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ONE NEW YORK: WORKING FOR OUR NEIGHBORHOODS BROOKLYN QUEENS CONNECTOR

Explosive housing and job growth occurring along the Brooklyn Queens waterfront are placing ever increasing demands on the area's roads and public transit. The Mayor believes that it is crucial to link this new development with the larger fabric of the City. Mayor de Blasio's proposal for the Brooklyn Queens Connector urban streetcar would tie together waterfront neighborhoods from Sunset Park in Brooklyn to Astoria in Queens. The new transit line would connect isolated neighborhoods to new job centers and open up opportunity for hundreds of thousands of New Yorkers.

Details

- The BQX will be one of the largest urban streetcar systems in the United States – with an expected weekday use rate of almost 50,000 travelers when fully constructed.
- The BQX would run along a 16-mile corridor through Astoria, Ravenswood, Long Island City, Greenpoint, Williamsburg, Downtown Brooklyn, Brooklyn Navy Yard, DUMBO, Downtown Brooklyn, Brooklyn Heights, Cobble Hill, Red Hook, Gowanus and Sunset Park.
- The route ties in several “innovation clusters” in which the city has made significant economic development investments, including the Brooklyn Navy Yard, Brooklyn Army Terminal, and the Cornell/Technion campus on Roosevelt Island via a ferry connection.
- The BQX will link to 13 NYCHA developments with more than 40,000 tenants – roughly 10% of the City's public housing residents.
- The fare on the Brooklyn Queens Connector will be the same as a single-ride Metrocard.

- The preliminary estimate for the purchase and installation of the system is approximately \$2.5 billion. The City will raise capital through the creation of a Local Development Corporation (LDC) with the authority to issue tax exempt bonds. The City is expected to pay off this debt by capturing a percentage of the increase in property values of existing and new development along the corridor.
- The combination of the Brooklyn Queens Connector, the Citywide Ferry System, CitiBike, traditional subway and local buses, will create a rich 21st century multimodal transportation system that enables these neighborhoods to continue to grow and thrive in a sustainable manner.
- The de Blasio administration will begin engaging communities along the Brooklyn-Queens waterfront this year to develop a conceptual framework and expects to break ground on the project in 2019-2020.

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