The City of New York is Investing in Southeast Queens
WELCOME to the Southeast Queens Initiative Newsletter, which is published bi-annually to keep you informed about the City’s $2.5 billion effort to improve drainage, infrastructure and street conditions throughout Community Boards 12 and 13 in southeast Queens.

The NYC Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the NYC Department of Design and Construction (DDC) are working together to enact Mayor Eric Adams’ vision of resiliency by upgrading this historically underinvested area to improve the quality of life for the residents of southeast Queens. Funding is provided by DEP and projects are managed by DDC. The program, the largest of its kind in the City, consists of 44 projects overall, including 18 that have been completed, 12 that are in design, two where designs are completed and a contractor is being hired to do the work and three in active construction.

Inside you’ll find information about the overall program as well as individual projects that may affect your area. We hope you’ll find this information useful as the Initiative progresses.
City Delivers Nearly Two Miles of New Sewers and Water Mains in South Jamaica and St. Albans, Queens

Project completed one year ahead of schedule

The NYC Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and NYC Department of Design and Construction (DDC) have completed a $24 million project to improve street conditions, alleviate flooding and upgrade infrastructure in the South Jamaica and St. Albans neighborhoods of Queens. The project, which was completed one year ahead of schedule, was funded by DEP and was managed by DDC.

The project is part of a $2.5 billion investment made by the City to build a comprehensive drainage system, improve street conditions and alleviate flooding in neighborhoods throughout southeast Queens. The program, the largest of its kind, consists of 44 projects overall, including 18 that are substantially completed and three that are in active construction.

Work in South Jamaica and St. Albans began in June 2020 and occurred on nine individual blocks. To alleviate flooding, 3,190 feet of storm sewers ranging from 12 to 66 inches in diameter were added to the neighborhoods, plus an additional 230 feet of existing storm sewers were replaced. Thirteen new catch basins were installed and 35 old ones were replaced to better capture stormwater and direct it to the new storm sewers. The holding capacity of the local sewers was increased with the installation of one new underground chamber and replacement of an old one. During construction, 1,510 feet of new 10-inch sanitary sewers were added to the neighborhoods and 1,790 feet of sanitary sewers were replaced.

Right: Over 70,000 square feet of repaved roadway covers nearly two miles of new water mains and sewers throughout South Jamaica and St. Albans
Water infrastructure reliability was improved with the replacement of 2,950 feet of water mains ranging from 6 to 20 inches in diameter, and an additional 245 feet of water main was added. Fire protection was enhanced with the replacement of seven fire hydrants and installation of two new ones.

As part of the final street restoration, 72,950 square feet of asphalt was laid down over a new concrete base. Throughout the project area, 27,895 square feet of sidewalk and 2,400 feet of curbs were reconstructed, and 3,155 feet of new curbs were added. The new curbs and sidewalks were graded to help guide stormwater to the area’s new catch basins to ensure adequate street drainage during storms. Compliance with the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) was improved with the replacement of 22 pedestrian ramps. Ninety new trees were planted and 17 trees old ones were removed, resulting in a gain of 73 trees overall.

**Improvements Underway**

DDC and DEP are working hard to deliver improved and resilient infrastructure in southeast Queens. New water mains are delivering clean water, new sewers are preventing street flooding and fully reconstructed streets are making our roadways safer and more usable.
Recently Completed Improvements

We are making great progress in the Southeast Queens Initiative. A total of 18 projects have been completed so far and two of those projects were completed in fall 2021.
Upcoming Projects

These projects have completed designs and the City is currently hiring construction crews to complete the work.
PROJECT ID: SEQNS004  AREA: ST. ALBANS AND JAMAICA
ANTICIPATED START: SPRING 2023
We Will Keep You Informed

DDC makes every effort to ensure the community is made aware of construction activities at all times. Our approaches include personal outreach by dedicated liaisons, regular distribution of printed and digital materials, meetings to discuss project impacts, and more.

COMMUNITY CONSTRUCTION LIAISON (CCL)
Each project that’s part of the Southeast Queens Initiative will have an assigned Community Construction Liaison (CCL) who will keep the neighborhood apprised of construction progress, ensure communication between the community and project team, coordinate street closures and utility shutoffs and can arrange special requests such as deliveries to local homes and businesses. To stay updated on the project in your neighborhood, please reach out to the CCL to be added to the Neighborhood Notification Network.

SAFELY NOTIFYING THE COMMUNITY
• CCLs will wear personal protective equipment before engaging with the community.
• While physical copies of advisories, bulletins and newsletters will continue to be posted on properties, property owners are encouraged to contact the CCL to be added to the Neighborhood Notification Network to receive contactless advisories, bulletins and newsletters via e-mail and/or text message. (Some CCLs may offer distribution through text message, upon request.)
• To make sure a notification is received, the CCL will knock on your door and step six feet away prior to you opening the door. If you live in a large building, be sure to check common areas including entrances, exits, garbage bins, recycle bins and mailboxes to see notifications.
• If you need to visit the field office, be sure to contact the CCL to make an appointment.
PROJECT INFORMATION UPDATES

- The Community Construction Liaison (CCL) will keep the community apprised of construction progress.

- A Project Information Card will be distributed in the community, which will include the CCL’s contact information, project details and anticipated community and traffic impacts.

- Community Advisories will be issued as needed for any specific construction-related impacts including water shutoffs and roadside restrictions.

- Weekly Construction Bulletins are issued every Friday to notify the community of what work will be done during the upcoming week.

- Quarterly Newsletters will inform the community in each project area of work that has been completed, what will be worked on during the next quarter and tips to help the community.

MEETINGS

Virtual meetings will be held with those who are impacted by the project to ensure communication among the community and project team, especially during specific construction activities.

When meetings can be held in-person, residents can attend meetings at civic associations, community boards and elected officials’ offices. DDC and local Business Improvement Districts will meet with business owners to provide an overview of projects and discuss how businesses may be impacted.

For more information regarding when meetings are scheduled, please contact:

FOR MORE INFORMATION, REGARDING WHEN MEETINGS ARE SCHEDULED, PLEASE CONTACT:

Community Board 12
District Manager Yvonne Reddick
718-658-3308 or yreddick@cb.nyc.gov

Community Board 13
District Manager Mark McMillian
718-464-9700 or mmcmillan@qcb13.org

Visit the Community Outreach webpage on our website to learn more.