

Equity Environmental Engineering

November 2009

In This Issue

[Peter Jaran](#)

[Planning for NYC Night Life](#)

[Lead Standards](#)

[RECALC Blog](#)

[New Jersey IEHA](#)

[Equity Environmental](#)

Dear Client, Colleague, and Vendor:

Equity would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your business, collaboration on projects, hard work in supporting our efforts to achieve our client's goals, and making this a successful year given the difficult economic times. We look forward to building and strengthening our relationships and continuing your and our success in 2010.

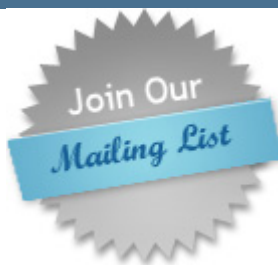
Have a happy and safe Thanksgiving Holiday!

Planning for NYC Night Life

In September, Equity Environmental Engineering was part of an interdisciplinary team assembled to plan for a new nightclub proposed for midtown Manhattan. Nightlife, for many, is an important part of what makes New York special, and it is a significant part of the local economy. But if not properly planned and operated, nightclubs can be a severe quality-of-life headache for their neighbors due to noise, traffic, litter, and other negative externalities.

The team included acoustic engineers, security and crowd control experts, sound designers, and architects. Equity Environmental Engineering provided our expertise on transportation issues including vehicular traffic, pedestrian conditions, and mass transit. In addition to assessing the likely traffic generation and parking demand of the project and their impact on the local transportation infrastructure, we identified proactive steps the club operator could take to ensure that things go smoothly once the club is open, such as providing adequate crowd and traffic control in front of the club, providing email notification of traffic or transit diversions, using the club website to provide information on local parking resources, and reaching out to taxi fleet operators so they know when large crowds will be anticipated at the club.

When the team made its presentation to the local community



Featured Article



Peter Jaran is a Managing Director at Equity. He is a senior environmental engineer and professional engineer with 26 years of professional experience in all aspects of environmental consulting. He and his wife Julie started Equity in 2003 after positions with Federal and State Governments and for two large consulting companies. Peter enjoys fishing, skiing, golf, teaching teenagers, and watching or coaching soccer in his spare time (what little there is).

planning board, we were commended for the thoroughness with which we had addressed the issues, and our planning was cited as a model for how to win a community board's approval. At Equity Environmental Engineering we pride ourselves on being problem solvers, but cases like this one, where we can be involved early and prevent potential problems before they arise, are especially gratifying.

Jim Heineman, AICP

EPA Lead Standards

The EPA announced in late October that they are expanding their coverage of the 2008 Lead Renovation, Repair, and Painting Rule in observance of National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week. The rule will eliminate a provision that exempted some housing from the rule's requirement that contractor's be trained and certified and use lead-safe work practices when renovating, repairing or painting pre-1978 homes.

The EPA also announced that it will propose modifications to the regulatory hazard standard for lead dust so that is based on more recent science. The EPA will work with HUD to propose modifications to the regulatory definition of lead-based paint. EPA will accept comments on the proposal for 30 days and expects to finalize the rule in April 2010.

In related news, Federal Stimulus money increased the amount of funds available for lead remediation by an additional \$78 million. HUD provides grants to municipalities to address lead contamination issues in homes.

Sources: US EPA and EMSL Analytical, Inc.

RECALC 091109:

The Forth Wave - Sustainability & Environmental Planning

Environmental progress comes in waves.

Wave One: Occurring before the 1960s, the focus was on the preservation and conservation of existing environmental resources as the economy expanded

Wave Two: Responding to newly found environmental and health issues (i.e., Silent Spring, nuclear power, hydroelectric generation, etc.), a newly awakened environmental awareness led to creation of major environmental initiatives

Wave Three: A growing global economy fostered global environmental concerns for issues that ignored national borders, including global warming.

Now we sit at the base of the Wave Four, the not so nascent idea of sustainability, which:

- In its broadest sense speaks to the "capacity to endure"
- Defines how ecological (including human) systems retain or gain the ability to remain diverse over both the short and long terms
- Represents a planning framework for informed decision-making across multiple disciplines and functional groups

Mayor Bloomberg's PlanNYC 2030 provides a well-defined series of goals with an Implementation Strategy to move New York City forward to the Year 2030 and beyond (http://www.nyc.gov/html/planyc2030/downloads/pdf/full_report.pdf). The Plan provides a well-conceived implementation plan with milestones for accomplishing these goals.

How can overall PlanNYC progress be measured? This may be accomplished by defining existing environmental conditions that are goal independent. Such factors can include air and water quality, ambient noise, traffic, parking, and mass-transit capacities and conditions. Comparing these existing / historic conditions with measurements at regular intervals can provide an important report card. These trends can also point toward areas where a refocus is needed. For example, due to cleaner fuels and vehicles, such pollutants as Carbon Monoxide and Particulate Matter are less present in the region's air than they were twenty years ago, but emission of greenhouse gases has emerged as a vital concern, particularly for a sea-level city like New York.

Baseline environmental data are available for assemblage and analysis from the New York City Environmental Quality Review (CEQR) process. Data are available on a wide range of issues, gathered as part of the public decision making process. Predicated on both the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) and New York State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA), CEQR discloses potentially significant environmental impacts of NYC discretionary actions. Within this process is a wealth of uncollected data and information that were gathered to assess a single project, which may or may not ever have come to fruition, but have ongoing value as a snapshot of the state of the environment at a particular place and time.

The relationship between environmental planning and a sustainable future is important to consider and develop. Keeping a dialog open will allow great things to happen.

More to follow,
Mark

New Jersey IEHA

Effective 9/8/09, the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) is requiring all Child Care Centers to have an Indoor Environmental Health Assessment (IEHA) be completed as part of their licensing requirements. The necessary forms (CEHS 1-8) must be completed and submitted to the DHSS preferably in electronic format. Only properly licensed consultants will be able to prepare these forms for the Child Care facility. The associated review fee is \$1,500. For additional information, go to the DHSS website: http://nj.gov/health/iep/ccc_ieha.shtml.

Bob Jackson

Over the past few months, a lot of colleagues who receive the Equity newsletter have commented on how much they enjoy reading it. Thank all of you for your kind words. We continue to try to provide information that you will find interesting and informative. Enjoy the holiday.

Peter Jaran
Equity Environmental Engineering LLC