Rising to the challenge

Resilience & the next Comprehensive Waterfront Plan

@OurWaterfront
Who we are

The Waterfront Alliance inspires and effects resilient, revitalized, and accessible coastlines for all communities.
Our Priorities for the Harbor

Strong

Working

Healthy

Open

Managed
Our programs
1,000,000+
In the floodplain
TODAY
$20,000,000,000
In National Flood Insurance Program
DEBT
6:1
Return on investment for flood risk reduction

You’re telling me...you want me to invest in a building that’s not flood resilient? That’s bad business...
Public Housing
Developments in the Floodplain
IN THE RED
Storms and sea level rise widen wealth gaps

INVESTIGATIONS
How Federal Disaster Money Favors The Rich
March 5, 2019 · 5:00 AM ET
Heard on All Things Considered

REBECCA HERSHER
ROBERT BENINCASA
106 mi² wetlands at risk by 2100
NY’s grade for flood risk disclosure

GRADE: F

New York’s disclosure law requires the seller to disclose whether any or all of the property is located in a designated floodplain and, if so, whether there have been any flooding problems that resulted in standing water on any portion of the property.

However, under New York law, if a seller fails to provide a disclosure statement, the seller owes the buyer a $500 credit toward the purchase price at the closing. (See N.Y. Real Prop. Law §465[1]). In practice, many New York sellers view this incredibly low penalty as an opportunity to opt out of having to disclose issues concerning the property. As such, New York’s disclosure law stacks the deck against buyers when it comes to learning about a property’s flood risks or past flood damages much like a “buyer beware” jurisdiction.

Severe Repetitive Loss Properties: 1,002
(As of Nov 2019)

Total NFIP Damage Payouts: $5,383,814,126.86
(Jan. 1, 1978 to Jan. 31, 2018)

NFIP Damage Payments Per Capita: $564.61
(2010 Census)

Total Approved NFIP Claims: 136,161
(Jan. 1, 1978 to Jan. 31, 2018)

NFIP Claims Per 1,000 Persons: 14.49
(2018 Census)

NFIP Damage Average Claims: $38,967.68
(Jan. 1, 1978 to Jan. 31, 2018)

Flood Related Federal Disaster Declarations: 33
(Jan. 1, 1978 to Jan. 31, 2018)
And it’s not just numbers…
It’s getting to work
It's playing outside
It’s our culture
It’s home
What is the future that we want?
There is no silver bullet
What we heard
A resilient future is…

• Managed
• Funded
• Transparent
• Equitable and Just
• Green
We need...

- Clear leadership across jurisdictions
- Codification of resilience
- Funding, prioritizing environmental justice & natural resilience
- Just process
- Safe & quality affordable housing choices
- Quality green & blue jobs
- Consistent communication
Thank you!

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