



April 29, 2008

A city's turning point

Whether you think the proposed \$1.6 billion downtown redevelopment project proposed for Yonkers is a renaissance that can't begin soon enough, or, on the other hand, if the plan for two riverfront residential skyscrapers (Palisades Point); a minor-league baseball stadium; a retail, office and entertainment complex (River Park Center); a new government center (Cacace Center); and an uncovered Saw Mill River meandering through a landscaped Larkin Plaza gives you pause, now is the time to let the Yonkers City Council hear your concerns. The City Council will hold a public hearing on the project beginning at 6:30 tonight in the City Council Chambers in Yonkers City Hall.

The 4,000-page draft environmental impact statement that the development team Struever Fidelco Cappelli LLC submitted for the council's consideration is available online for a not-so-quick read before the meeting (www.sfcyonkers.com). Also included in the DEIS is a detailed description of the funding mechanism - called tax increment financing - that would rely on future tax payments from the proposed development to fund about \$160 million of public infrastructure improvements associated with the project. Written comments on the DEIS will be accepted by the City Council until May 13, 2008, and should be addressed to City of Yonkers City Council, 40 South Broadway, Yonkers, NY 10701.

It's better to have a say now than to wish for a voice after all the decisions have been made.

A Journal News editorial
