

New plaza to lighten space with dark past



COURTESY PHOTO
A view of 90th Street plaza.

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by Tess McRae, Associate Editor

A new community plaza has been put in place on the corner of 90th Street and Roosevelt Avenue to bring some life and “much needed community” to the neighborhood.

The area, which sits under the No. 7 train tracks, is the same location where two murders occurred less than a month ago.

“The community engagement with the 90th Street plaza was an exceptional idea from the 82nd Street Partnership,” Councilwoman Julissa Ferreras (D-East Elmhurst) said. “Considering that two murders recently occurred in this area, the reclaiming of this space could not come at a better time. What our community desperately needs right now is to feel that we can work through whatever issues arise and be more united for it.”

The new plaza will include brightly painted chairs and tables, new planters and a cultural program of music and other community activities.

The project is sponsored by the group who has proposed the Jackson Heights- Business Improvement District, part of Ferreras’ initiative to make the corridor safer.

The music and cultural program will be coordinated through the BID and the Partnership and include bands and musicians who have played at past Partnership events such as Viva La Comida.