WATERFRONT REVITALIZATION PROGRAM

POLICY 5: WATER QUALITY

Protect and improve water quality in the New York City coastal area.

GOALS OF REVISIONS

- Incorporate latest City plans to improve water quality through the use of green infrastructure, while also building cost-effective grey infrastructure.
- Promote strategies to improve the quality of compromised water bodies, including in-water ecological strategies.

SUMMARY OF CHANGES

- In sub-policy on discharge into waterbodies, adds, "Enhance freshwater inputs when it can be demonstrated that there will be ecological benefits" (5.1 A) and "Limit discharge of vessel waste into waterways by providing adequate pumpout facilities." (5.1 C)
- In sub- policy on nonpoint source pollution, adds green infrastructure and on-site detention to list of sustainable stormwater management strategies (5.2 A), and adds the use of accepted best management practices to prevent the run-off of pollutants and potentially contaminated sediment into waterways, as described in policy 7.1 (5.2 D).
- New sub-policy on water quality added: "Protect and improve water quality through cost-effective grey-infrastructure and in-water ecological strategies." Strategies to consider include:
  - Upgrade wastewater treatment plants to achieve secondary treatment standards and reduce nitrogen discharges.
  - Complete cost-effective grey infrastructure projects to reduce combined sewer overflows and improve water quality.
  - Construct necessary sewer system improvements to support current residents and future growth and to optimize the existing system.
  - Replace combined sewers with separate storm and/or sanitary sewers to enhance capacity in combined sewer systems.
  - Encourage in-water pilot projects, such as mollusks and submerged aquatic vegetation, to filter water pollutants.
  - Utilize dredging and the placement of dredged material in tributaries to remove accumulated sediments, related odors, improve circulation, and improve aesthetics for surrounding communities.
  - Construct sediment and floatables control at discharge points including outfalls.
  - Install instream aeration and destratification facilities in tributaries with low dissolved oxygen levels.
  - Replace bulkheads and rip-rap with soft shorelines and terracing of bulkheads for maximum ecological value.

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