

An aerial photograph of a suburban community. In the upper left, there is a large, dark pond. To the right of the pond is a residential area with many houses. Further right, there is a baseball field with a dirt infield and grass outfield. At the bottom of the image, a multi-lane highway runs horizontally. The overall scene is a mix of natural and developed land.

# RESILIENT EDGEMERE

COMMUNITY PLANNING INITIATIVE

# RESILIENT EDGEMERE: TODAY'S GOALS & AGENDA

## Today's Goals

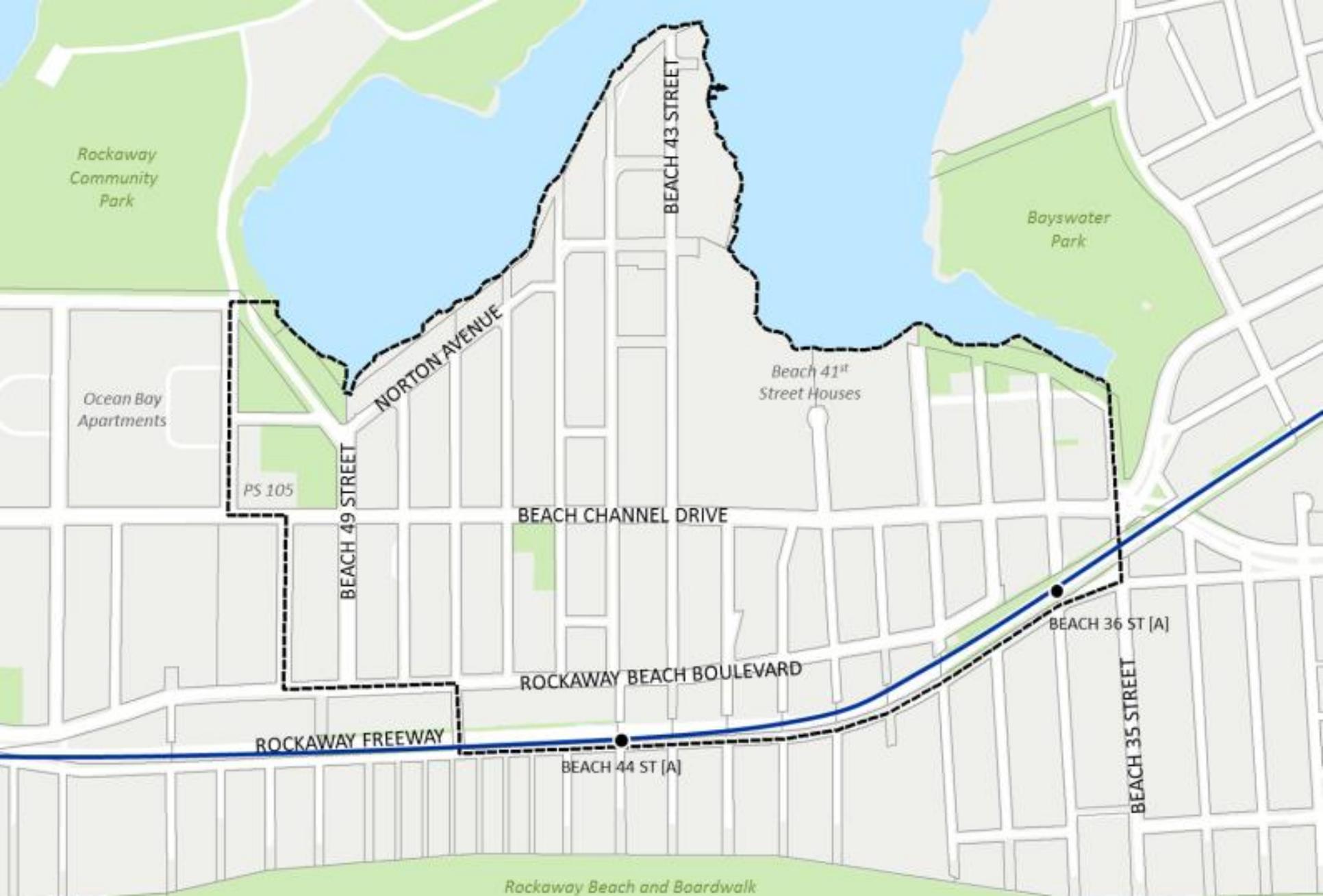
- Report back what we heard at Workshop 1 and contextualize
- Prioritize and confirm vision, goals, and guiding principles for the neighborhood

# RESILIENT EDGEMERE: TODAY'S GOALS & AGENDA

## Agenda

11:00 – 11:30	Check-in
11:30 – 11:45	Welcome & Opening Remarks
11:45 – 12:00	Presentation: What We Heard and What We Know
12:00 – 1:45	Small group discussions/activities
1:45 – 2:00	Concluding remarks and next steps

# RESILIENT EDGEMERE: STUDY AREA



# RESILIENT EDGEMERE: WHO WE ARE

## Core Planning Team



## Partner Agencies



# RESILIENT EDGEMERE: GOALS OF PLANNING PROCESS

- 1 Protect the neighborhood from tidal and storm flood risk
- 2 Coordinate post-Sandy rebuilding efforts
- 3 Improve the quality and affordability of housing
- 4 Develop housing and community facilities on vacant lots
- 5 Improve streets and transportation
- 6 Increase neighborhood amenities such as retail options and waterfront access

# RESILIENT EDGEMERE: IMPLEMENTATION

- This planning process will create a framework for implementation
- Implementation will take place over the near-term, medium-term, and long-term
- A variety of funding sources will be used and sought to complete the outcomes of this planning process

# RESILIENT EDGEMERE: TIMELINE & PLANNING PROCESS



October

December

March

May

June

Listen

**Workshop 1**  
Listen and Learn

Listen

**Workshop 2**  
Vision, Goals, and  
Guiding Principles

Create

**Workshop 3**  
Test Strategies &  
Actions

Draft

**Workshop 4**  
Confirm &  
Prioritize

Finalize &  
Implement

**Final Plan**  
Infrastructure  
planning, funding,  
and design

2016

2015

# RESILIENT EDGEMERE: WHAT WE HEARD

1. General Themes
2. Housing
3. Community Facilities & Economic Development
4. Transportation
5. Open Space & Coastal Protection

# RESILIENT EDGEMERE: WHAT WE HEARD

## General Themes

- Preserve the close-knit character of the neighborhood
- Preserve the ecological character of the neighborhood

# RESILIENT EDGEMERE: WHAT WE HEARD

## Housing

Housing in the neighborhood is becoming less affordable for renters and owners

- Any new housing should be above flood level and energy independent
- Community land trust

Limit the amount of new housing in the neighborhood

- Vacant lot should have a variety of uses
- Fix what's already here

People are concerned with the rising cost of flood insurance

- Elevation and insurance resources were not available to all or it was misunderstood

People are concerned about regular flooding

- Street flooding on Beach 37th, especially during high tide
- Need floodwalls and bulkheads

People would like better evacuation planning

- Should have been better planning for Joaquin

# RESILIENT EDGEMERE: WHAT WE KNOW

## Housing

- Between 2010 and 2014 median monthly housing costs for renters increased **25%** while increasing **32%** for owners
- **37% of homeowners** and **66% of renters** are cost-burdened, meaning they spend more than 30% of their income on housing

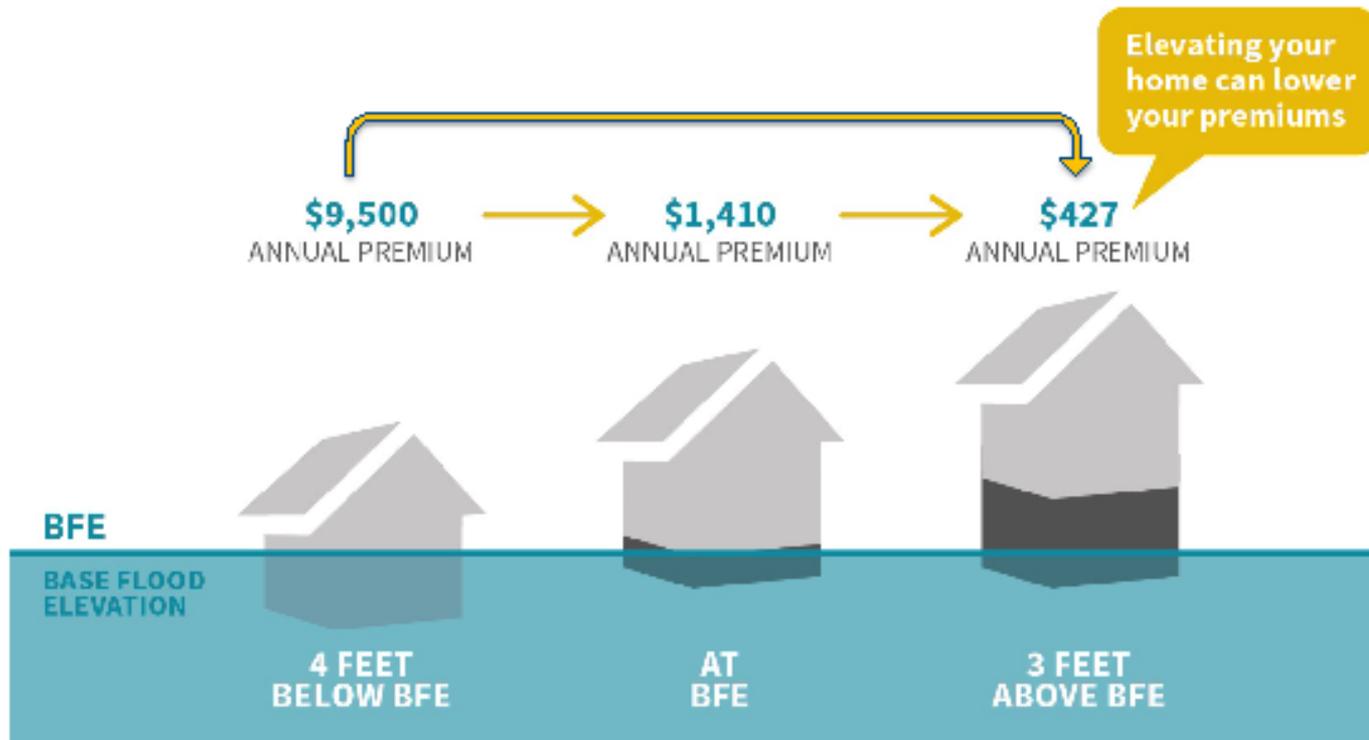


# RESILIENT EDGEMERE: WHAT WE KNOW

**Flood Insurance** rates will increase dramatically in 2017

## National Flood Insurance Program Reform

Rates increase based on building height relative to expected flood height. Home elevation will reduce risk and premiums.



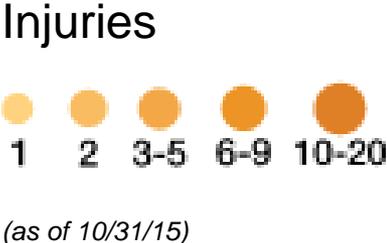


## Transportation

- Public transit in the neighborhood is infrequent and unreliable
- There are many modal conflicts and poorly designed intersections
  - Beach Channel Drive: Heavy traffic due to overuse as E-W corridor
  - Dangerous pedestrian intersections at B35-27
  - Traffic blocking the box at B44 intersection
  - Traffic calming on side streets is necessary - lots of speeding
- Neighbors need better information and updates around infrastructure projects, transit service status, and public safety
- Inadequate facilities and infrastructure in many places throughout the neighborhood
  - No elevators at MTA subway stations
  - Need better sidewalk and bike infrastructure
  - Better lighting under Rockaway Freeway
  - Better coastal resilient infrastructure is needed to alleviate regular flooding

# RESILIENT EDGEEMERE: WHAT WE KNOW

## Traffic Crashes involving Injuries from 2014 – 2015



Source: NYC Vision Zero View

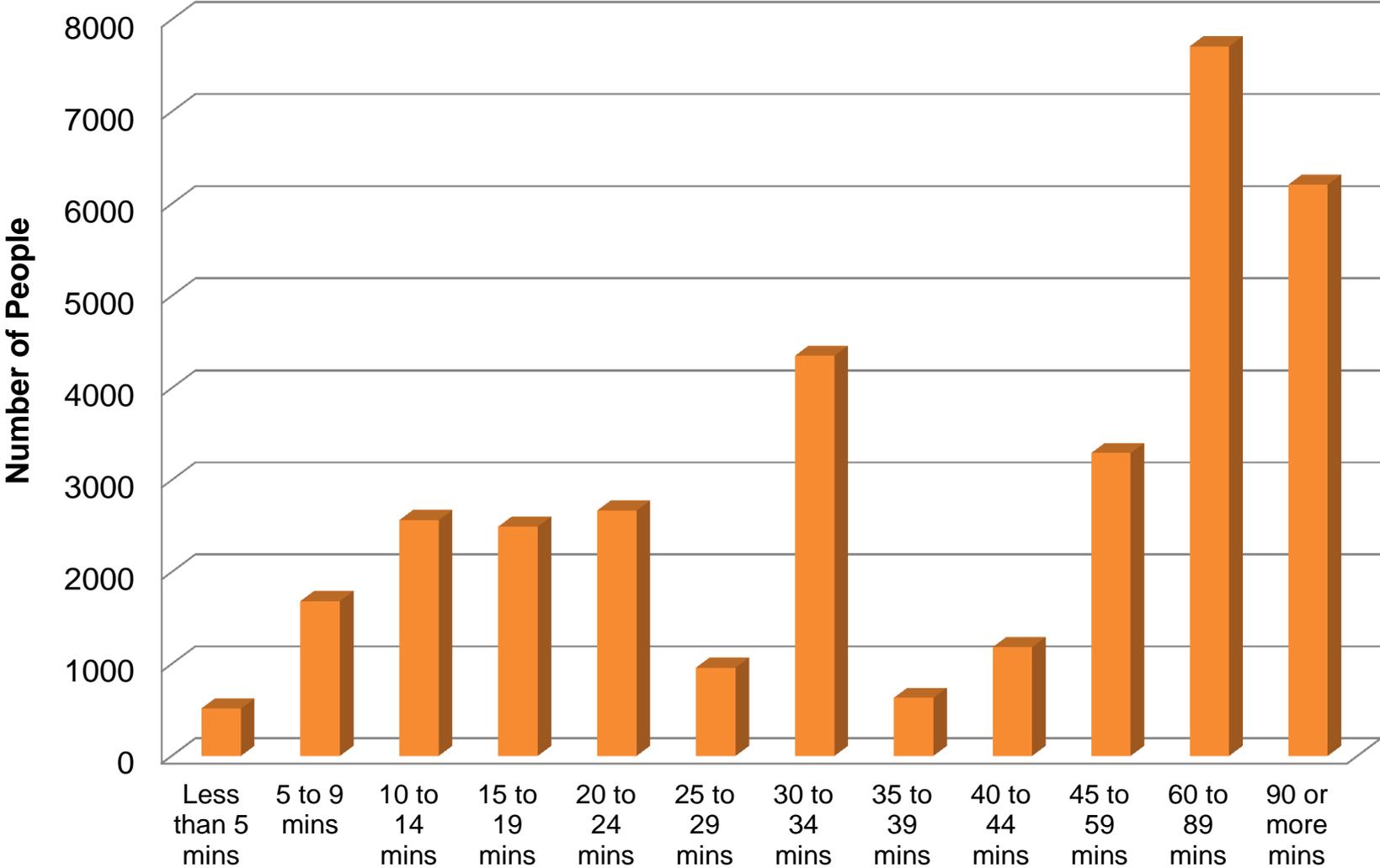
# RESILIENT EDGEMERE: WHAT WE KNOW

## MTA New York City Transit

- A State Comptroller's report from 2014, analyzing subway performance from 2013, found that the A train arrives on-time 79% of the time
- The MTA undertook a review of the A/C Line and will release a report of existing conditions and recommendations in the near future

# RESILIENT EDGEMERE: WHAT WE KNOW

## Eastern Rockaways: Average Commute Time



# RESILIENT EDGEMERE: WHAT WE KNOW

## TIGER Grant

- Multi-year transportation study of the Eastern Rockaways to create proposals for short- and long-term improvements aligned with City's land-use investments
- Study will emphasize how to improve residents' access to opportunities in the form of roadway, transit, walking, and cycling improvements and accessible land use recommendations

## Community Facilities & Economic Development

- Neighborhood needs more retail
  - Retail that encourages healthy living
- Need more community facilities for all age groups
- Need more support for small businesses and entrepreneurs
- Residents need better access to healthcare options, especially a hospital and urgent care
  - Peninsula Hospital closed

# RESILIENT EDGEMERE: WHAT WE KNOW

## Community facilities



Blanche Community Progress Day Care Center, 406 Beach 45<sup>th</sup> Street



Community & Family Head Start, 41-05 Beach Channel Drive



PS 105 The Bay School, 420 Beach 51<sup>st</sup> Street (attached to park)



Edgemere Farm, 385 Beach 45<sup>th</sup> Street

# RESILIENT EDGEMERE: WHAT WE KNOW

## Community facilities



**FDNY EMS Station 47, 303 Beach 49th Street**



**Rockaway Care Center, 353 Beach 49th Street**



**Seaview Manor Home for Adults, 210 Beach 47th Street**

# RESILIENT EDGEMERE: WHAT WE KNOW

## Churches



361 Beach 42<sup>nd</sup> Street



444 Beach 44<sup>th</sup> Street



38-16 Rockaway Beach Boulevard



45-18 Norton Avenue

# RESILIENT EDGEMERE: WHAT WE KNOW

## Churches



**St. Gertrude Church, 336 Beach 38<sup>th</sup> Street**



**37-21 Rockaway Beach Boulevard**

# RESILIENT EDGEMERE: WHAT WE KNOW

## Commercial



**Commercial Overlay, Beach Channel Drive**



# RESILIENT EDGEMERE: WHAT WE KNOW

Peninsula Hospital: **CLOSED**



Next closest healthcare facility: St. John's Episcopal in Downtown Far Rockaway

# RESILIENT EDGEMERE: WHAT WE KNOW

## Joseph P. Addabbo Family Health Center Expansion



- 6200 Beach Channel Drive, Arverne
- \$20M investment
- 20,000 sq ft expansion
- Increase capacity by 50% with new medical specialty areas
- Construction begins Summer 2017, completes Summer 2019

## Open Space & Coastal Protection

- Bayfront walk and nature features would be a valuable asset for the neighborhood
- Better use of inland vacant lots that include community gardens and farms
  - Self-sustainability
- Wetlands should be preserved and can act as a natural flood mitigation feature
- There should be better beach and bay access from the neighborhood
- People like living near the water
- Need better and recreational facilities like sports fields

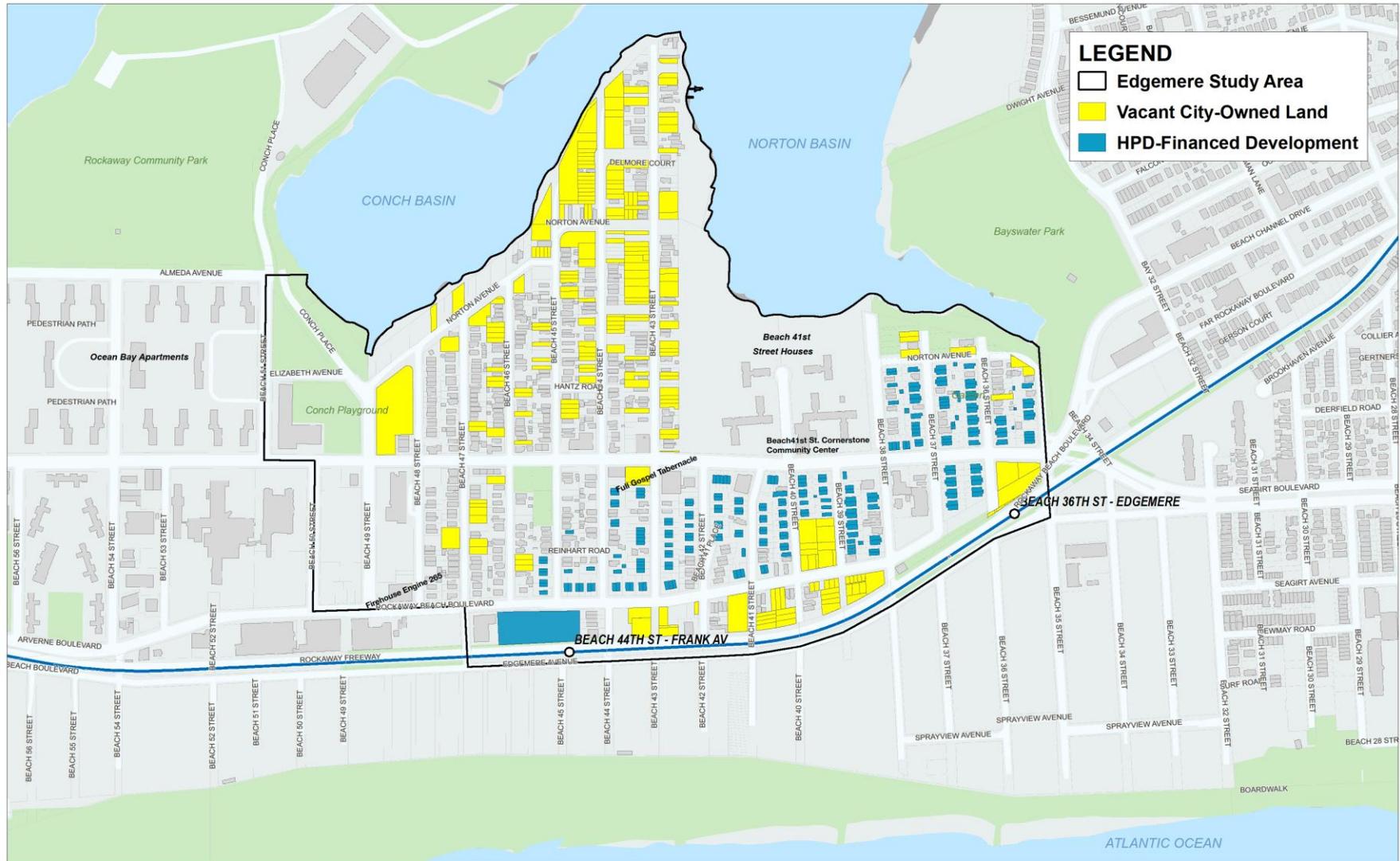
# RESILIENT EDGEMERE: WHAT WE KNOW

## Parks Dept Rockaway Conceptual Plan: Bayside Nature Trail



# RESILIENT EDGEMERE: WHAT WE KNOW

## Vacant Owned City Land



# RESILIENT EDGEMERE: WHAT WE KNOW

## Parks Dept, Rockaway Conceptual Plan: Rockaway Community Park



The acquisition of land along Conch Place allows Rockaway Community Park to have water access along the Inlet and to connect with an existing playground. The park will refurbish existing sports facilities and have a gateway to the public on Beach Channel Drive. The view to the left looks northwest to Jamaica Bay.

**Total: \$26 M**  
(All estimates in 2014 dollars)

**Note:** All amenities in the conceptual plan are illustrative in nature and the exact locations of amenities may be subject to change once the sites are fully designed.

- a. Wetland Restoration
- b. Proposed Boardwalk and Site Amenities
- c. Upland Forest Restoration
- d. Cricket Field (1)
- e. Soccer Field (1)
- f. Gaming Area: Ping Pong, Shuffleboard
- g. Handball Courts (2)
- h. Basketball Courts (2)
- i. Tennis Courts (4)
- j. Refurbished Comfort Station
- k. BBQ, Picnic, and Landscape Areas
- l. Kayak Landing Point
- m. Skate Park
- n. Comfort Station and Park Kiosk
- o. Athletic Field in School Yard
- p. Refurbished Existing Playground
- q. Community Garden

# RESILIENT EDGEMERE: WHAT WE KNOW

## Parks Dept, Rockaway Conceptual Plan: Bayswater Park



Bayswater Park is the main community park on the bay side of the Rockaways. The project retains the existing courts and proposes landscaping and recreation areas, as well as new facilities including a launch point for kayaks, boat storage, picnic areas, and a permanent stage for community events.

**Total: \$20 M**  
(All estimates in 2014 dollars)

**Note:** All amenities in the conceptual plan are illustrative in nature and the exact locations of amenities may be subject to change once the sites are fully designed.

- a. Running Track
- b. Upland Restoration
- c. Wetland Restoration
- d. Soccer Field (1)
- e. Cricket Field (with baseball)
- f. Baseball Field (1)
- g. Permanent Stage
- h. Prefabricated Skate Park
- i. Handball Courts (6)
- j. Basketball Courts (2)
- k. Tennis Courts (2)
- l. Junior Tennis Courts (2)
- m. BBQ and Picnic Area
- n. 5 to 12-year-old Playground
- o. Refurbished Comfort Station
- p. Toddler Playground
- q. Kayak Launch
- r. Water Feature
- s. New Park Building and Kayak Storage
- t. Public Art Plaza

# RESILIENT EDGEMERE: WHAT WE KNOW

## Parks Dept: Conch Playground Renovation



# CONCH PLAYGROUND

Located on Beach Channel Drive and Beach 49th Street, Rockaway, Queens

NYC Parks

### GOALS

- Upgrade and enhance existing facilities
- Create new site amenities including playground
- Increase play opportunity for children including water play and creative play
- Create community space with flexible use
- Increase greenspace including canopy trees
- Accommodate P.S. 105 with education, exercise, and after-school opportunities
- Install green infrastructure in collaboration with NYC DEP

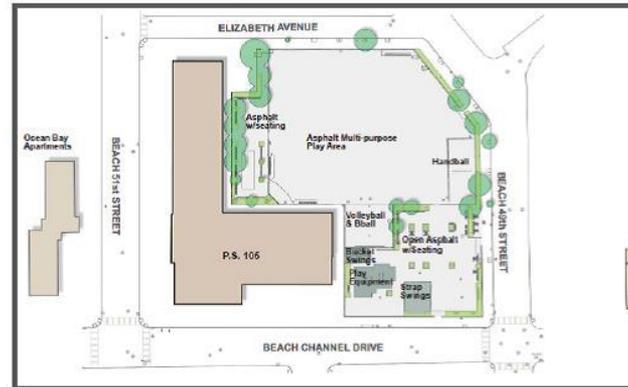
**PROJECT SIZE:** 2.45 acres

**FUNDING SOURCE:** Community Parks Initiative

**TOTAL BUDGET:** \$4.7 million

**ESTIMATED COMPLETION:** 2017

### Existing Conditions



### Rendering - View from Entry Plaza



### Schematic Design



# RESILIENT EDGEMERE: NEXT STEPS

## Today's Activities

Small group discussions

### **Room 1 – Cafeteria**

Table 1, Table 2, Table 3

### **Room 2 – Library**

Table 4, Table 5: Bilingual Spanish/English table

### **Room 3 – Dance Room**

Table 6, Table 7, Table 8

### **Room 4 – Computer lab**

Table 9, Table 10

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