil, peat moss, organic compost, and raised bed liner
- shade structures
- new picnic tables and benches
- hoses, hose heads, sprinklers, and irrigation materials

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the proposed MTA ventilator reconstruction that will happen above the 4/5 train line over the next 2 years.

Sincerely,
Gloria Weiss

Excavation must be performed to rehabilitate the ventilator structure. As a result, the 8 trees within the immediate area of the vent structure will have to be removed. It is not possible to relocate the staging area to save these trees. This project is federally funded by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), and only limited scope related to the vent repair is approved. Therefore, it is not possible to provide security cameras, fencing, flood lights, additional shading, or ADA access within the park.

In order to restore the garden to its current condition, NYCT will replace the irrigation system, and coordinate with La Finca Gardeners to reroute it. NYCT will also replace the vine pergola, replace all garden beds that are compromised during construction.

Tree removal and replacement is being coordinated with NYC Department of Parks and Recreation (NYCDPR) and will follow their requirements. In addition, NYCT will provide more picnic benches. Rodent control is included in our contractor's requirements for performing the work.

190927-000408 REGINA GINYARD

|| REGINA GINYARD (Customer on 09/27/2019) || I have been a member of La Finca del Sur Community Farm for TEN years. Being a member of La Finca gives me a place to grow organic produce to feed my family. The farm also serves as a community meeting place where I get to build relationships with my neighbors and fellow urban gardeners. The farm serves as green oasis in the middle of concrete-filled community.

I understand that any growing spaces or structures that are removed during construction will be rebuilt or replaced by the MTA. I am requesting that La Finca and the MTA use this as an opportunity to work together to make La Finca more ADA compliant by rebuilding beds to make them more accessible for all and putting down turf and paving stones for easier entry and movement around the farm. Also, please consider using resin polyethylene to reconstruct the new beds as it will be more sustainable for us long term. We can work together to inventory what is removed and determine materials needed to replace each garden bed including cubic yards of soil and other soil amendments like peat moss and compost.

As the proposed removal of the 8 trees closest to your ventilation system will leave us with limited natural shade on the farm, I am suggesting that the MTA help to build more shade structures with new picnic tables and benches for gatherings and community programming. Please also plant new trees in areas where they will not pose future problems.

The proposed reconstruction will also interrupt existing watering and irrigation system we have in place for our garden beds. I suggest that MTA assists us to reroute and/or replace this system including hoses, hose heads, sprinklers, and irrigation tubing to allow us to continue to operate.

Finally, following a recent theft at La Finca and in order to keep both La Finca and MTA equipment safe I would like to propose increased security in the form of more secure fencing around the back on the farm and along the Metro North line, increased lighting on the farm with flood lights, and security cameras.

To summarize please see list of replacement items requested:- new secure fencing installed in the back of the farm and along the Metro North line- flood lights- security cameras- all materials needed to rebuild garden beds: power tools, lumber or resin polyethylene and any hardware needed, organic soil, peat moss, organic compost, and raised bed liner- shade structures- new picnic tables and benches- hoses, hose heads, sprinklers, and irrigation materials

190926-000973 wanda negron

|| wanda negron (Customer on 09/26/2019) || I have been a member of La Finca del Sur Community Farm for 2 years. After my mother's death it was a way to spend time with my 84 year old father engaging in an activity that gave him purpose and also gave us something to do together. It has been very healing for the both of us.

I understand that any growing spaces or structures that are removed during construction will be rebuilt or replaced by the MTA. I am requesting that La Finca and the MTA use this as an opportunity to work together to make La Finca more ADA compliant by rebuilding beds to make them more accessible for all and putting down turf and paving stones for easier entry and movement around the farm. Also, please consider using resin polyethylene to reconstruct the new beds as it will be more sustainable for us long term. We can work together to inventory what is removed and determine materials needed to replace each garden bed including cubic yards of soil and other soil amendments like peat moss and compost.

"I would like to save as many trees as possible and am suggesting that you stage your work on the East side of the farm closer to the main entrance rather than where the existing plum trees are. That would remove the need to transplant those 4 trees"

As the proposed removal of the 8 trees closest to your ventilation system will leave us with limited natural shade on the farm, I am suggesting that the MTA help to build more shade structures with new picnic tables and benches for gatherings and community programming. Please also plant new trees in areas where they will not pose future problems.

The proposed reconstruction will also interrupt existing watering and irrigation system we have in place for our garden beds. I suggest that MTA assists us to reroute and/or replace this system including hoses, hose heads, sprinklers, and irrigation tubing to allow us to continue to operate.

Finally, following a recent theft at La Finca and in order to keep both La Finca and MTA equipment safe I would like to propose increased security in the form of more secure fencing around the back on the farm and along the Metro North line, increased lighting on the farm with flood lights, and security cameras.

Excavation must be performed to rehabilitate the ventilator structure. As a result, the 8 trees within the immediate area of the vent structure will have to be removed. This project is federally funded by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), and only limited scope related to the vent repair is approved. Therefore, it is not possible to provide security cameras, fencing, flood lights, or ADA access within the park.

In order to restore the garden to its current condition, NYCT will replace the irrigation system, and coordinate with La Finca Gardeners to reroute it. NYCT will also replace the vine pergola, replace all garden beds that are compromised during construction.

Tree removal and replacement is being coordinated with NYC Department of Parks and Recreation (NYCDPR) and will follow their requirements. The replacement trees will be planted at least 6' away from the ventilator structure to avoid future problems. In addition, NYCT will provide more picnic benches. NYCT will assure that the garden is restored to the same conditions or better.

Excavation must be performed to rehabilitate the ventilator structure. As a result, the 8 trees within the immediate area of the vent structure will have to be removed. It is not possible to relocate the staging area to save these trees. This project is federally funded by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), and only limited scope related to the vent repair is approved. Therefore, it is not possible to provide security cameras, fencing, flood lights, or ADA access within the park.

In order to restore the garden to its current condition, NYCT will replace the irrigation system, and coordinate with La Finca Gardeners to reroute it. NYCT will also replace the vine pergola, replace all garden beds that are compromised during construction.

Tree removal and replacement is being coordinated with NYC Department of Parks and Recreation (NYCDPR) and will follow their requirements. In addition, NYCT will provide more picnic benches.

190926-000569 Alan Markowitz

|| Alan Markowitz (Customer on 09/26/2019) || I have been a member of La Finca del Sur Community Farm for over 2 years. The farm plays an important role in providing locally grown organic produce to the community. The farm fills a void in the lack of available nutritious food in the area.

I understand that any vegetable beds that are removed or destroyed during construction are to be replaced by the MTA. I am requesting that as part of the replacement of these beds that the MTA use this opportunity to make the area more ADA compliant by allowing the new beds more accessible by installing paving stones and/or turf between the beds and along the paths through the farm. As you consider materials for the beds I recommend using resin polyethylene as bed materials since that is a sustainable material. I also request that you replace the topsoil and compost that will be removed

The proposed reconstruction will destroy our existing watering system. We request replacement of what gets removed. Also, since the construction will remove all of our shade trees, we are requesting the construction of one or more shade structures. Shade is crucial during the hot summer and work hours. New picnic benches and tables are also requested.

Finally, following a recent break-in and theft of several hundred dollars of tools and equipment, we are requesting more secure fencing at the rear of the farm and the installation of flood lighting and security cameras.

Excavation must be performed to rehabilitate the ventilator structure. As a result, the 8 trees within the immediate area of the vent structure will have to be removed. This project is federally funded by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), and only limited scope related to the vent repair is approved. Therefore, it is not possible to provide security cameras, fencing, flood lights, additional shading, or ADA access within the park.

In order to restore the garden to its current condition, NYCT will replace the irrigation system, and coordinate with La Finca Gardeners to reroute it. NYCT will also replace the vine pergola, replace all garden beds that are compromised during construction. Tree removal and replacement is being coordinated with NYC Department of Parks and Recreation (NYCDPR) and will follow their requirements. In addition, NYCT will provide more picnic benches.

190926-000359

I am a member of La Finca del Sur community garden. La Finca does so much for the South Bronx community and its ashame that the farm will be disturbed. I would like to save as many trees as possible and am suggesting that you stage your work on the East side of the farm closer to the main entrance rather than where the existing plum trees are. That would remove the need to transplant those 4 trees.

Excavation must be performed to rehabilitate the ventilator structure. As a result, the 8 trees within the immediate area of the vent structure will have to be removed. It is not possible to relocate the staging area to save these trees.

190925-000388 Anna Rickards

|| Anna Rickards (Customer on 09/25/2019) || I have been a member of La Finca del Sur Community Farm for 7 years. It is an important community space that helps neighbors gather, feed each other, and provides food to the community.

I understand that any growing spaces or structures that are removed during construction will be rebuilt or replaced by MTA. I am requesting that La Finca and the MTA use this as an opportunity to work together to make La Finca more ADA accessible.

I would like to save as many trees as possible and am suggesting that you stage your work on the East side of the farm closer to the main entrance rather than where the existing plum trees are. That would remove the need to transplant those 4 trees.

As the proposed removal of the 8 trees closest to your ventilation system will leave us with limited natural shade on the farm, I am suggesting that the MTA help to build more shade structures on the farm and to plant new trees in areas where they will not pose future problems.

The proposed reconstruction will also interrupt existing watering and irrigation system we have in place for our garden beds. I suggest that MTA assists us to reroute and/or replace this system to allow us to continue to operate.

Finally, following a recent theft at La Finca and in order to keep both La Finca and MTA equipment safe I would like to propose increased security in the form of more secure fencing around the back on the farm and along the Metro North line and increased lighting on the farm.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the proposed MTA ventilator reconstruction that will happen above the 4/5 train line over the next 2 years. || Joan Newbold (Note on 09/26/2019) || https://new.mta.info/system_modernization/weatherization/138st

Per this link, the comments on this project are being coordinated by Jacqueline Carter. You can inform customer that we are working on getting a response to them. CPM is working with Environmental on getting responses. There are similar questions on the same project under 190917-000751 and 190916-001042

Excavation must be performed to rehabilitate the ventilator structure. As a result, the 8 trees within the immediate area of the vent structure will have to be removed. It is not possible to relocate the staging area to save these trees. This project is federally funded by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), and only limited scope related to the vent repair is approved. Therefore, it is not possible to provide security cameras, fencing, flood lights, or ADA access within the park.

In order to restore the garden to its current condition, NYCT will replace the irrigation system, and coordinate with La Finca Gardeners to reroute it. NYCT will also replace the vine pergola, replace all garden beds that are compromised during construction.

Tree removal and replacement is being coordinated with NYC Department of Parks and Recreation (NYCDPR) and will follow their requirements. In addition, NYCT will provide more picnic benches.

190917-000751 Nancy Ortiz-Surun

|| Nancy Ortiz-Surun (Customer on 09/17/2019) || Please provide a description of how volunteers will Access the farm during Project completion. Also, how will farm work be able to proceed, and on what scale, during that time? Will MTA be able to provide improvements to site security to safeguard both MTA property, and future farm operations i.e. iron fencing in back of site? Will plants & structures removed (other than diseased trees & old mta infrastructure) be replaced? Thank you & look forward to your response.

The garden space accessible to the volunteers will be limited to the northeastern and southern parts of the garden. Garden volunteers will be able to access the north east section of the garden through the main entrance. There will be a temporary protected walkway along the west side of the garden to provide access to the south section of the garden. This project is federally funded by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), and only limited scope related to the vent repair is approved. As a result, it is not possible to provide security cameras, fencing, flood lights, or ADA access within the park.

In order to restore the garden to its current condition, NYCT will replace the irrigation system, and coordinate with La Finca Gardeners to reroute it. NYCT will provide additional picnic benches, replace the vine pergola, and replace all garden beds that are compromised during construction. Tree removal and replacement is being coordinated with NYC Department of Parks and Recreation (NYCDPR) and will follow their requirements.

190916-001042 Yuki Bravo

|| Yuki Bravo (Customer on 09/16/2019) || Thank you for taking your time to review my comments.

As a new resident of Mott Haven, we feel that it is important to not only add these mechanical improvements to the station but to also re-do and modernize it as well.

If your plan is to only add the ventilation system on old infrastructure wouldn't it require more effort to maintain it?
Please take your time to reconstruction the station.

After the completion of the project, the ventilator structure will require less maintenance than it does currently.

190910-001129 Jackson hurst

|| Jackson Hurst (Customer on 09/10/2019) || hi i would like to sign up for project updates and construction updates regarding the Reconstruction of Ventilators at 138th St - Grand Concourse Project

The public will be informed of the project's progress through coordination with NYCDPR and Greenthumb.
