Arts and Culture
Working Group Recommendations*

Please refer to the Working Group Recommendations Handout (see nyc.gov/gowanus) for the full list of recommendations that are mutually supported, as well as recommendations that require further consideration and information.

Incorporate arts spaces and arts & cultural programming within NYCHA developments and strengthen connections with the broader neighborhood.

Access to a local community center (including a re-opened Gowanus Houses Community Center) for all NYCHA residents.

Incorporate local art, historic interpretation, and arts and cultural programming into publicly-owned spaces.

Explore zoning incentives and requirements to support the creation of space for arts & cultural uses in new development.

Explore how land use changes can support property owners who seek to preserve existing arts & cultural spaces and/or create new arts & cultural spaces in their developments.

Explore how investments in zoning can support arts & cultural organizations that need space and property owners who seek to support arts & cultural uses.

Make connections between arts & cultural organizations that need space and property owners who seek to support arts & cultural uses. Consider a local stewardship model to provide oversight of these uses.

Publicly-accessible open space along the canal to encourage formal arts and cultural programming and informal.

Access to a local community center (including a re-opened Gowanus Houses Community Center) for all NYCHA residents.

Incorporate arts spaces and arts & cultural programming within NYCHA developments and strengthen connections with the broader neighborhood.

Evaluate the feasibility of incorporating artist studios and/or community space into existing or planned City facilities.

Streamline the DYCD and DCLA funding processes.

On private property outside of the canal’s edge, explore mechanisms to create publicly-accessible space that can support informal gatherings throughout the neighborhood.

Explore ways to maximize the locations where zoning permits different types of arts and cultural uses to locate.

Explore funding opportunities to assist artists in Gowanus purchase property.

Explore opportunities for new housing to support artists and arts & culture.

Make connections between arts & cultural organizations that need space and property owners who seek to support arts & cultural uses. Consider a local stewardship model to provide oversight of these uses.

NYCHA DEVELOPMENTS
CANAL AND UPLAND AREAS
IBZ BOUNDARY
Housing

Working Group Recommendations

Focus medium- and higher-density buildings along major corridors and the Canal.

On publicly owned sites, promote the creation of affordable housing that exceeds the minimum MIH requirements, with a focus on low and extremely low incomes.

Consider mapping different MIH options within different portions of the neighborhood to accommodate a broad spectrum of incomes.

Support the mixed-use character of the neighborhood by restricting residential uses from certain blocks and requiring or incentivizing non-residential uses on appropriate large sites.

Incorporate improvements to community centers, open space, and resiliency investments in NYCHA developments.

Address existing residents' needs for community facilities and open space by improving community recreational spaces that are open to the public.

Support the creation of new permanently affordable housing, open space along the Canal, remediation of contaminated brownfields, and a more sustainable neighborhood.

Incorporate improvements to community centers, open space, and resiliency investments in NYCHA developments.

Promote a balanced mix of local neighborhood businesses, such as supermarkets, which are based on existing needs and projected future development.

Coordinate with local tenant organizing groups and expand programs and free legal representation to low-income tenants facing eviction, harassment, and displacement.

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Industry & Economic Development

Working Group Recommendations*

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- Provide resources to existing and new businesses in the form of financial assistance and training based on their needs.
- Consider zoning or other tools, like street design, or buffer zones, to minimize conflicts between industrial businesses and residents.

Canal and Upland Areas

NYCHA Developments

Promote job-generating uses throughout the rezoning area.

Restrict self-storage in IBZ and hotels in M-zones, per citywide policy, as appropriate.

Evaluate potential infrastructure improvements, like broadband, sewer, sanitation, and resiliency-related improvements that support and reinforce industrial, including manufacturing, and commercial businesses.

Support the neighborhood's mixed use character by restricting residential form, setbacks, and setbacks and considering other use limitations, requirements, or incentives within the rezoning area as appropriate.

Restrict conflict between pedestrians, bicyclists, trucks, and other modes of transportation.

Study potential short and long-term transportation improvements to parking and loading on side streets, transit, and truck routes.

Promote pedestrian safety.

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Public Realm

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Sustainability and Resiliency

Working Group Recommendations

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