1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Recap of Oct 27 Kickoff & Process & Engagement

3. Process & Engagement Proposal

4. Presentation on Sustainability, Remediation, & Resiliency

5. Open House
   - To learn about the sustainability and resiliency planning context in Gowanus
Recap: Gowanus PLACES study kickoff (Oct 27)

What was discussed?

- Neighborhood Approach is zoning *and* broad look at current and future needs

- Study Goals and Framework
  - Study Areas

- Path to a Neighborhood Plan includes development of a draft planning & land use framework
Recap: Gowanus PLACES study kickoff (Oct 27)

What we heard?

“…outreach […] that bridge gaps between community and CBO”

“Protect rent stabilized tenants”

“Affordable units that will remain affordable in perpetuity”

“Protect businesses from displacement.”

“Support…supermarkets.”

“Provide more school seats to meet future…needs.”

“Plan parks for all people…”

“Give info and subsidies for residences to build solar…”

“Attend Gowanus NYCHA monthly meetings.”

Presentation and feedback documentation available on nyc.gov/gowanus
Recap: Gowanus PLACES study kickoff (Oct 27)

What were the outcomes?

- Received feedback and ideas on a broad array of topics
- Confirmed and clarified broad based goals distilled from Bridging Gowanus
- Received ideas and input for tonight’s event and community engagement strategy going forward

Public Realm

- Improve streetscapes, pedestrian safety, and access along Canal for all people
- Encourage and expand neighborhood services and amenities, like supermarkets

Appropriate Mix of Uses

- Explore ways to support and develop job-generating uses, including industrial, arts and cultural uses
- Promote new housing, with affordable housing, and protect and support existing residences and residents

Coordinate Infrastructure

- Support existing and future resiliency and sustainability efforts
- Coordinate necessary improvements to support cleanup of the Canal and accommodate existing & future needs (e.g. schools, parks, transportation)
Oct. 27, 2016: DCP kicked off the Gowanus PLACES study

What were the outcomes?

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Recap: Gowanus PLACES study kickoff (Oct 27)

We are here

Bridging Gowanus

Listen + Learn

Develop Draft Framework

Draft Neighborhood Plan

Public Review & Implementation

Share Framework
Gather Feedback

Share Draft Plan
Gather Feedback
How Do We Get From Today to a Draft Framework?

- Bridging Gowanus
- Listen + Learn
- Develop Draft Framework
- Draft Neighborhood Plan
- Public Review & Implementation

Share Framework Gather Feedback
Share Draft Plan Gather Feedback
How Do We Get From Today to a Draft Framework?

Working Groups

- Resilience and Sustainability
- Arts & Culture
- Industry & Economic Development
- Public Realm
- Housing

Learn + Listen
Process and Engagement Proposal

How Do We Get From Today to a Draft Framework?

**Working Groups**
- Resiliency and Sustainability
- Public Realm
- Arts & Culture
- Housing
- Industry & Economic Development

**Targeted Outreach**
- NYCHA
- Schools
- Transportation
- Other

Learn + Listen
Learn + Listen

How Do We Get From Today to a Draft Framework?

**Working Groups**
- Resilience and Sustainability
- Arts & Culture
- Industry & Economic Development
- Public Realm
- Housing

**Targeted Outreach**
- NYCHA
- Schools
- Transportation
- Other

**Land Use/Urban Design Charrettes**
What is sustainability?

- Not compromising present or future generations’ ability to meet needs
- Reducing human impact on climate change
- All levels of society tackling physical, regulatory, institutional, financial and social challenges

Cities are our greatest tool in fighting climate change because mixed-use growth in walkable, transit-accessible areas supports a low-carbon lifestyle.
What are some recent City initiatives?

- Roadmap to 80 x 50
- Zero Waste x 2030
- NYC Clean Fleet
- Net Zero Energy Wastewater Treatment Plants
- DOT: Strategic Plan
Contamination generally occurred from coal gasification plants, storm and combined sewer overflows, and other industrial wastes.

**What needs to be remediated?**

- Pollutants in the Canal (EPA)
- Former MGP Sites (DEC)
- Various properties throughout area

Source: http://gowanuscag.org
City, State and Federal agencies are working on the cleanup of the Gowanus Canal and surrounding environs

What needs to be remediated?

- Pollutants in the Canal (EPA)
- Former MGP Sites (DEC)
- Various properties throughout area
Dr. Daniel Walsh, Director, NYC Office of Environmental Remediation

Frequently Asked Questions

• What is environmental remediation?

• How does government regulate environmental remediation?

• What government cleanup programs are active in the Gowanus area?

• What process is followed to remediate a property?
Resiliency

Climate change means that resiliency is key to a more sustainable Gowanus.

We are already seeing our climate change.

• Mean temperatures have risen by 3.4°F

• Mean annual precipitation has increased a total of 8 inches per year

• Sea level has risen a total of 1.1 feet, nearly twice the global average

*Observed Climate Trends (1900-2013)
How has climate change affected Gowanus already?

- Superstorm Sandy (2012)
  - Storm Surge
  - Damages to Bridges
- Sewer Backups
- Street Flooding

Inundation from Superstorm Sandy
How can we make Gowanus resilient?

**Neighborhood**
- Strengthening community, social, and economic resiliency

**Buildings**
- Upgraded and retrofitted existing buildings along with new buildings built to modern resilient building and zoning codes

**Infrastructure**
- Infrastructure systems across the region and in Gowanus will need to adapt

**Coastal Defense**
- New York City’s coastal defenses will be strengthened against flooding and sea level rise
Infrastructure

Infrastructure systems across the region and in Gowanus will need to adapt

Some of what has happened already?

- Pumping Station
- Flushing Tunnel
- High Level Storm Sewers Phase I
Resiliency

Infrastructure

Infrastructure systems across the region and in Gowanus will need to adapt

**Ongoing/Upcoming work**

- 9th Street and 2nd Avenue Sewer
- Union Street Bridge
- High Level Storm Sewers Phase I
- NYCHA Gowanus Houses Sandy Repairs
Coastal Defense
Citywide coastal defenses will be analyzed and where feasible strengthened against flooding and sea level rise

NYC Gowanus Surge Barrier Study

- Identified 3 potential options of varying feasibility
  - Hamilton Avenue most feasible
- Was conducted for the City to advocate for Gowanus to be a Focus Area for additional study in the Army Corps NY-NJ Harbor and Tributaries Study
Resiliency

Buildings & Neighborhoods

- Most buildings in Gowanus were built before any flood resilient codes were in place
- Current Base Flood Elevations in Gowanus range from 2 to over 12 feet
- Building and Zoning codes update needed to address retrofits
- Flood insurance for non-resilient homes can be expensive

What has happened already?

- Building Code Appendix G
- Flood Resilient Zoning Code Text I

Ongoing Initiatives

- FEMA NFIP Map Appeal
- NFIP Policy Reform: partial mitigation
- Citywide Flood Resilience Zoning Code Text II
- Resilient Neighborhood, Retail, and Industry Studies