

**NYC DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
BUREAU OF ENGINEERING DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION
CROTON FACILITY MONITORING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

THURSDAY, JUNE 19, 2008 – 7:00PM

The Croton Facility Monitoring Committee met on Thursday, June 19, 2008 at the Amalgamated Housing Corp's Vladeck Hall, 74 Van Cortlandt Park South, Bronx, NY 10463. Attendees, including CFMC representatives, elected officials and their representatives, staff from DEP, its construction manager, design engineer, and members of the public, are listed on the attached sheet. (*Attachment 1*) Some persons did not sign.

Welcome

Greg Faulkner, Chair of Community Board #7 and of the CFMC, called the meeting to order at approximately 7:15 PM; an agenda (*Attachment 2*) was available. In order that the community and CFMC could hear DEP's presentation about upcoming Jerome Park Reservoir construction work and the presentation about public access at JPR ahead of public comments, the public session followed the presentations.

Jobs Report

Faisal Choudhury, Parks Department's Director of Croton Projects, provided an update of 16 completed, 15 current, and numerous upcoming projects (14 in bidding, 29 in design) that are funded by DEP Croton money. The projects' cost and workers were shown. Mr. Choudhury's presentation is *Attachment 3*.

Nicole Torres, DEP Bureau of Communications & Intergovernmental Affairs, reported on Bronx jobs and outreach activities since the last CFMC meeting. Ms. Torres' handout is *Attachment 4*. Wilhelm Ronda, Borough President's Representative, asked for the total number of Bronx jobs and purchases from Bronx vendors generated by the project since its commencement. Vanessa Gibson, representing Skanska/Tully JV, said that about 40% of Skanska's CRO 312G purchases have been made using either Bronx subcontractors or purchases from Bronx vendors since the contract commenced. Ms. Gibson stated that, of the 70 workers from the Bronx, about 40% had come from DEP's Community Office. Mr. Faulkner said that additional programs are needed from DEP, its contractors and the Parks Department because over 1100 people have applied to DEP to work at Croton and few have gotten jobs. Mr. Faulkner said he thought a planning meeting among the agencies and contractors was necessary to advance the increasing of the number of local hires. DEP Deputy Commissioner Anne Canty agreed with the suggestion.

Jerome Park Reservoir Construction Presentation

Paul Smith, Design Director, DEP's Bureau of Engineering Design and Construction, made a presentation about construction work under several different construction contracts that are underway or planned for JPR. (See *Attachment 5*) Mr. Smith showed

various existing and future DEP facilities at the reservoir and explained the tunnel and shaft connections between the Croton Filter Plant, the New Croton Aqueduct and the city's water distribution system.

Following the presentation, Father Richard Gorman, Chair of Community Board #12, said that while he appreciated having the presentation in advance, he had questions and comments. He questioned how DEP determined that blasting would take less time than hoe ramming. He said that since blasting wasn't studied in the FEIS, DEP was likely precluded from blasting. Mr. Smith explained that the plan for controlled blasting instead of using a hoe ram was a result of his agency's extensive construction experience with blasting, and that the EIS studied and described the most conservative construction method which was mechanical means. Fr. Gorman said that if blasting were the better method, it should have been proposed earlier.

Damian McShane, Chair of Community Board #8, asked if blasting will save time, whether the work is part of the project's critical path, and/or if other activities at JPR will take longer than have been projected. Mr. Smith said that for this project the critical path relates to the treatment plant in VCP and not to the off-site facilities at JPR.

Mr. Faulkner and Fr. Gorman expressed concern about transporting equipment, rock and soil debris through residential streets, and the trucking of explosives. There was a discussion about the length of time explosives would be on-site and the jurisdictional role of the FDNY in overseeing controlled blasting. Fr. Gorman said that if something were to go wrong with the hoe ram, little or no damage would result; yet if there were to be a blasting accident, significant impacts could result.

Discussion about JPR – Public Access

Anne Marie Garti, President JP Conservancy, distributed several documents and exhibits about the JPR. (See *Attachments 6 – 10*). She described the history of JPR and its landmark/preservation status at federal, state and local levels. She described the good relationship between DEP and JP Conservancy until the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. Subsequently, DEP Police have prevented unauthorized access to JPR. Ms. Garti explained the various protective measures to safeguard the water supply overall, and said JP Conservancy wants to work with DEP to establish access similar to that which upstate watersheds allow.

In response, DEP Deputy Commissioner Anne Canty said she met with DEP Commissioner Emily Lloyd about the issue. The Commissioner will appoint an internal working group that will review, study and make recommendations about JPR access. While the CFMC and other agencies or officials will not have a representative or participate on the working group, the CFMC will be updated as to the work, and at intervals the information will be shared with the public as it is completed.

Fr. Gorman said the internal group composition is not acceptable. He asked the CFMC to write to Commissioner Lloyd to request that the three community boards be members of

the working group. Fr. Gorman asked Ms. Canty if the working group tasks are related to DEP's plan to blast at JPR. Ms. Canty said that they are not. Ms. Canty added that since many aspects of the working group's charge will be security-related, outside representatives will not be permitted; however, stakeholders such as Ms. Garti and Karen Argenti will be requested to meet with the working group or its staff to present their views. A discussion followed regarding the working group and its membership.

Fr. Gorman made a motion, seconded by Mr. McShane, to write to Commissioner Lloyd asking that a representative of the three Community Boards serve on the JPR public access working group. The motion was adopted 6-0-1 with DEP abstaining.

Meeting Minutes

Mr. Faulkner referred to the meeting minutes of April 17 and asked for comments on or approval of the minutes. Fr Gorman said a correction to the minutes was warranted. He said that, in addition to a presentation by JP Conservancy, he expected Karen Argenti to have 10 minutes to present her views about access to JPR. The April meeting minutes and the agenda do not reflect this. Mr. Faulkner said that Fr. Gorman's objections and comments would appear in the June 19th meeting minutes. The minutes were adopted 6-0-1 with Fr. Gorman abstaining.

Public Session

The following speakers commented:

Bob Bender, CB #8 Parks Committee chair, said he fully supports Ms. Garti's position and urged DEP to arrange public access to JPR.

Assembly Member Jeffrey Dinowitz said that he opposes blasting at JPR and, if blasting was under consideration, DEP should have disclosed it sooner. He said that problems related to trucking, noise and other impacts need to have a supplemental EIS or there will be a lawsuit.

Jane Sokolow said the substantial change in construction needs a new SEIS produced because previous documents do not mention trucking from JPR and also because the revised shaft and meter chamber are larger than in the EIS. She referred to additional park alienation and delays at JPR. Her written submission is *Attachment 11*.

Lynn Schwarz, FIPNA, said that the work at JPR must be explained in greater detail, including a plan for contacting the community. The issues of dust from trucks, traffic congestion, access on Goulden Avenue for school buses and residential parking on Goulden Avenue, night work impacts, rodent control and noise, as well as blasting, are of great concern.

Phil McDonnell, FIPNA, asked that the CFMC and DEP provide to the public the studies that demonstrate that blasting is a better construction alternative than hoe ramming.

Ms. Argenti, FIPNA & Friends of Jerome Park, offered written JPR access information for the record. She submitted background information about an outdoor urban ecology lab for the community at JPR. The first document consists of the EIS pages that show no trucks will traverse the community in or out of JPR. She asked DEP to voluntarily provide information that shows blasting will cost less than hoe ramming or she will submit a FOIL for the information. She said that DEP should pursue membrane filtration which is cheaper and has a smaller footprint, and that the public insists that a new SEIS be prepared for the JPR work. (*Attachments 12 – 13*)

Ezra Glaser, Amalgamated Housing Corp. resident, said in 1995 DEP blasted for the dividing wall in the JPR Basin, causing window damage and noise in the community. He said DEP changes its position, adding that the current plan to blast is illegal.

Al Chapman, Kingsbridge Heights NIA, said his neighbors want access to JPR. He opposes blasting.

Mr. Faulkner asked DEP whether JPR blasting was discussed at the EIS scoping meeting. Mark Page, Jr., DEP's Bureau of Environmental Planning and Analysis, said he did not believe that it was. Ms. Garti interjected that blasting was discussed as part of VCP scoping but the JPR discussions were separate and blasting was not mentioned at the JPR scoping meeting.

Nancy Boyle, Amalgamated Housing Corp., repeated concerns about safety of blasting at JPR.

Dart Westphal, BCEQ, said that DEP should listen to the community. He said that the filter plant is too large and although the parks improvements are a welcome and excellent addition, highways and gas stations in VCP should be eliminated.

Dr. Persico, Sedgwick Ave. resident and CUNY lecturer, said asthma is increasing in the area and night construction would be disruptive. Funds should be provided for education, not for parks.

Richard Mann, Park Reservoir Housing Corp. Board Member, said it was lamentable not to have access to JPR. He urged DEP and area stakeholders to negotiate successfully for access and, once a decision is reached, all parties should stick to the decision.

Frank Schonfeld, spoke about the importance of investigating the web page at <http://suicideorsurvival.blogspot.com>. He supports access to JPR.

Andrew Russakoff, Sedgwick Ave resident, echoed what was said by others.

Marian Feinberg, For a Better Bronx, said the meeting was 'a disgrace to democracy'. She spoke about chlorine at JPR and opposes blasting.

Suzanne Axelbank, Sedgwick Ave. resident, said the demonstration of blasting and hoe ramming as part of the DEP presentation was skewed to favor blasting. She added that since there are so many schools in the area, there is no good time to do construction work.

Assembly Member Dinowitz added that a health evaluation is needed to assess the effects of particulates from construction activity, whether hoe ramming or explosives are used.

CFMC Discussion

Parks Borough Commissioner Hector Aponte said that, in the future, questions from the public should be in writing and handed in for the record. He recommended that future meetings be tape recorded. The CFMC agreed with tape recording future meetings.

Mr. Faulkner said CB #7 would soon hold a public meeting on controlled blasting at JPR. He invited CBs #8 and 12 to co-chair the meeting with him. He urged a transparent process and the need to allay fears about upcoming JPR construction. In the meantime, he said, CB #7 will review the EIS and scoping documents. Fr. Gorman agreed that a single public meeting should be convened among the three community boards, with elected officials participating. He added that the CBs should listen to the public and then put the matter of blasting to a vote to express the community's opinion about the alternatives of hoe ramming and controlled blasting. [Note: Community Boards 7, 8, and 12 held its public meeting on July 15th at Lehman College.]

Ms. Canty said she would investigate any time restraints regarding a construction decision and will inform the CFMC.

Fr. Gorman said DEP should delay a decision about construction methods until the community boards hold the public meeting and give their opinion. With Fr. Gorman making the motion and Mr. McShane seconding it, the motion to reserve decision until after a public meeting was held was adopted; DEP abstained.

Mr. Faulkner said the next CFMC meeting will take place on September 18th unless there is a need to meet sooner. The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 9:30 PM.

6/19/2008

NYC DEP - CROTON FMC

Attachment 1

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization / Company</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Fax</u>	<u>E-Mail</u>
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Suzanne Axelbank	Park Reservoir	3845 Sedgwick Avenue Bronx NY	(718) 543-8696		
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AGENDA

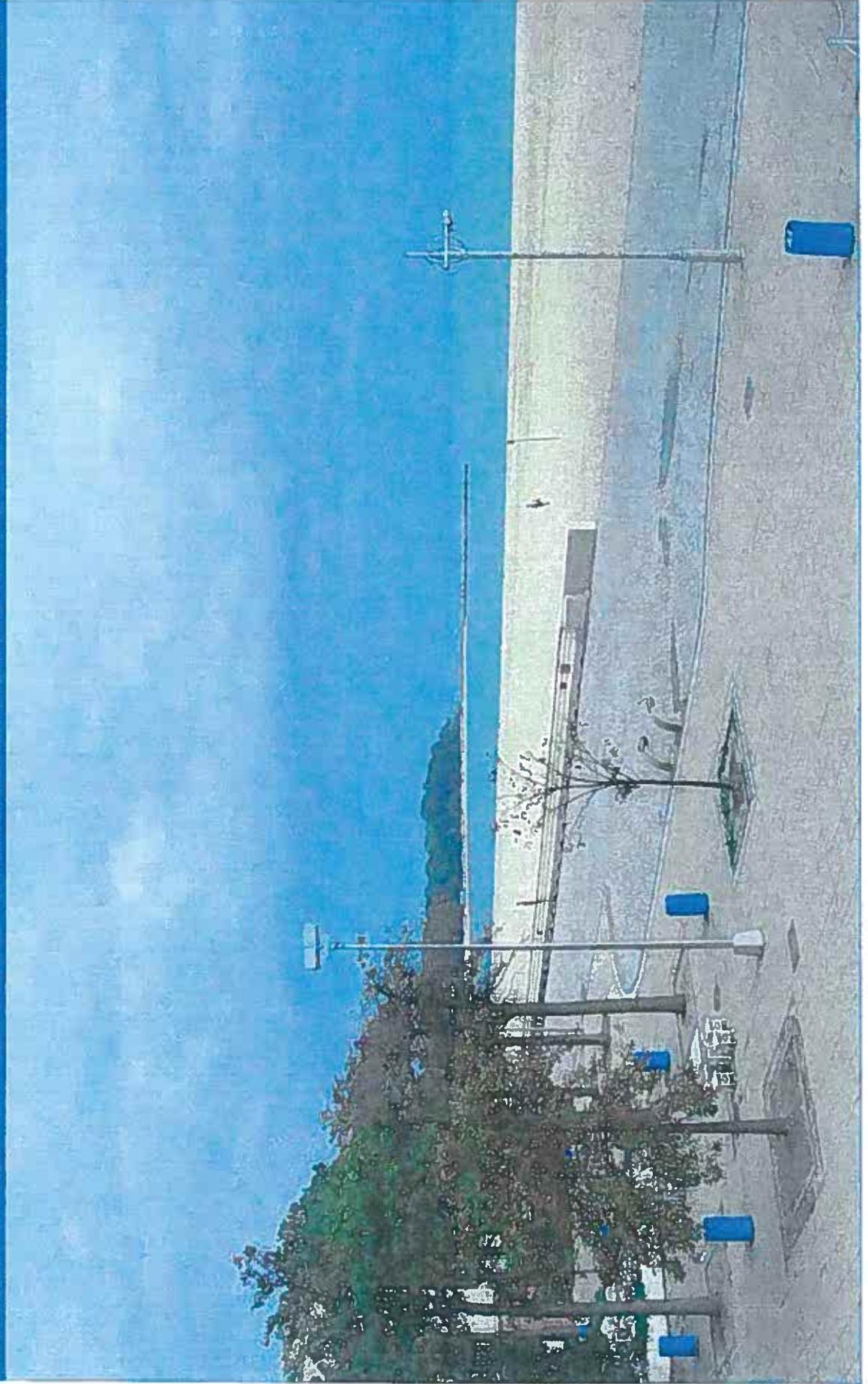
Croton Facility Monitoring Committee Meeting

Thursday, June 19, 2008 – 7:00 PM

Amalgamated Housing Corporation's Vladeck Hall – 74 Van Cortlandt Park South
Bronx NY 10463 - (718) 796-9300

- | | | |
|---|---------------------|--------------------------------|
| I. Welcome | <i>(1 minute)</i> | Greg Faulkner |
| II. Consider, Adopt Minutes
of April CFMC Meeting | <i>(5 minutes)</i> | CFMC Principals |
| III. DEP Report on Jobs and
Training | <i>(5 minutes)</i> | Nicole Torres, DEP |
| IV. Parks Report on Jobs | <i>(5 minutes)</i> | Dept of Parks and Recreation |
| V. Presentation about Upcoming Work at
Jerome Park | <i>(25 minutes)</i> | Paul Smith, BEDC, DEP |
| VI. Public Access at JPR | <i>(15 minutes)</i> | Jerome Park Conservancy & DEP |
| VII. Public Comments | <i>(45 minutes)</i> | Members of the Public and CFMC |
| VIII. CFMC Discussion and
Set Next Meeting | <i>(15 minutes)</i> | CFMC |
| IX. Adjourn | | |

THE CROTON PROGRAM

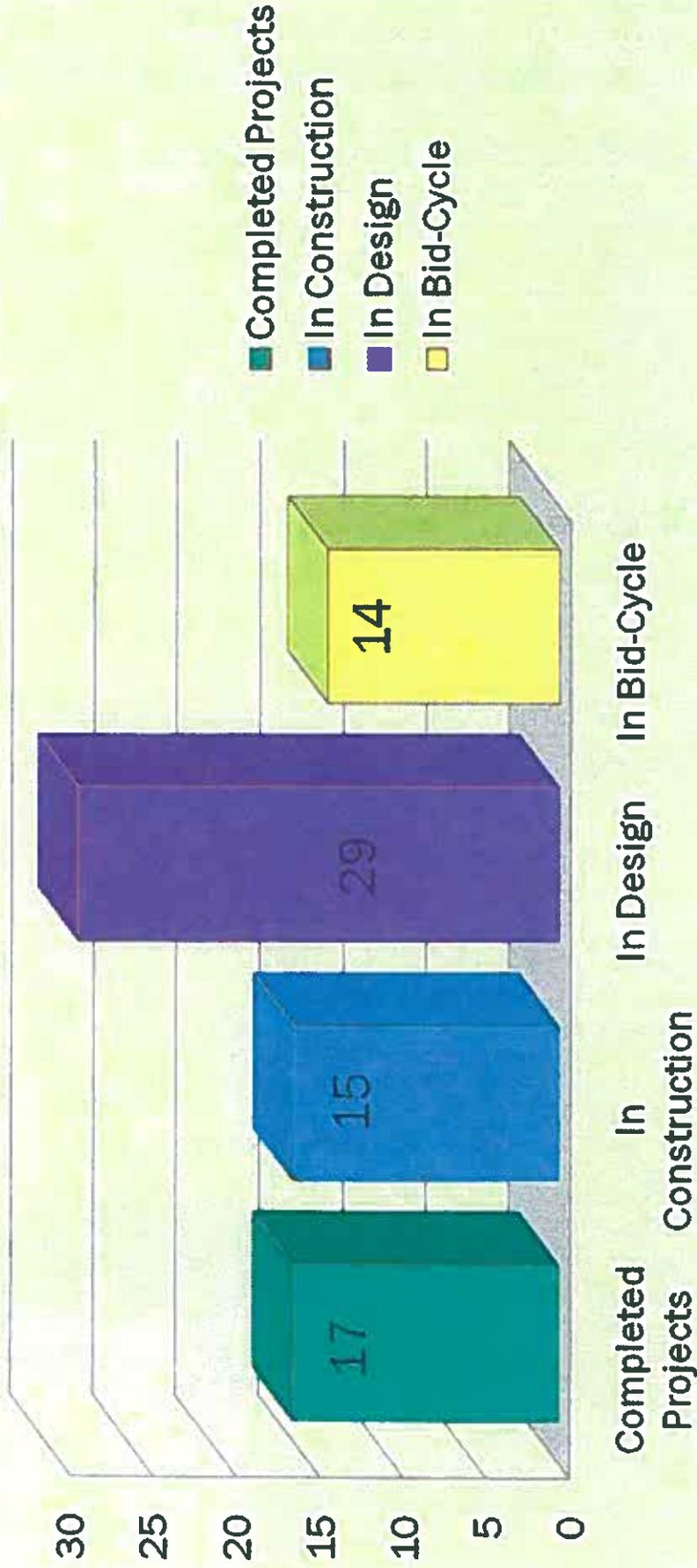


THE CROTON PROGRAM CROTON PROJECTS

OVERVIEW:

To summarize the biweekly report for the Croton Projects, we have completed seventeen (17) construction projects totaling **\$24,267,852** and fifteen (15) more projects totaling **\$49,869,044** currently in construction.

There are forty-three (43) projects currently in design totaling **\$125,499,730**, fourteen (14) of which are in the bid-cycle .



COMPLETED PROJECTS

IN-CONSTRUCTION

Grant Park Phase 2

Haffen Park

Drew Park Phase 1

Pelham Bay Park Perimeter

St. James Park Phase 2

Pelham Bay Park Tennis Courts & Parking lot

Pelham Bay Park Picnic Areas

Sachkerah Woods Playground

Webster Playground

River Park

Ambrosini Playground

Manida Ballfields

Devoe Park

Seton Falls

Mullaly Park North

Mt. Hope Playground

Bronx Skate Park

Story Playground

Clark Playground

Aqueduct Lands Play

*Bridge Park

Ballfield Bundle (4)

(1)Solomine "Trojan" Ballfields, (2)Soundview Park, (3)Bronx Park Soccer

Field/ Skate Park, (4)VCP Allen Shandler

Recreation Ballfields

Williamsbridge Oval (Track) --Phase 1

Melrose Playground

Harris Park Ballfields

Crotona Park Indian Lake

Drew Park Phase 2

St. James Park Phase 3

St. James Park Phase 4

Edenwald Playground

Mullaly Park South

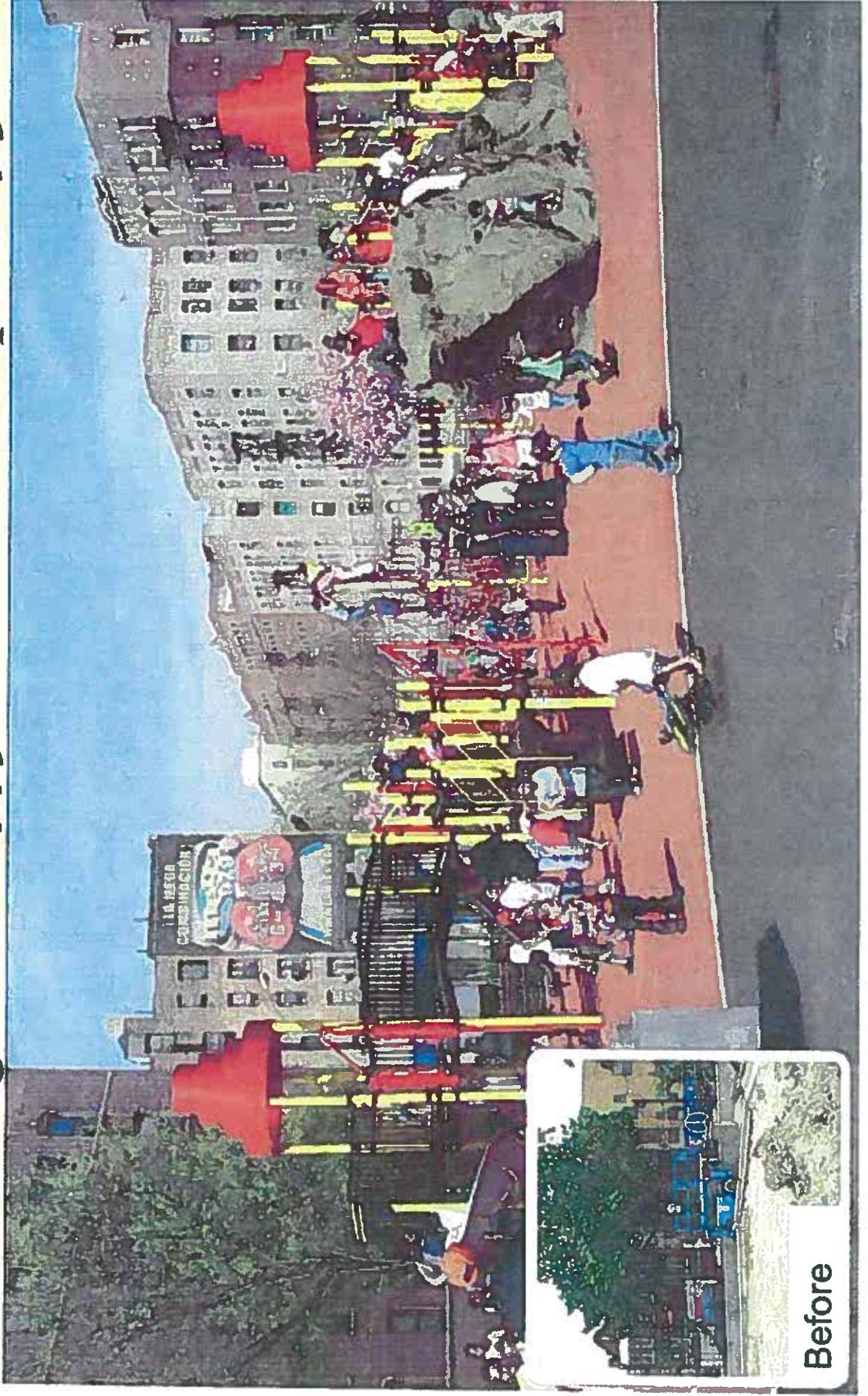
Pugsley Creek Greenway

CROTON PROJECTS “BEFORE & AFTER”

DEVOE PARK

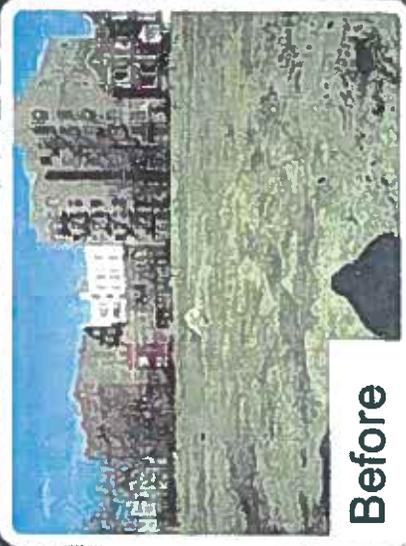
Total Budget \$2,814,790

Accepted 4/3/08



MANIDA BALLFIELD

Total Budget \$1,357,395 Accepted 5/23/08



Before

Total Budget HOPE PLAYGROUND

\$1,809,860

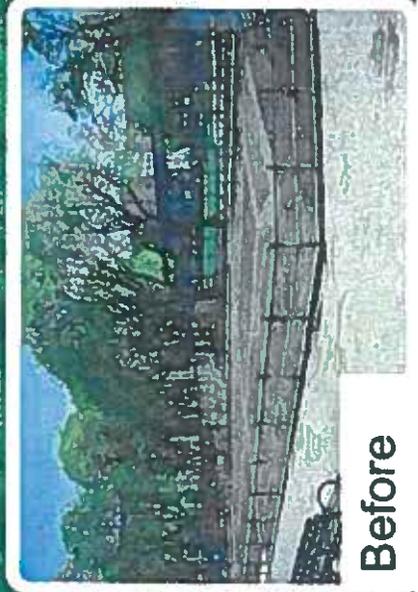
Accepted 6/19/08



MULLALLY PARK NORTH

Total Budget \$1,357,395

Accepted 5/23/08

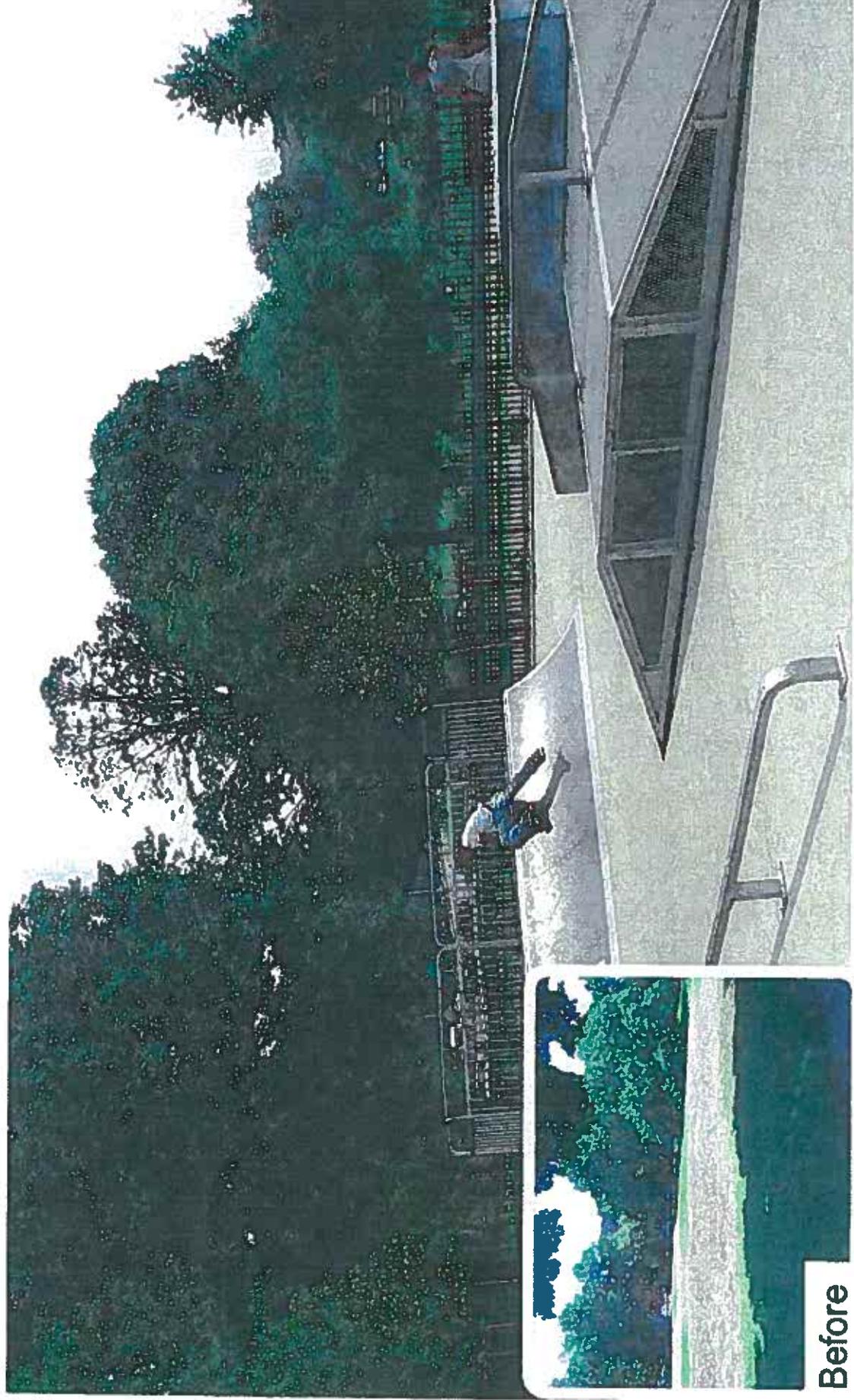


Before

BRONX SKATE PARK EAST

Total Budget \$1,357,395

Accepted 5/23/08

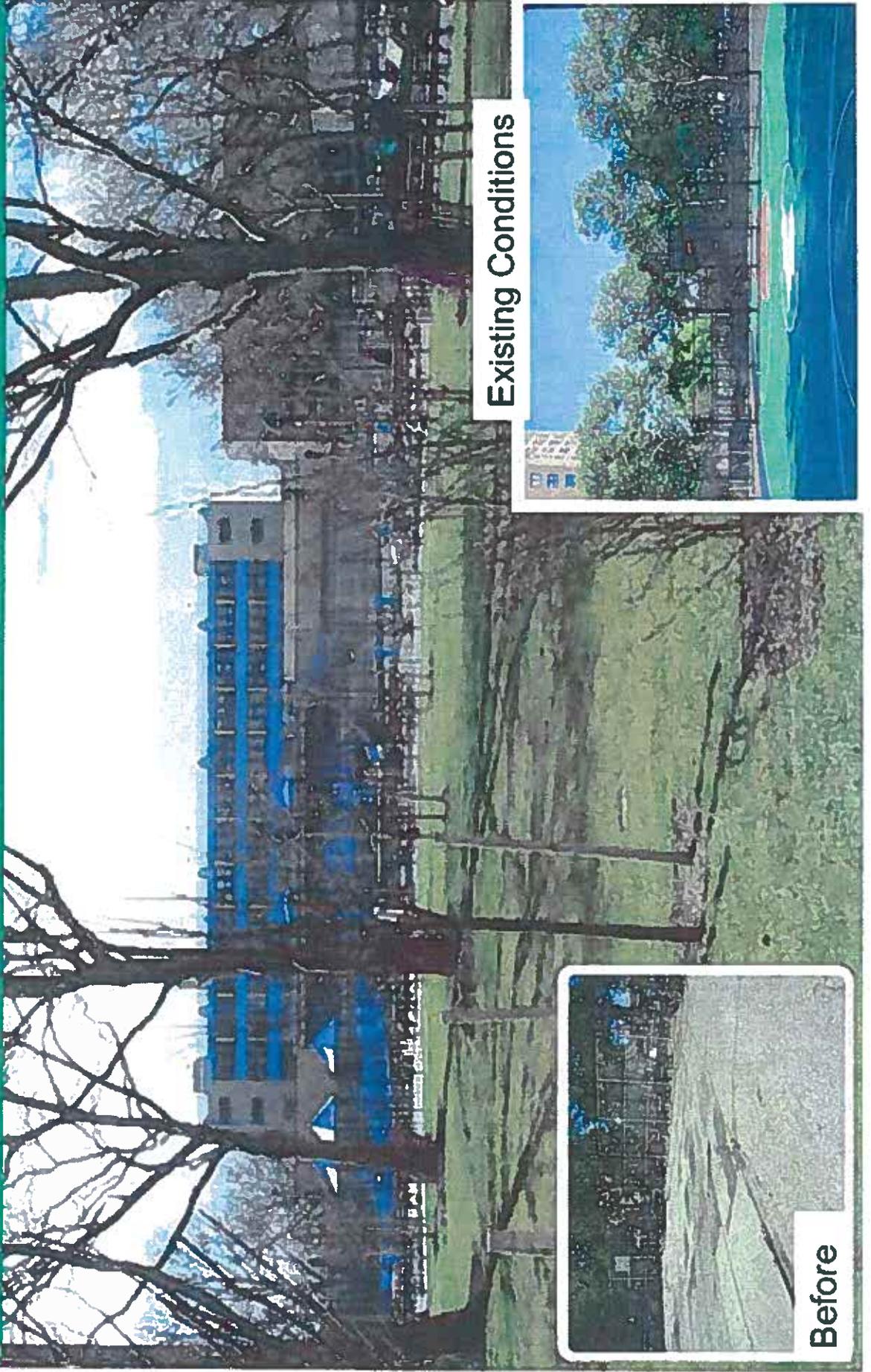


Before

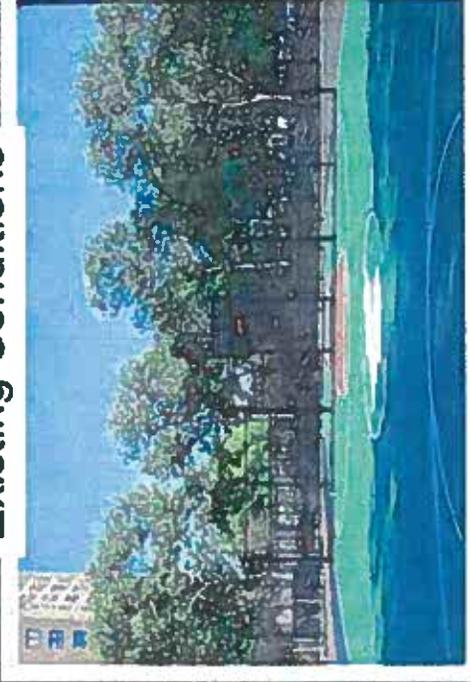
CROTON PROJECTS “IN-CONSTRUCTION”

STORY PLAYGROUND

Total Budget \$5,795,989



Existing Conditions



Before

CLARK PLAYGROUND

Total Budget \$1,357,395



Existing Conditions

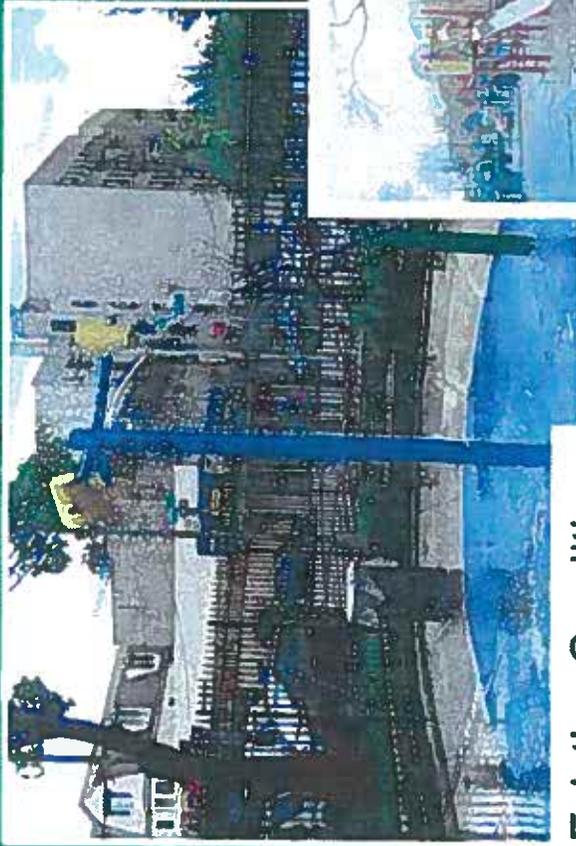


Before



AQUEDUCT LANDS PLGD.

Total Budget \$ 1,809,860



Existing Conditions

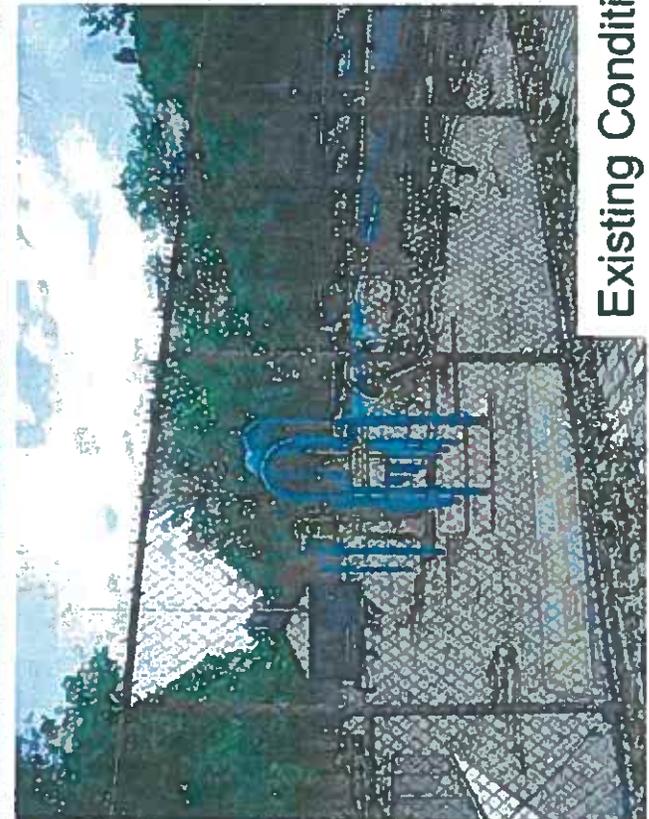


Before



EDENWALD PLAYGROUND

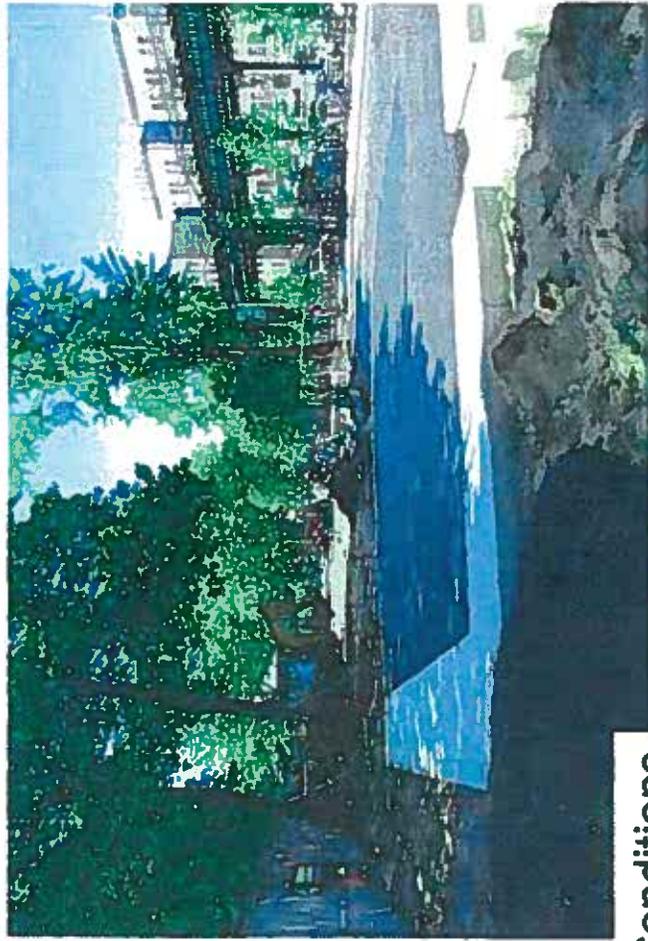
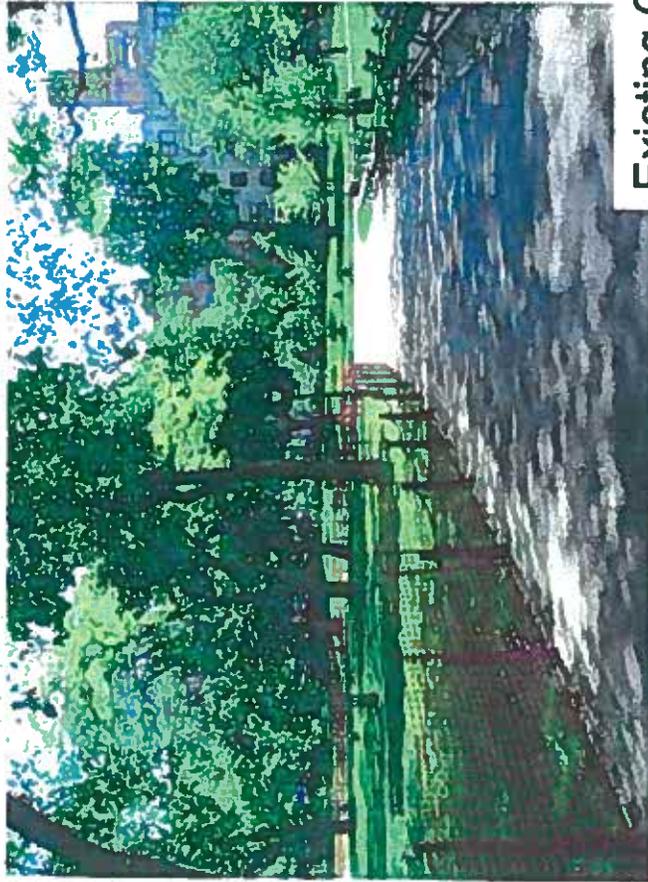
Total Budget \$1,809,860



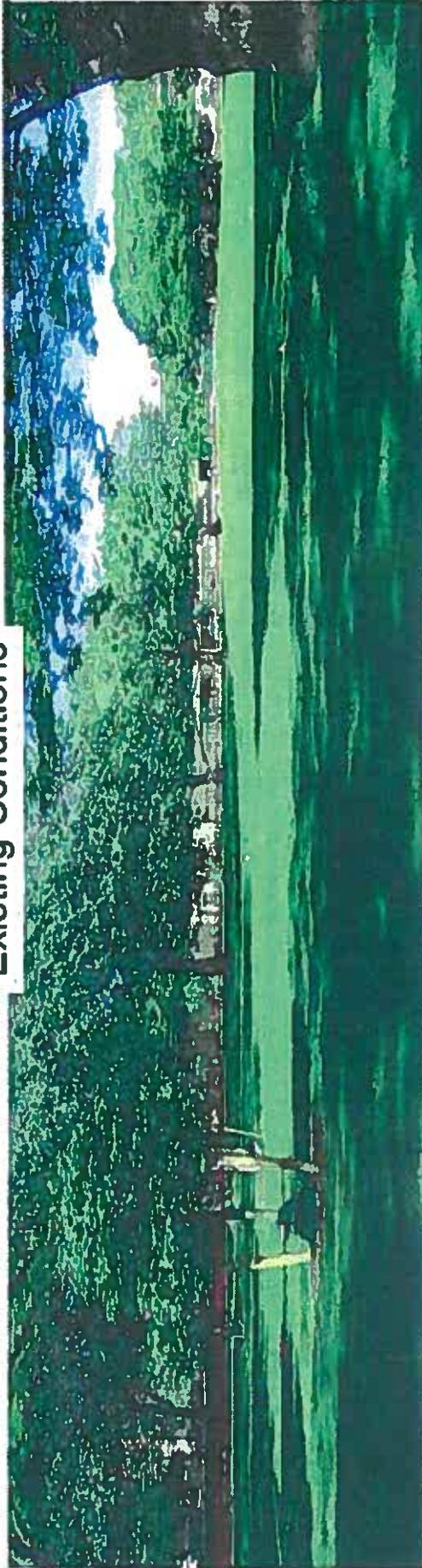
Existing Conditions

ST. JAMES PARK

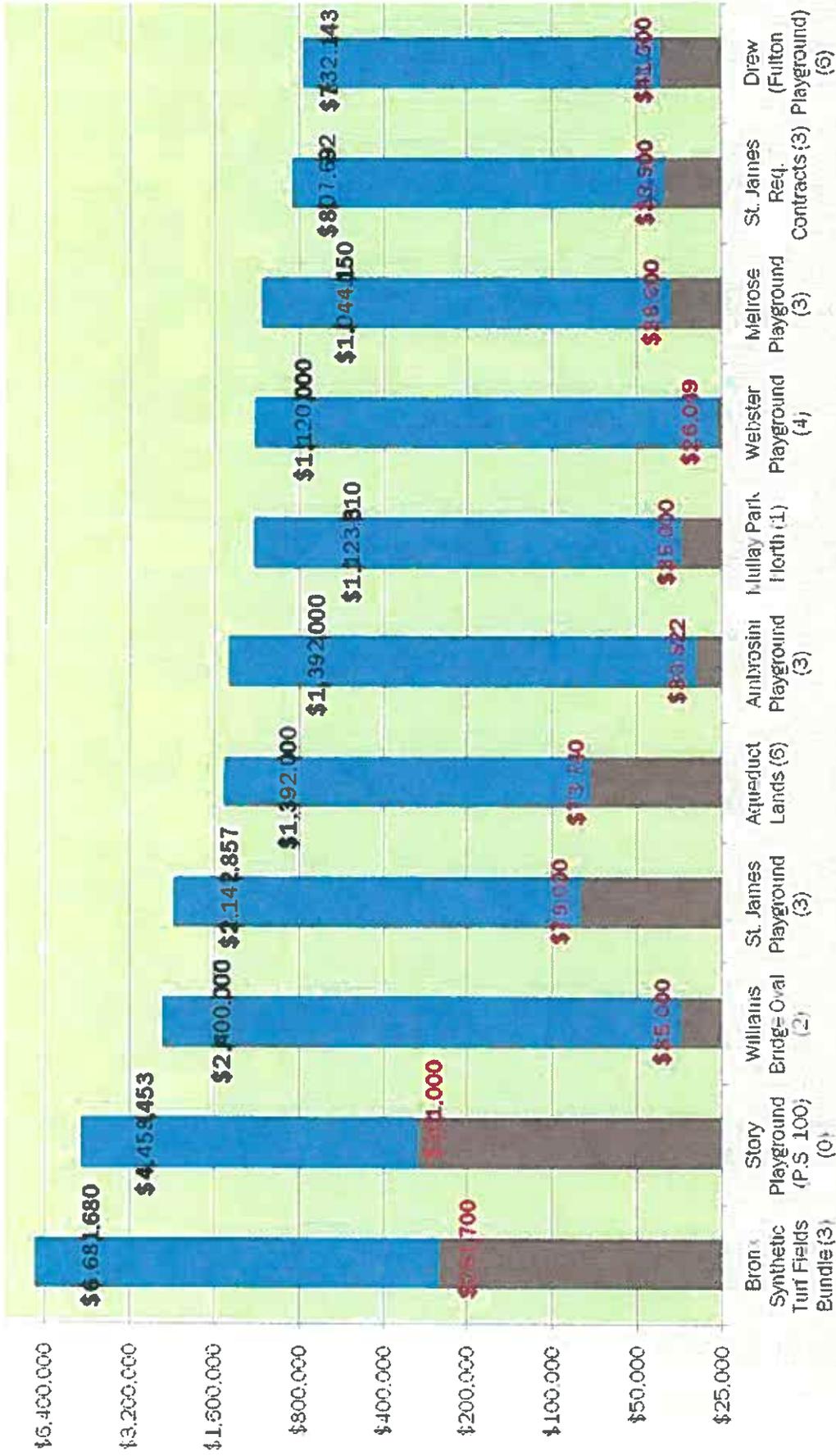
Total Budget \$3,000,000



Existing Conditions



OUTREACH EFFORTS



■ Construction Budget
■ Obligated for Bronx

Project Name and # of Employees

Croton Filtration Plant
DEP Update on Bronx-based Hiring and Purchasing
Presented to the Croton Filtration Monitoring Committee
June 19, 2008

Last FMC Meeting (March 2008)

- Bronx Labor – 53 workers, or 21%, on site
- Bronx Purchasing – \$67.3 million
- Croton Community Outreach Office Applicants – 1,200 (250 union, 950 non-union)

May 2008

- Bronx Labor – 70 workers, or 20%, on site (40% of Bronx Labor from Croton Community Outreach Office)

Primary Unions: Carpenters, Laborers, Lathers

Administrative Employees: Administrative Assistant, Community Liaison, Document Control Clerk, Office Interns, Payroll Clerk

- Bronx Purchasing – \$67.7 million

Includes: Catering Services, Cleaning Services, Concrete Pouring, Electrical Work, Material Supplies, On-Site Medical Office, On-Site 24 Hour Security, Overhead Coiling Doors, Temporary Parking

- Croton Community Outreach Office Applicants – 1,500 (400 union, 1,100 non-union)

May - June 2008

- Croton outreach staff has been meeting with educational and job training programs individually to enhance partnerships and determine which programs will continue to receive funding.
- Over the next few months, Skanska and the other contractors will meet with DEP and they and DEP will meet with the various unions to accelerate focus on Bronx hiring.

DRAFT

New York City
Department of
Environmental Protection



Croton Water Treatment Plant Upcoming Construction At Jerome Park Reservoir

June 19, 2008



Presentation Outline

- Overview of Croton Work at JPR
- Construction Schedule
- Shaft & Meter Chamber Excavation



Croton Project Overview

Gate House

No. 1

New Croton

Aqueduct

Water

Treatment

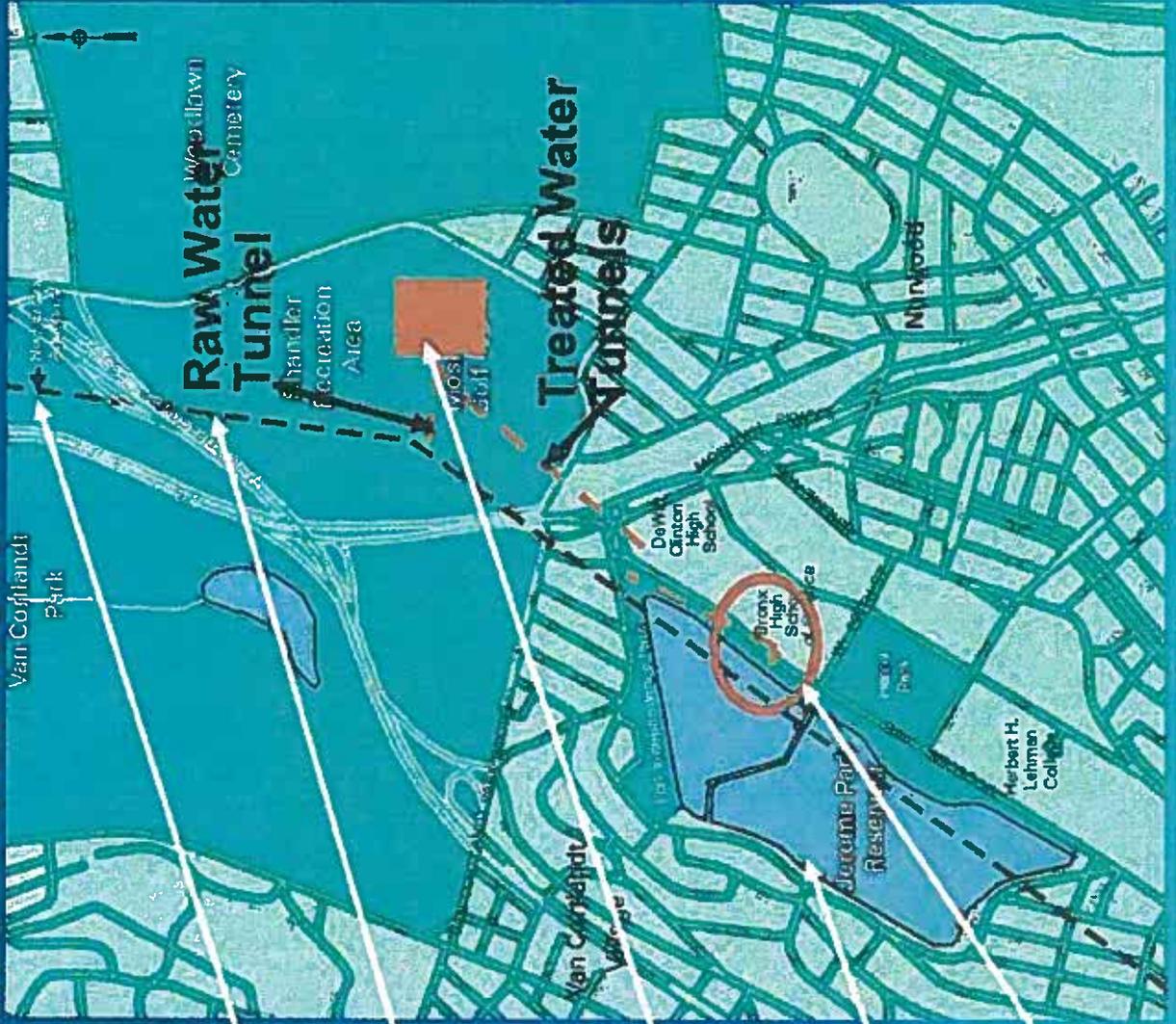
Plant

Jerome Park

Reservoir

(JPR)

Tunnel Shafts



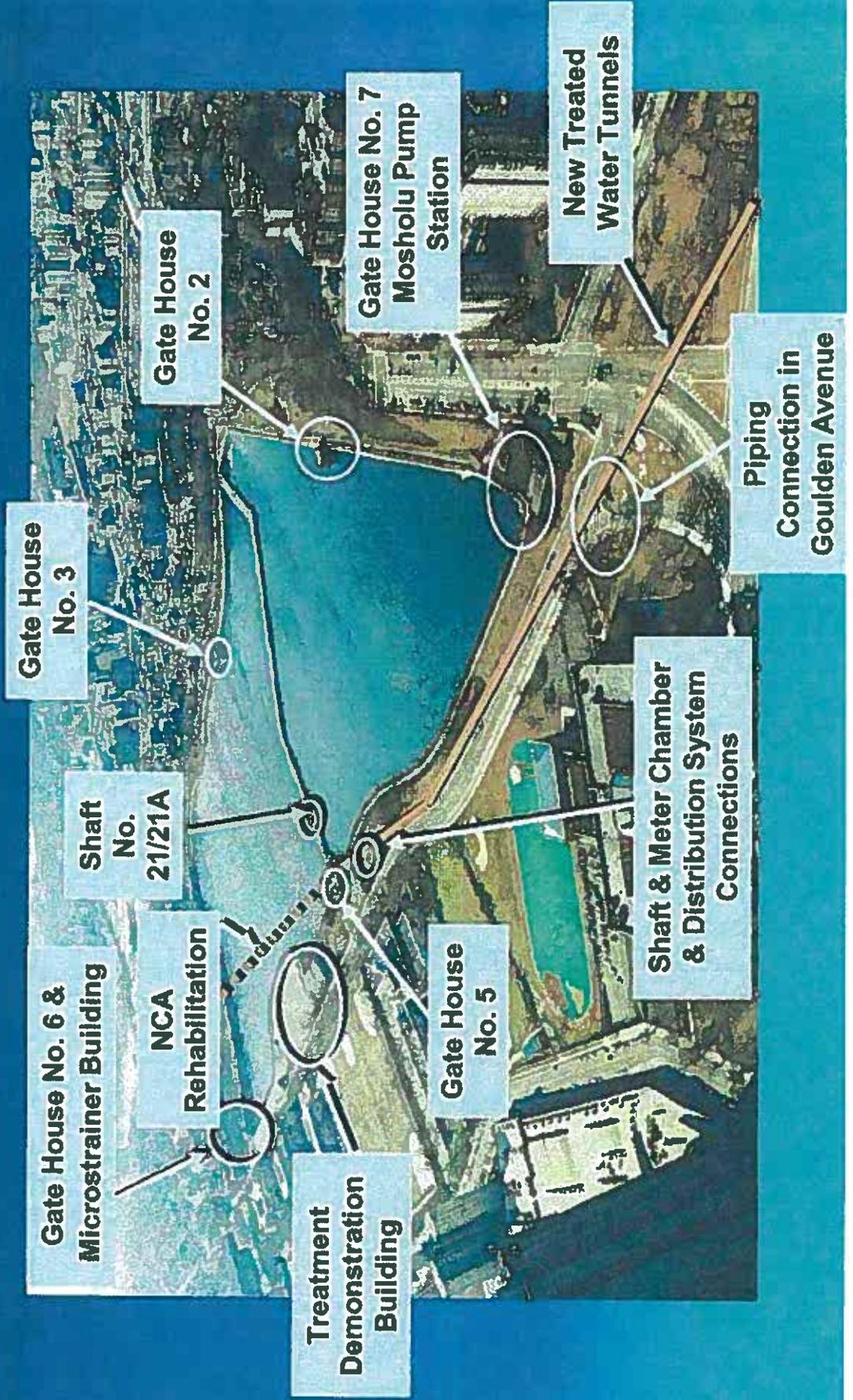


Overview of Upcoming Work at Jerome Park Reservoir

- Work consists of five separate contracts:
 - CRO 313: Connection to the NCA of the treated and raw water tunnels and construction of Shaft 21A
 - CRO 315: Demolition of the Demonstration Building and installation of Chlorine Scrubber at Gate House 5
 - CRO 334: Rehabilitation of NCA
 - CRO 312 OS: Construction of Shaft and Meter Chamber and interior work at Gatehouses
 - CRO 312 G: Removal of temporary Treated Water bulkhead in NCA at JPR



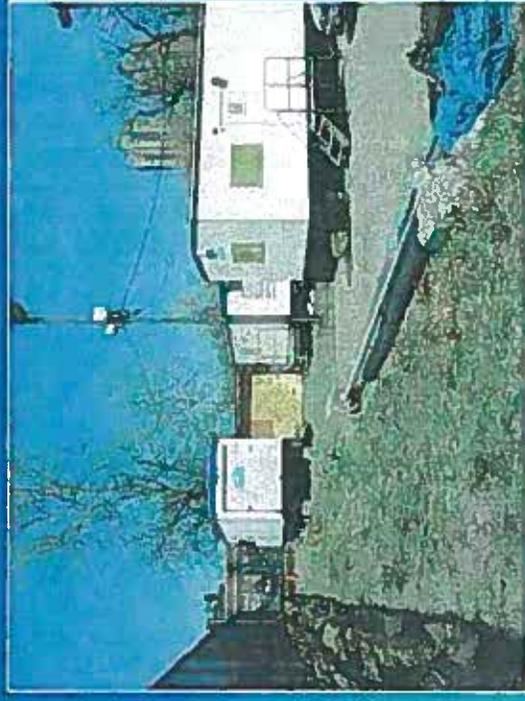
Jerome Park Reservoir Overview





Current Construction Activities – Demolition of Treatment Demonstration Building CRO 315

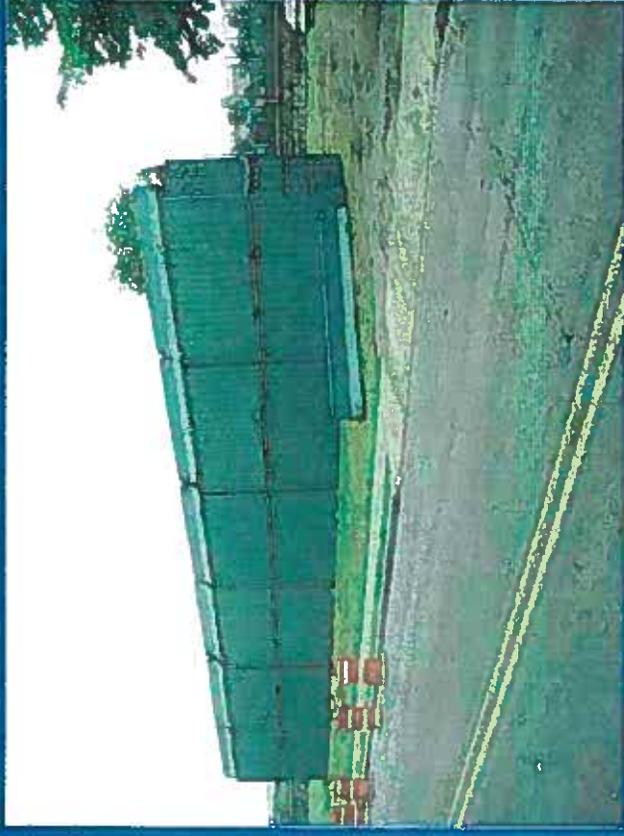
- Asbestos abatement completed
May 14, 2008
- Removal of interior piping,
supports and recyclable
equipment is ongoing
- Demolition of building to be
completed within six months





Current Construction Activity – Raised Bore for New Tunnel Shafts CRO 313

- CRO 313 is ahead of schedule and therefore assisting CRO 312 OS by performing this task, which originally fell under CRO 312 OS
- A critical step in constructing the Shaft that will connect the Meter Chamber to the Treated Water Tunnel
- Installation of Temporary Construction Power
- Raised Bore at Shaft and Meter Chamber
- Installation of Temporary Sound Barrier and Sheeting
- Limited Excavation of Soil and Rock (52 foot x 24 foot area)
- Raised Bore Two Shafts



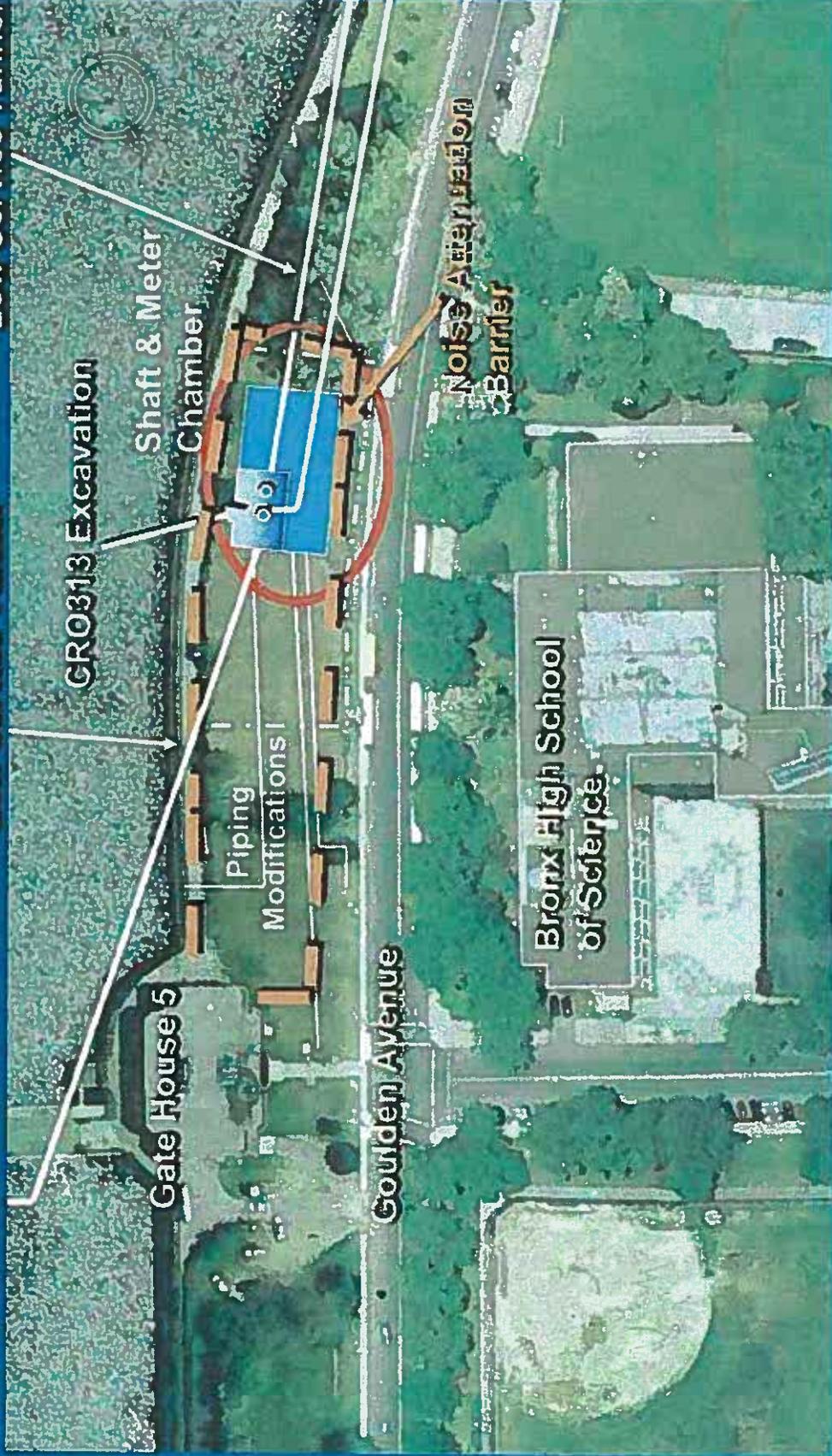
- Construct new Shaft 21A at Reservoir Dividing Wall using Raised Bore



Shaft and Meter Chamber Excavation (CRO 313 and CRO 312 OS)

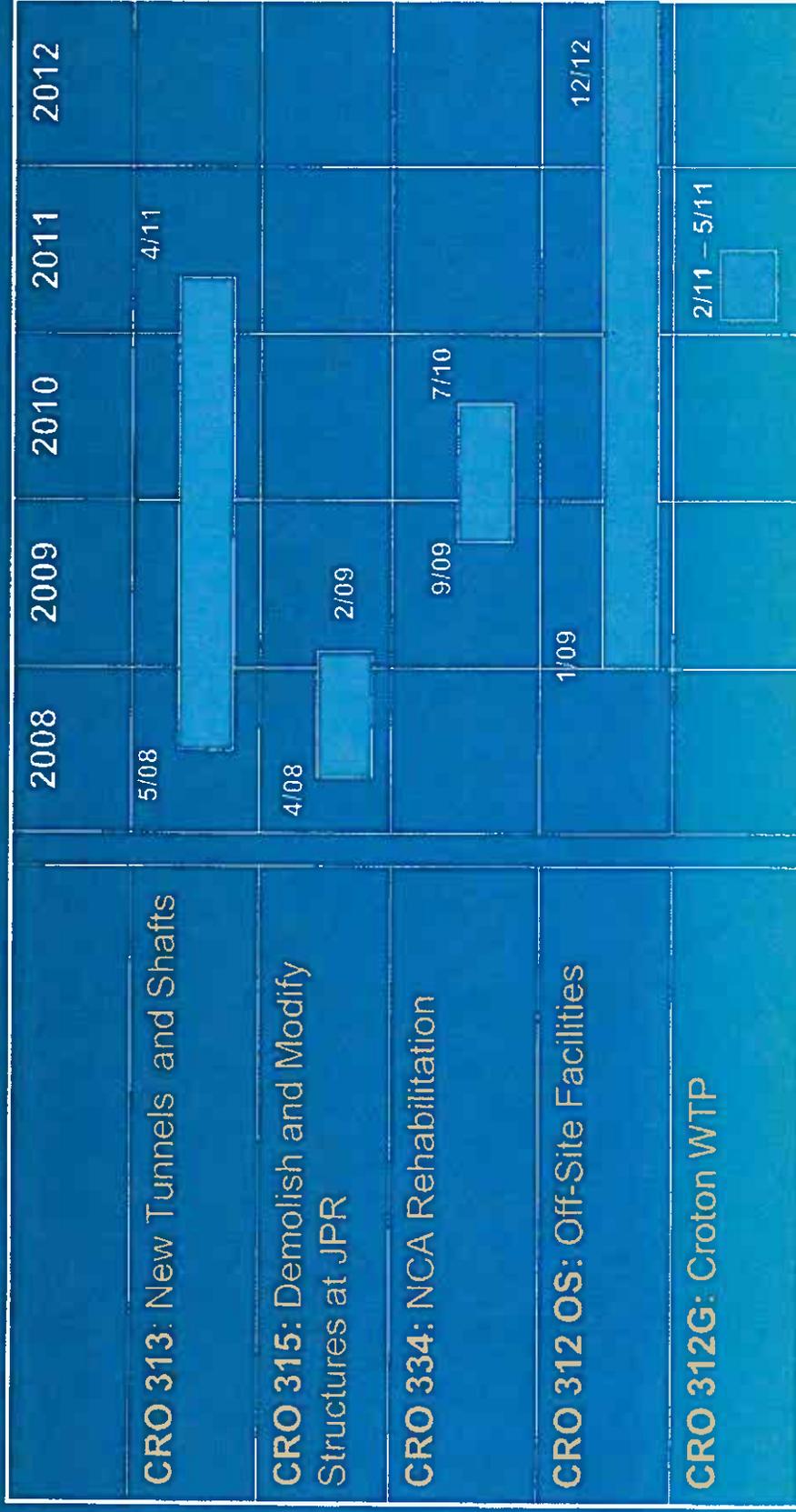
High and
Low Service Tunnel

Low Service Tunnel





Jerome Park Reservoir – Overall Construction Schedule





Actions to Minimize Construction Impact

- Mitigation techniques will be consistent with those used at Mosholu site
- Installation of Sound Attenuation Barrier at Shaft and Meter Chamber
- Dust and Particulate Control
- Emissions Control
 - BAT and ULSD for On-Site Diesel equipment
 - Concrete Trucks to comply with latest EPA Emissions Standards
- Rodent Monitoring and Control
- Cleaning outside the Shaft and Meter Chamber Work Area for neighborhood upkeep
- NYCDOT Approved Truck Routes
- Schedule and logistics



Shaft & Meter Chamber: Rock Removal

Previous Method

- No blasting
- Mechanical removal only
- Extensive use of hoe ram
- 26 week schedule

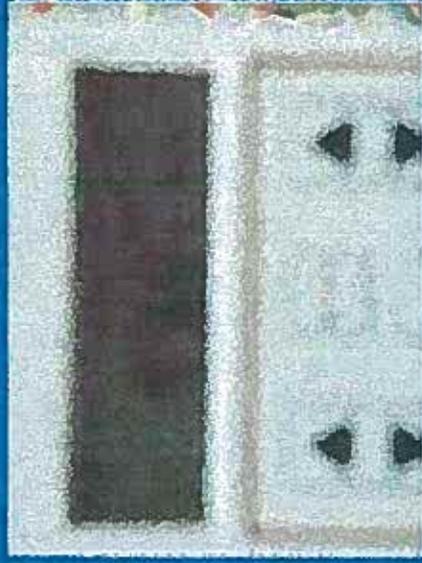
Proposed Method

- Allow blasting
- Shaft & Meter Chamber and Large Diameter Piping
- Reduced use of hoe ram
- 16 week schedule

Total Rock Volume = 9,000 cubic yards.

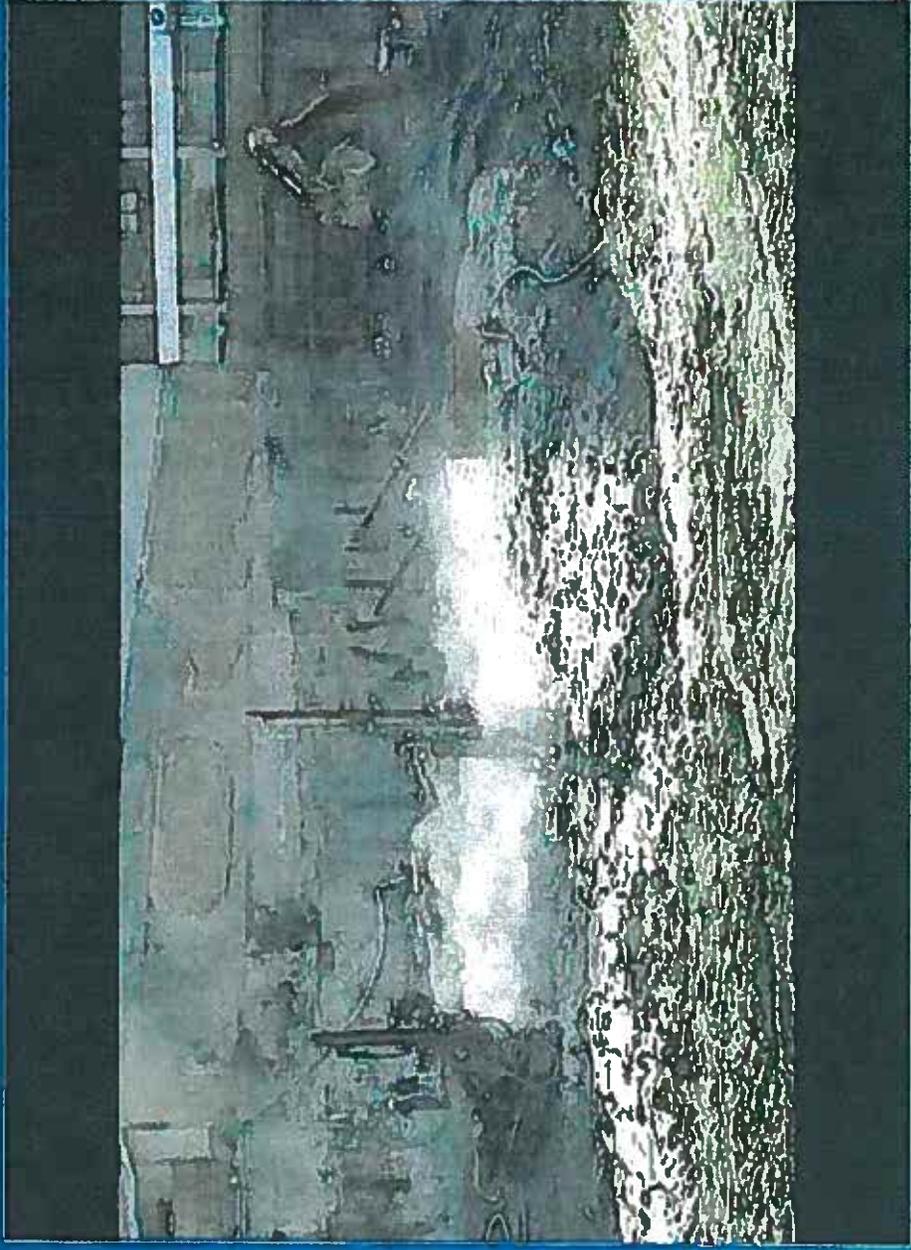


Current Rock Removal - Mechanical Method





Rock Removal- Controlled Blasting





Controlled Blasting Program

- FDNY to review, approve and provide on-site supervision of controlled blasting
- Sound Attenuation Barrier (Shaft and Meter Chamber)
- Limit blasting charge
- Vibration monitoring
- No overnight storage of explosives
- Some mechanical removal may be required



Benefits of Controlled Blasting

- Reduced Noise
- Shortened Construction Schedule
- Reduced Dust