

January 19, 2010

LINDEN HILLS CO-OP EXPANSION: PROGRESS ON MEMBER LOAN DRIVE, LEED CERTIFICATION

As of early January, Linden Hills Co-op reported member loan commitments totaling over \$1 million of the \$1.5 million necessary to finance their move to Sunnyside Avenue. According to general manager Luke Schell, "This is remarkable progress and we are happy to report that we have fulfilled the first contingency of our lease agreement. We now have a signed letter of commitment from People's Bank, but additional **member financing is critical** to secure these funds and make the co-op's relocation and expansion move forward." The remaining \$500,000 must be raised by January 31, 2010. For more information on the co-op's member loan program, contact Tami Bauers at 612-279-2467.

Pending the successful conclusion of the financing phase, the co-op anticipates beginning renovations on the old Sunnyside Market space in late February or early March, with a move to the new location tentatively slated for early fall.

Linden Hills Co-op hosted a member design forum on January 5, at which a preliminary interior design was presented for comment by store designer Robert Gorski. The co-op will apply for LEED certification and follow LEED guidelines for existing buildings as the interior and exterior design phase proceeds. Energy efficiency and use of nontoxic finishes, fixtures and processes will be taken into consideration in everything from refrigeration systems and lighting to flooring and water usage. The co-op is also looking at ways to encourage the use of alternative transportation by both staff and shoppers, and plans to extend existing green space on West 44th Street and around the perimeter of the building and parking area.

The co-op's February-March newsletter, which is available free at the co-op and can be downloaded on the website at www.lindenhills.coop, will feature an article with more detailed information about the features being planned for the new store, which include a community room, indoor and outdoor seating, and expansions for every store department.

For breaking updates and information, visit the co-op's website at www.lindenhills.coop or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/LindenHills. The co-op's staff and board also encourage neighbors to continue providing suggestions and asking questions by phone: 612-922-1159, or via email: info@lindenhills.coop or board@lindenhills.coop.