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Safety Outline Due April 18th, 2019

Introduction:

What is the impact of the venue that holds 19,000 people effect on the neighborhood's safety?

Relevance: It's important to understand what is being done for the people in the neighborhoods safety as well as what's done for those in the venue on event nights. Knowing what's done can help us understand what needs to be done. Getting an understanding from those business owners and residents in the area is important because they're the ones who firsthand experience any changes.

Background Information and context:

Barclays Center is a multi-purpose indoor arena in Brooklyn. The site is at Atlantic Ave, next to the renamed Atlantic Avenue- Barclays Center subway station that is easily accessed by over ten subway lines. Arena holds up to 19,000 people. When it comes to thousands of people, understanding the safety inside and around the arena is very important.

1. Preconstruction (NY TIMES) -Stephanie

a. Predictions of crime and chaos. It was believed that every night there would be some sort of crime or disturbance.

b. Was expected for the arena to turn the neighborhood into Manhattan, Residents expected the area to be turned into a very busy pedestrian area. Crowded, unable to walk without bumping into others.

c. Parking space never vacant. Residents weren't happy about the idea of coming back home from a day of work to finding no parking available. Parking lots would charge up to \$17 the hour, and up to \$50 for a night. **(observation)**

d. Rise in noise complaints. It was expected for the residents in the area to be disturbed at night during event nights. Noise would escape from the venue and disturb the neighborhoods surrounding the venue.

e. Traffic was expected to occur every day, due to the arena being built. NYPD traffic would not be able to control the number of cars that would drive through Barclays Center, so the amount of traffic in the area would increase. **(environmental impact and blog)**

2. Post Construction (NY TIMES) -Stephanie

a. Heavy police presence on event nights has made the number of crimes be negligible

b. Presence of the busy arena in what was a quiet mix of factories and residential blocks has made the neighborhood feel safer at night

c. Summons for noise violations, Barclays Center received a \$3,200 summons for noise violations during a Sensation dance-music event after inspectors from the city's Environmental Protection Department recorded excessive decibel levels in a loft-building apartment on Pacific Street.

d. Busyness of the events normally clears out quicker than first anticipated

e. Area is normally busy on only event nights.

3. Community Survey (business owners and residents) (Survey) -Stephanie

a. What is safety? (Walking in the area alone at night)

b. Do neighbors think that the arena has changed the neighborhood for the better?

c. What can the NYPD do to help you feel safe?

d. Is the area deserted when there are no events taking place as opposed to when there's thousands of people visiting the area?

4. Although the Barclays Center has created a more vibrant neighborhood, it has become more dangerous, especially during the day, than before. -Marvin

a. Around 4:30 pm in October of last year shooting occurred . According to the article, Shots fired after fight outside Atlantic Terminal Mall, “There was a shooting in the same area Monday [...] The shooting comes days after another shooting in another busy part of the borough [near the Brooklyn Bridge].” (brooklyn.news12.com)

b. There was a shooting, as well, near the Barclays Center in June of 2017 around 2pm. According to the article, Shooting Near Barclays Center Leaves One Wounded; Police Hunting Two Suspects, a witness named Pamela Williams, 66, stated, “I moved out of Bed-Stuy to get away from this.” (nydailynews.com) If the Barclays Center was supposed to make the surrounding neighborhood safe, why do shootings continue to persist?

5. Safety concerns related to the structure of the Barclays Center and Sanitations factor in safety around the Barclays Center area.

a. Horrors of the cheap seats at Barclays Center Arena. The rows of seats are placed at a very steep nature, this is meant to bring fans closer to the experience, and it’s pretty c

b. Common for fans to consume alcohol during these sporting events, this combination will result in a dangerous situation.

c. (NYPOST) One drunk fan fell onto a woman, pushing here face into the railing and breaking her wrist. Security was contacted about the situation, but nobody came to help.

d. Well before the Barclays Center opened, the neighboring communities feared and anticipated parking and trash problems once the arena opens.

e. It’s pretty common after large events, crowds of people are pouring out of the event, and most of them leave behind a lot of trash.

Conclusion:

a. How communities point of view changed from pre construction and post construction

b. How does data show the change in the environments safety (traffic, crime, accidents)

c. Has it changed for the better or not?

For future research, researchers can use the environmental impact statement, nypd data, and they can also access articles that cover accidents or crimes that have occurred in the area.