



Gravesend & Bensonhurst NY Rising Community Reconstruction Planning Committee

Meeting #2
July 08, 2014

Agenda

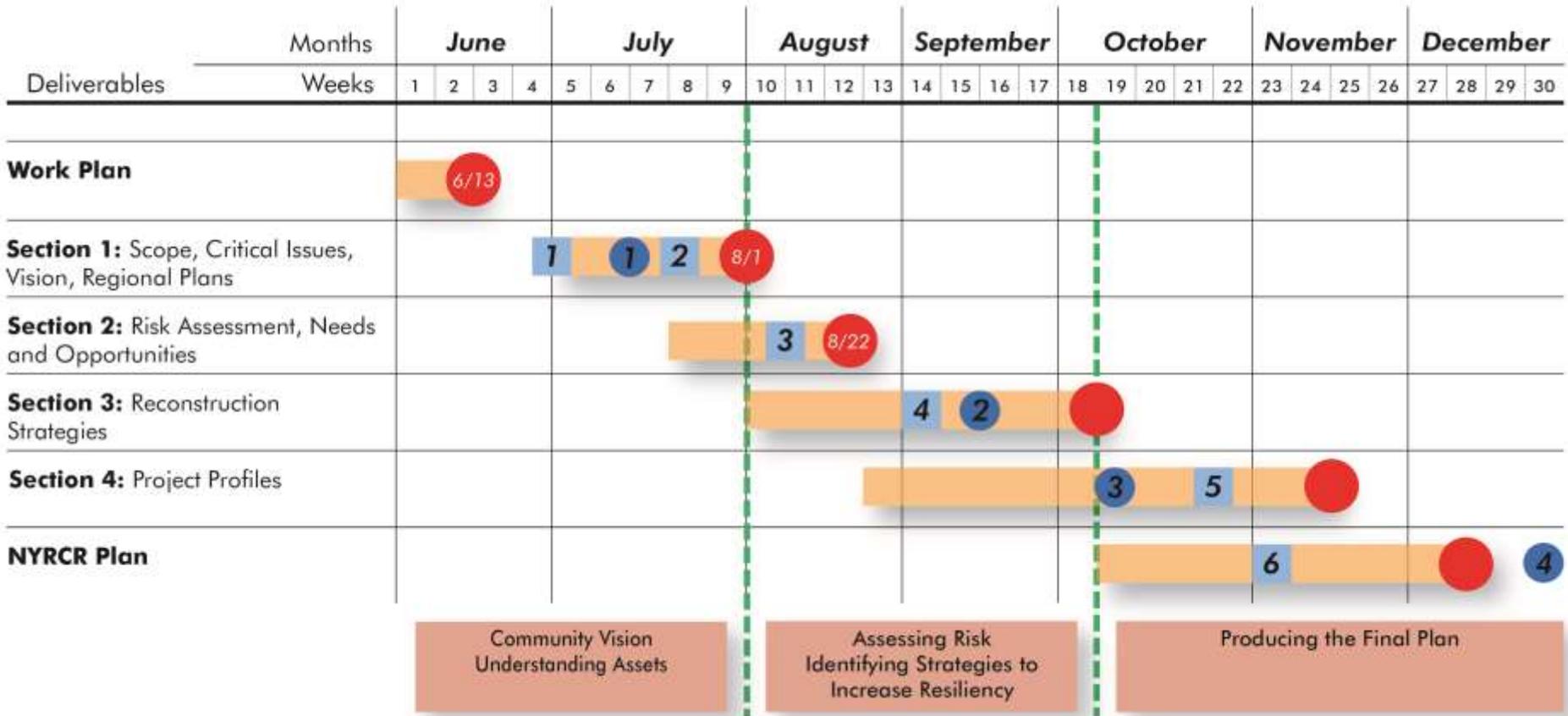
1. **Introduction and Welcome (6:00 pm)**
2. **Schedule and Project Boundary (6:05pm)**
3. **Presentation (6:10 pm)**
 1. What Happened and Why
 2. Future Risk
 3. Ongoing Plans and Project Summary
- Discussion Items**-----
4. **Community Assets and Risks (6:50 pm)**
5. **Vision Questions(7:10 pm)**
6. **Public Outreach Strategy (7:25 pm)**
7. **Next Steps and Q&A (7:45 pm)**
8. **Wrap-up (8:00 pm)**



NY Rising Community Reconstruction Program Schedule

30 week Schedule

- Planning Committee Meeting
- Public Meeting
- Deliverable Due Date



Preparing the NYRCR Plan

Planning Committee Meeting 1

Intro & Listening

Planning Committee Meeting 2

What Happened, Assets, and Vision

TODAY

Public Engagement Event 1

Vision, Needs and Opportunities

Sunday, July 20, 2014

Planning Committee Meeting 3

Needs & Opportunities

TBD

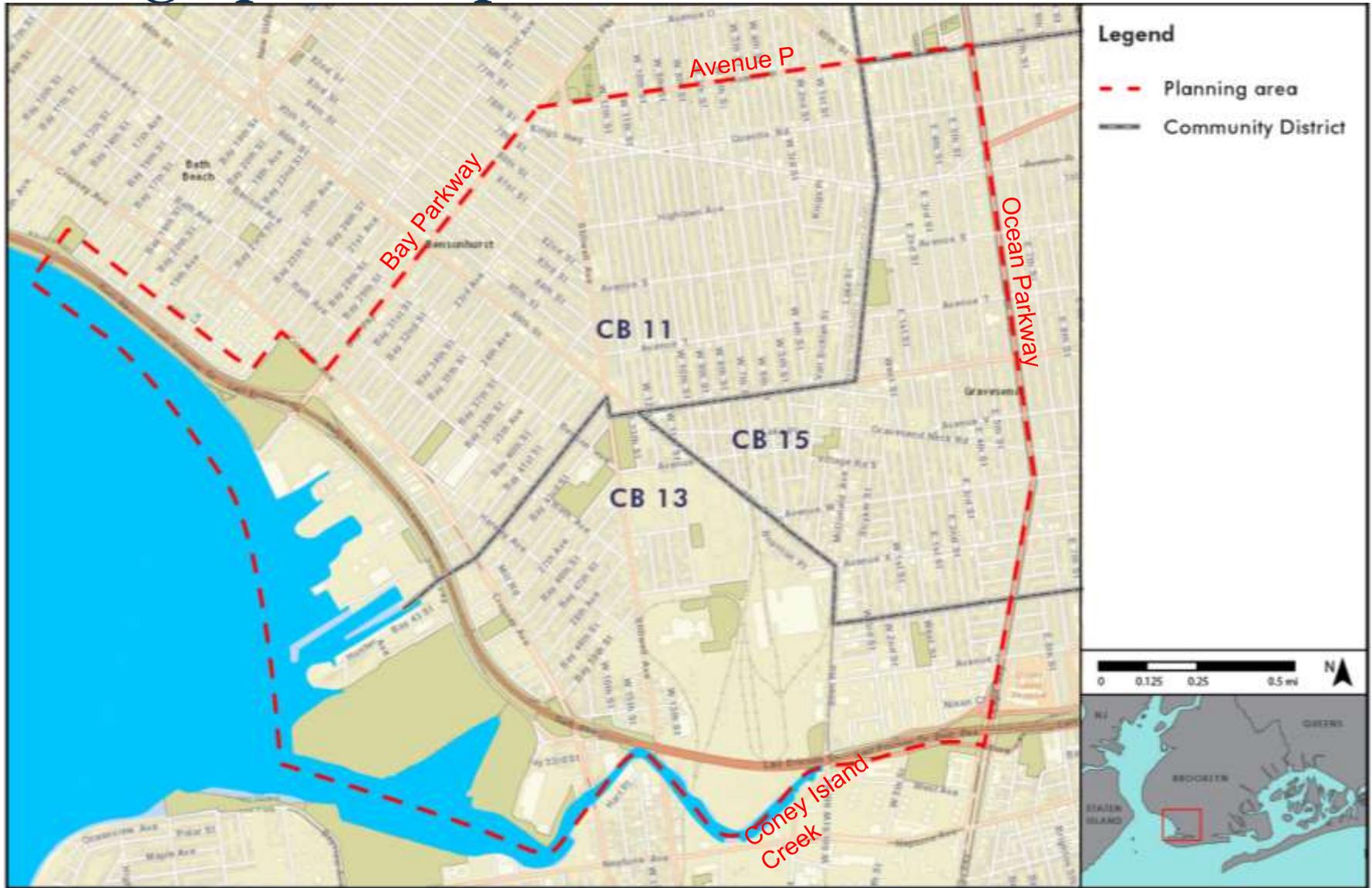
Planning Committee Meeting 4

Reviewing Projects

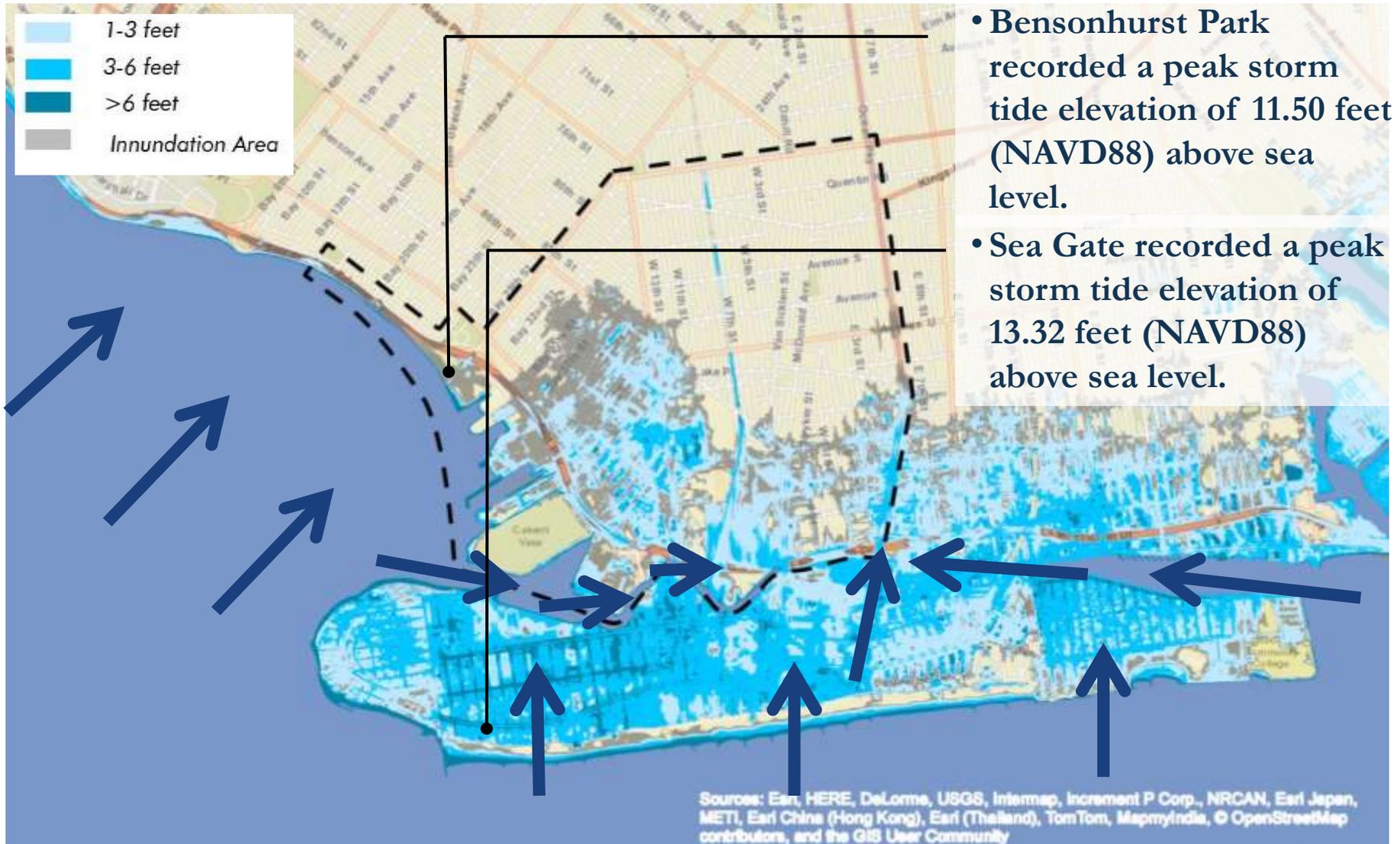
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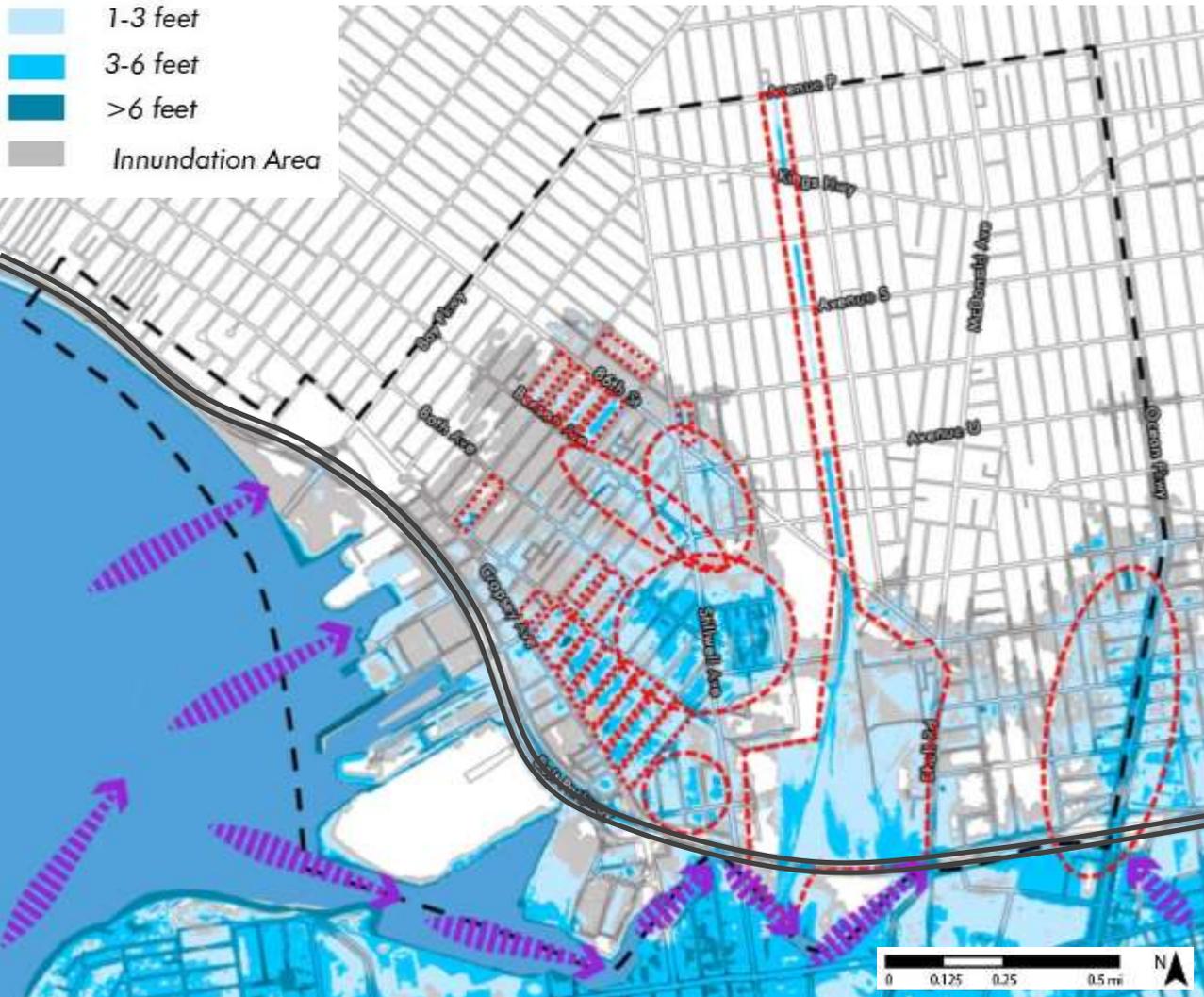
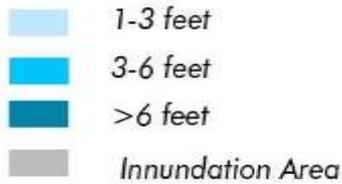
Geographic Scope



Sandy Superstorm Impact



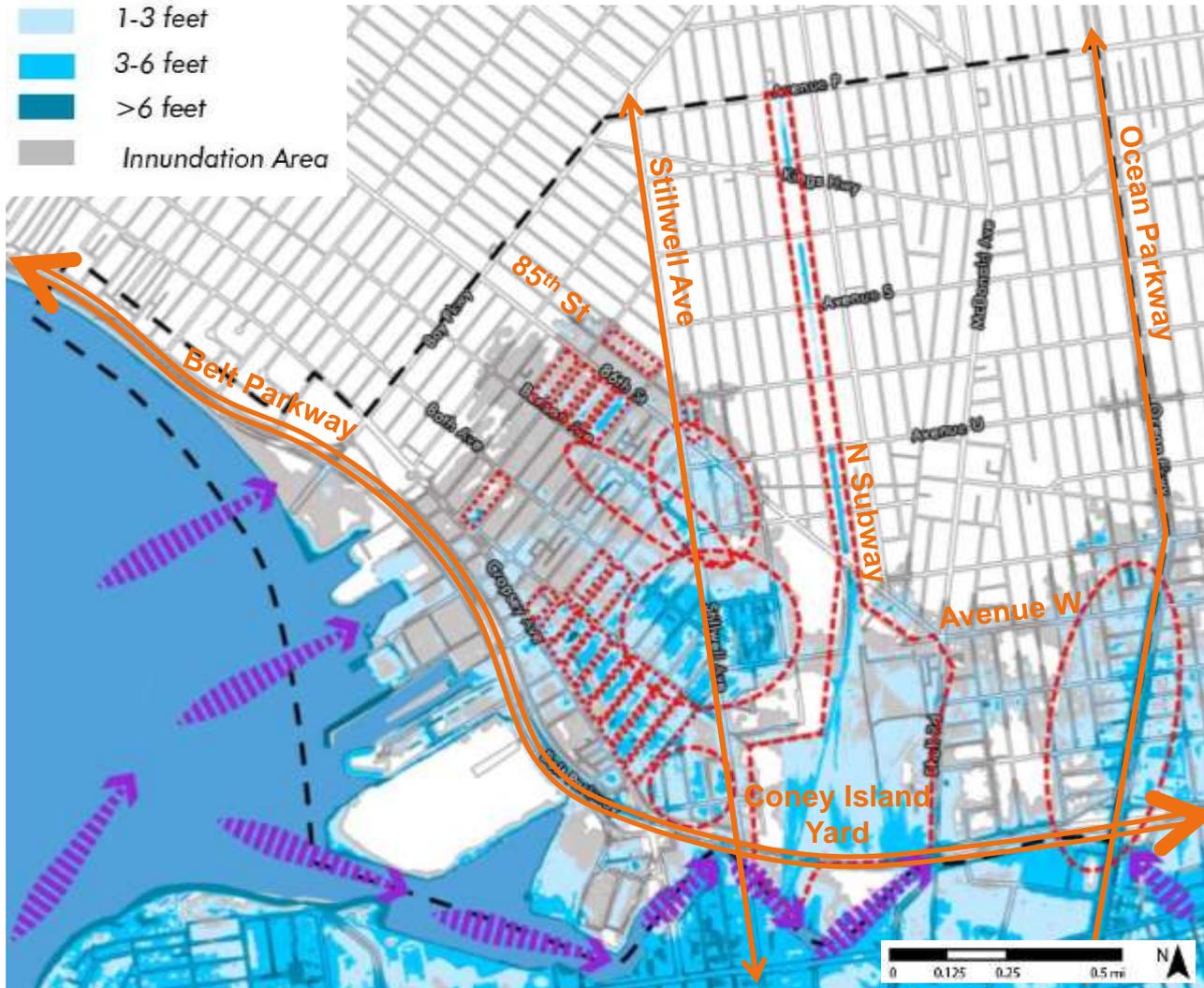
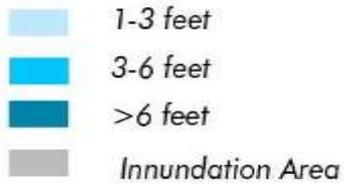
What Happened: Sandy Surge



- The storm's landfall coincided with a "spring" tide, which translated into higher storm tides.
- Storm surge came through the New York Harbor to Gravesend Bay and flowed through Coney Island Creek.
- Rain less than 1"



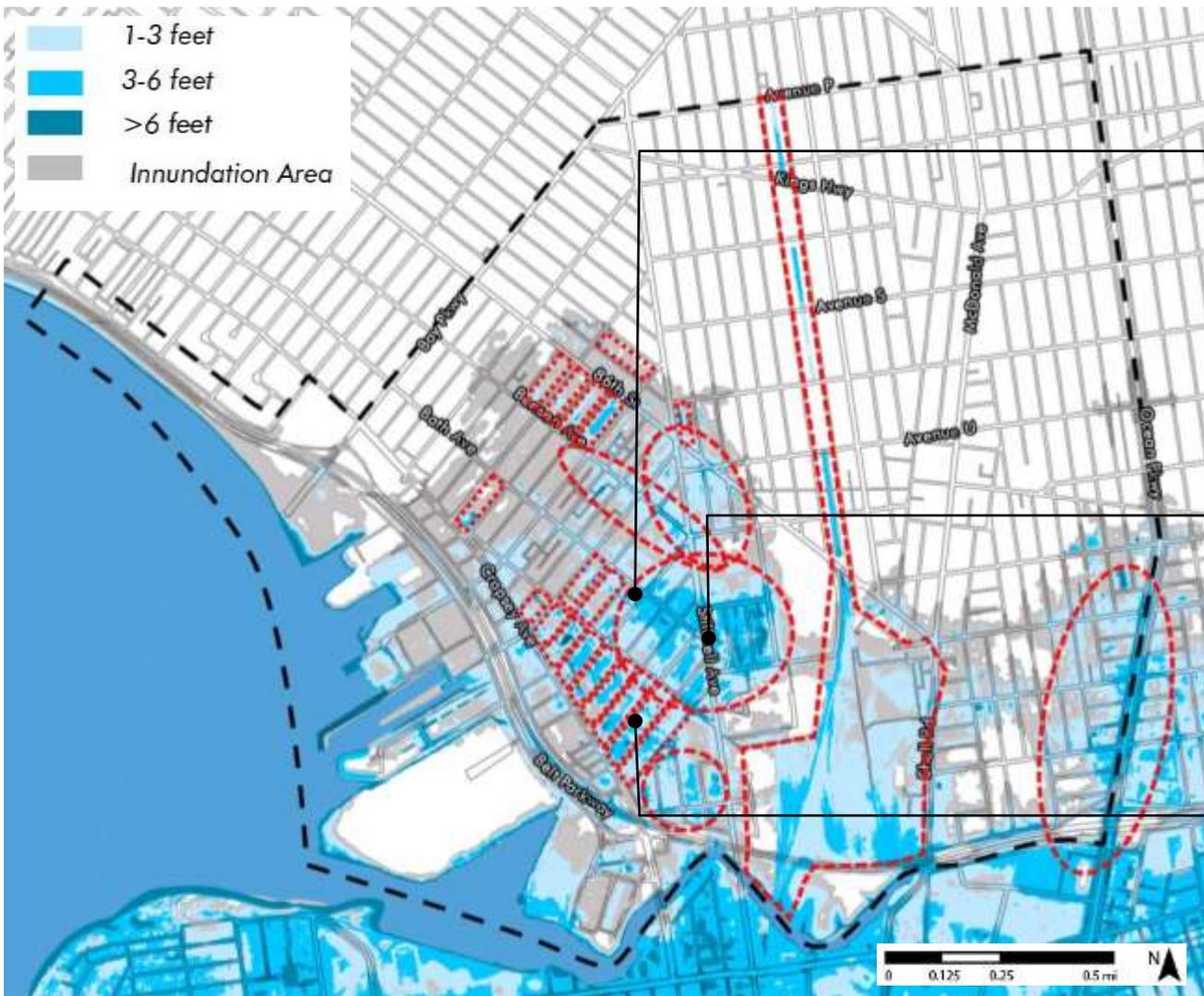
Sandy Inundation



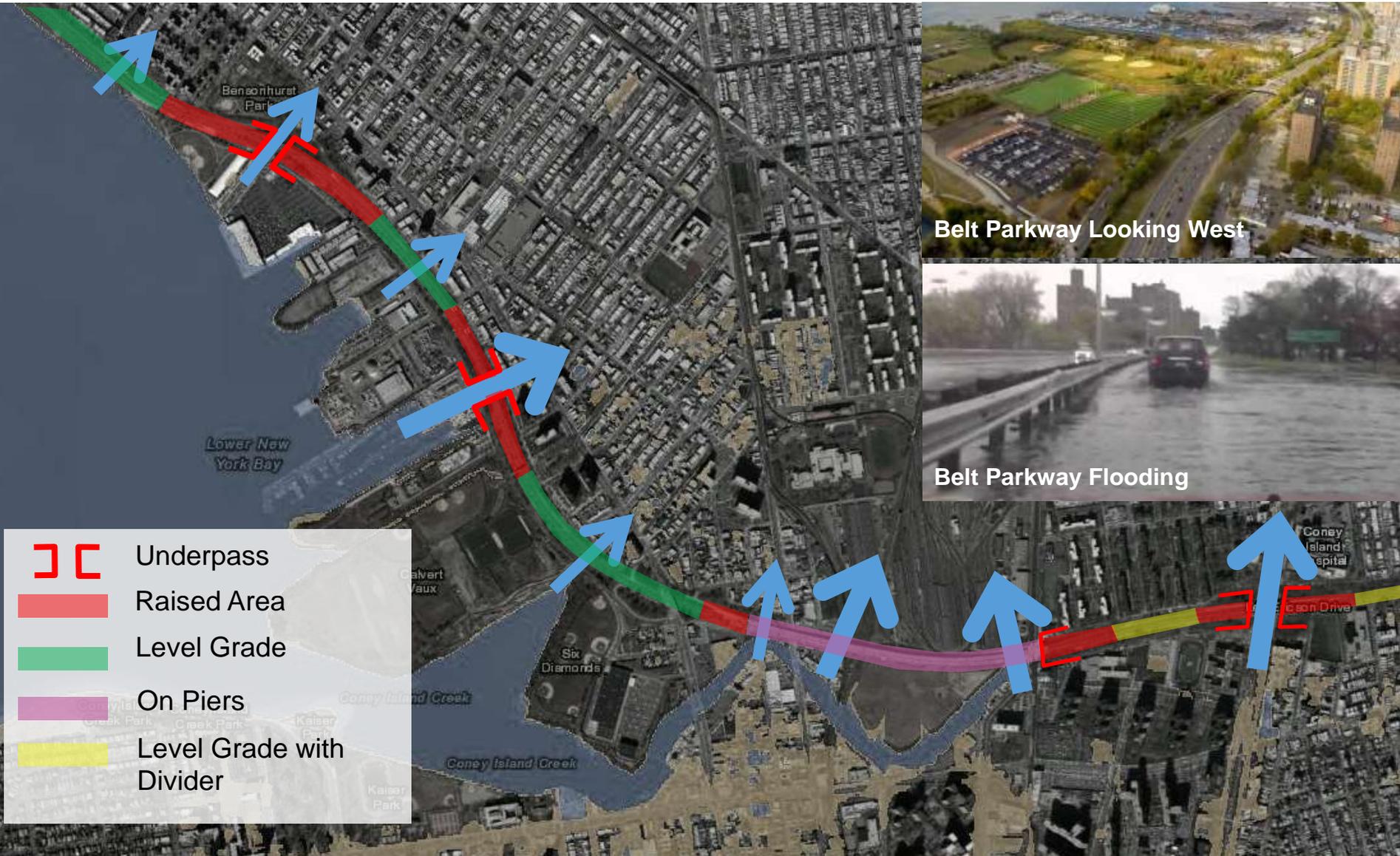
- Inundation was estimated at 5.4 feet above ground level in low-lying areas of Gravesend and Bensonhurst.
- Flooding extended from Gravesend Bay past 85th Street, and from Coney Island Creek north to approximately Avenue W.
- Key corridors such as Belt Parkway, Stillwell Avenue and Ocean Parkway were flooded.
- Coney Island Yard was flooded, as well as N line.



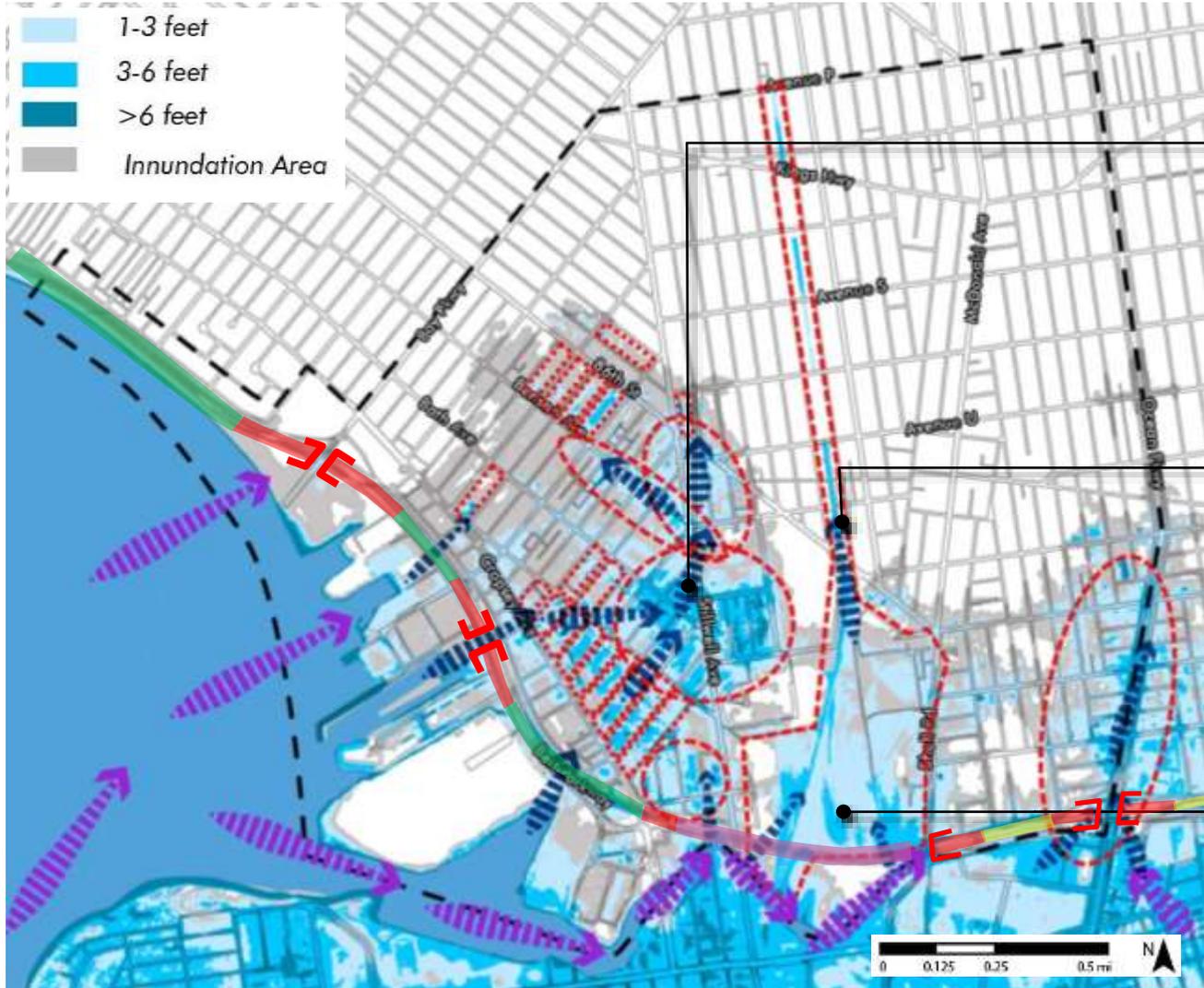
Low Lying Areas Susceptible to Flooding



What Happened: Breaching of Belt Parkway



What Happened: Surge Flowed to Low Lying Areas



What Happened: Summary of Damage (Sandy)

- Flooding up to 3 to 5 Feet in low lying areas.
- Flooding main cause of damage.
- Stormwater system back-up in low lying areas due to “backwater flooding”
- Sewage backups in low-lying areas (*75 complaints*)
- Flooding of backyards and basements
- Damage due to surge and wave action in area adjacent to the bay and Coney Island Creek
- Damage to electrical, mechanical and HVAC reported
- Tree uprooting or damages due to high wind gust



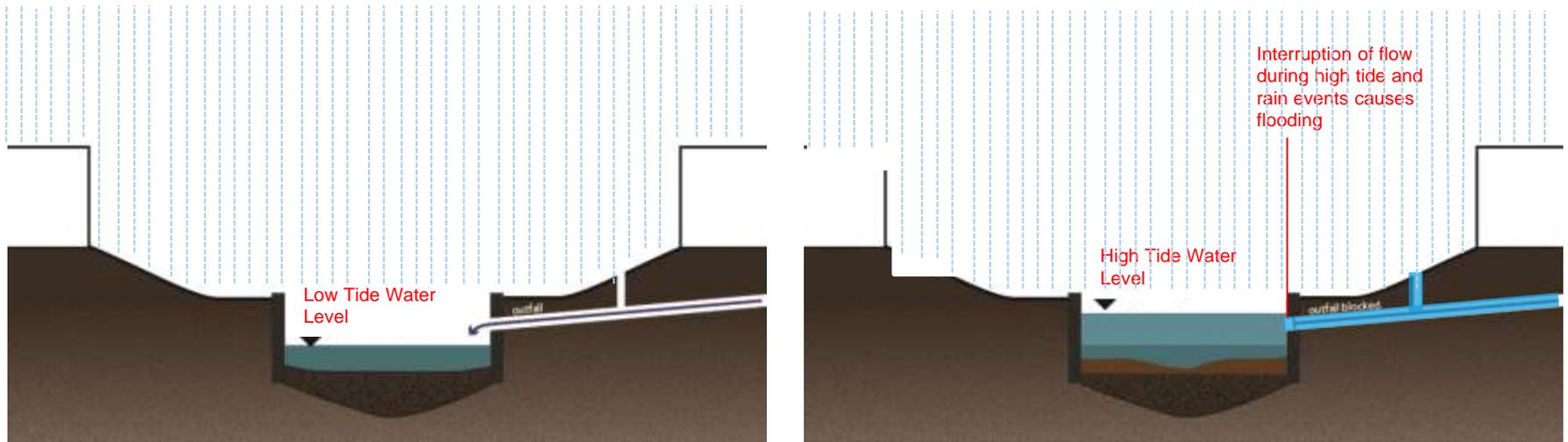
What Happened: Summary of Damage (Irene)

- In comparison to Superstorm Sandy, the impacts from Hurricane Irene were largely a result of precipitation and wind
- Greater than three times the amount of rainfall as Superstorm Sandy (7-10")
- Wind gusts in excess of hurricane force (60-70 mph), New York City escaped severe wind-related damage because Irene's strongest winds were over water east of the path's center
- Storm surge in coastal areas (3 – 6' storm tides)
- Hurricane Irene followed a summer of high participation and saturated soils, which exacerbated stormwater runoff and brought down trees
- Power outages were widespread in the Borough of Brooklyn, estimated at 35,000



Nuisance Flooding (assumed sources)

- High tide with a large rain event
- Low elevation
- Drainage characteristics of soil (impermeable surfaces)



Community Asset Inventory



Economic

- Downtown center, Businesses, Employment Hub, Lodging, Industrial, Warehousing, Manufacturing, Tourism, Grocery, and Restaurants



Housing

- Single Family, Multi-Family, Mixed-use, Supportive, Senior, and Affordable Housing



Natural and Cultural Resources

- Water bodies, wetlands, parks and recreation, cultural or religious establishments, libraries, museums or stadiums, natural protective features



Health and Social Services

- Schools, Hospitals and Healthcare Facilities, Daycare and Eldercare, Government, Public Works, and Emergency Response / Operations



Infrastructure Systems

- Telecommunications, wastewater, stormwater, water supply, hazardous materials, solid waste, transportation, liquid fuels, and power supply

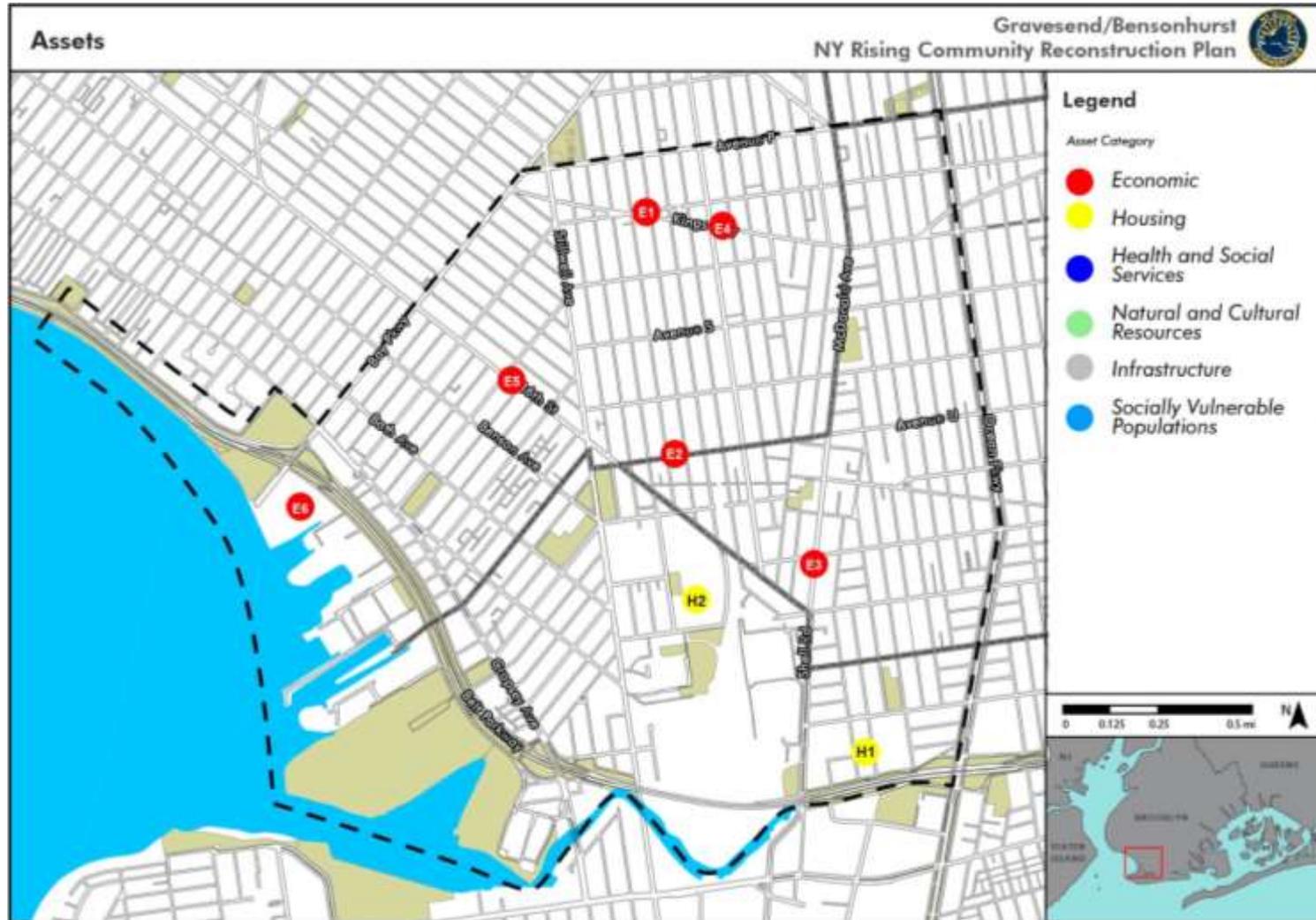


Socially Vulnerable Populations

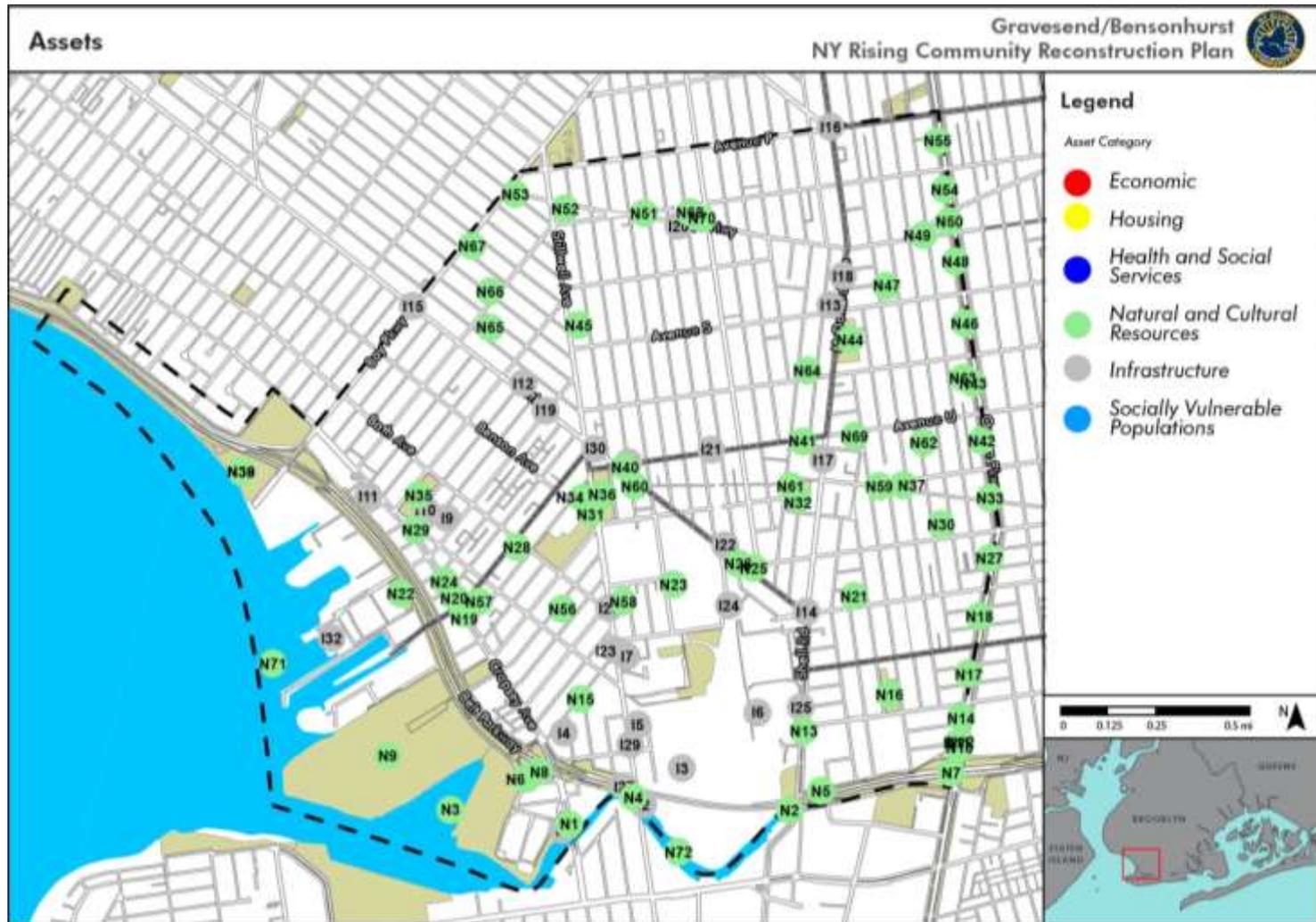
- Disabled, low-income, elderly, children, non-English speaking, homeless, pet owners



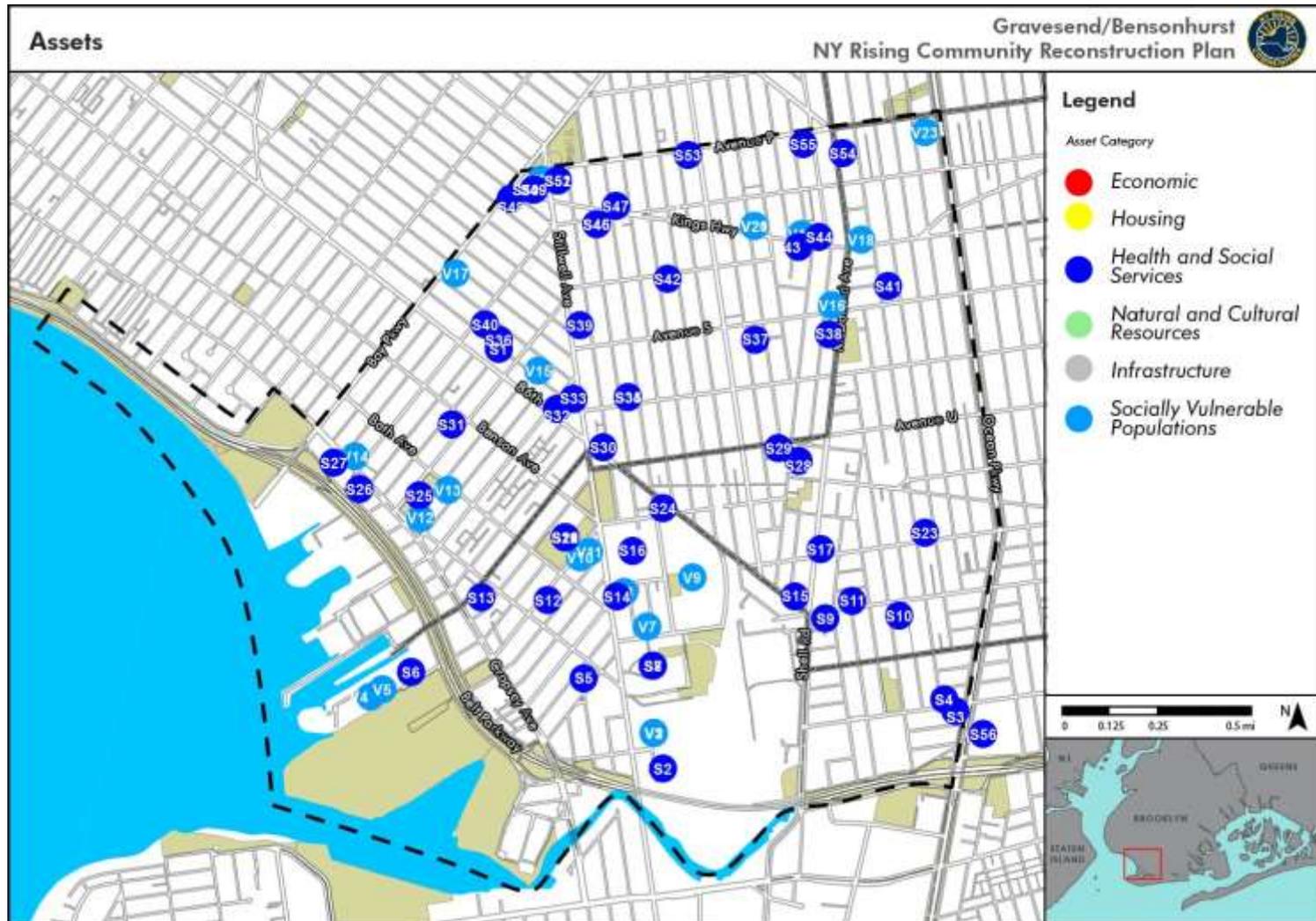
Community Assets: Economic and Housing



Community Assets: Infrastructure and Natural/Cultural Resources



Community Assets: Health/Social Services and Socially Vulnerable Populations



Socio-economic & Labor Characteristics (Kings County)

- **Employment Stayed Strong:** Employment grew in Kings County every year between 2007 and 2012, showing growth and resilience despite the financial crisis and subsequent recession.
- **Ed's & Med's:** Over half of Kings County's employed workforce works in either educational service or health care and social assistance. Health care saw greatest net job gains between 2007 and 2012, while educational services was the second highest.
- **Area is Deindustrializing:** The greatest losses were in manufacturing (nearly 5,000 jobs) and finance and insurance (3,500 jobs).
- **Big Growth Sector:** The accommodation and food service industry grew by over 50 percent, or nearly 11,000 jobs between 2007 and 2012.
- **Growing wage gap between the top and bottom industries in Kings County**



Existing Plans and Studies

Plans with recommendations specific to Planning Area:

- SIRR Report (Southern Brooklyn)
- CD 13: Needs Statement, Critical Facilities, Budget (2013)
- CD 11: Needs Statement, Critical Facilities, Budget (2013)
- CD 15: Needs Statement, Critical Facilities, Budget (2013)
- Coney Island Creek RFP (2013)
- Coney Island Creek Waterbody/Watershed Facility Plan (NYCDEP)
- Coney Island Creek Waterbody/Watershed Facility Plan Report (NYCDEP, 2009)
- Shore Parkway Greenway Connector Master Plan (DCP, 2005)
- Coney Island/Gravesend Sustainable Development Transportation Study (NYCDOT, 2011)
- WAVES Waterfront Action Agenda
- Vision 2020 (NYCDCP, 2011)



Existing Plans and Studies

Other City-wide plans

- NYC Regional Economic Development Council Plans and Project Report
- Sustainable Communities: Climate Resilience Studies: Urban Adaptive Strategies
- Sustainable Communities: Climate Resilience Studies: Designing for Flood Risk (2013)
- NYC Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan
- PlaNYC
- NYC Hurricane Sandy After Action Report (May 2013)
- Coney Island Comprehensive Rezoning Plan.



What we've heard from you

What qualities characterize the Gravesend-Bensonhurst Community?

- A vibrant and diverse community
- Great Parks and Parklands
- Mom & Pops are the lifeblood
- Great schools
- Low crime rate
- Access to public transportation
- Easy access to park and waterfront promenade



Are there other community strengths you would like to identify?



What are some weaknesses in the community?

- Need recovery station to provide safety and address medical needs
- Need for power/cell phone resiliency
- Communication Plan
- Transportation/traffic

Any others?

- *Coordination for economic development?*
- *Leadership?*
- *Employment?*
- *Health care services?*



What opportunities exist in the community?

- Engage community groups, churches, governmental, non-profits and community boards in planning process.
- Set up communication networks (e.g. block “captains”)
- Involve local businesses (include businesses on Shore Parkway) and encourage them to organize
- Leverage open space assets (Calvert Vaux Park, Bensonhurst Park, Shore Parkway promenade)
- Improve communication networks so neighborhood can help itself
- Increase resilience and preparedness of commercial corridors
- Address stormwater flooding through permeable pavements, native plantings and grasses, green street and sewer improvements



What would you most like to see for Gravesend & Bensonhurst in the next 10 years?

- A resilient waterfront to protect community
- Prevent flooding on Belt Parkway

Any more?

- *What would be worth committing to during the next 10 years?*
- *What areas should be protected/ developed?*



Public Engagement Event #1

Sunday, July 20
Bensonhurst Park
@ Bay Parkway
(Across from Ceasars Bazaar)

- Time
- Handouts
- Outreach
- Translation



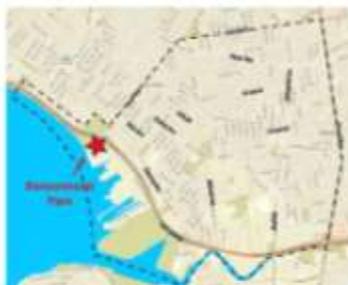
NEW YORK RISING
Community Reconstruction Program

Gravesend & Bensonhurst

How can your community be more resilient?

First Public Engagement Event: Sunday, July 20

10AM - 1PM
At Bensonhurst Park on Bay Pkwy
(Across from Ceasar's Bay Bazaar)
RAIN OR SHINE



Gravesend & Bensonhurst Planning Area



Gravesend and Bensonhurst suffered significant damage from Superstorm Sandy. Governor Cuomo created the New York Rising Community Reconstruction Program to help communities become more resilient and better prepared for future storms. A committee of Gravesend and Bensonhurst leaders is working with the State and planning experts to protect the community, its residents and businesses from a future storm - and they want your help!

Learn how your community can have a say in spending \$3 million on resiliency projects!

Come and shape your community's plan - and the future of Gravesend & Bensonhurst!

www.stormrecovery.ny.gov/cr
#NYRising @NYStormRecovery



Questionnaire

1. What represents the best things about the neighborhood?
2. What most concerned you when Superstorm Sandy struck in October, 2012?
3. What would you like to see improved in the area so it can be more resilient from future severe weather?
4. Check-box questions
5. Additional comments

Gravesend & Bensonhurst Residents and Business Owners Questionnaire

Were you directly or indirectly impacted by the events of Superstorm Sandy?
Help make your community more resilient by providing input to the NY Rising Community Reconstruction Committee in Gravesend and Bensonhurst! Your answers will help the Committee, NY State and technical experts as they develop a plan to help make your community more resilient.

1. When you think of the Gravesend-Bensonhurst area, what represents the best things about the neighborhood?

2. Other than where you live, what most concerned you about the Gravesend-Bensonhurst area when Superstorm Sandy struck in October, 2012?

3. Other than where you live, what would you like to see improved so the area can be more resilient from future severe weather?

4. Please answer these questions about yourself:

How long have you lived in this Community? 0-2 years 2-5 years 5-10 years 10+ years

During Superstorm Sandy I experienced (check all that apply): flooding sewer backup power outage

In the community, I am a (check all that apply): resident business owner

What is your age? _____

Any additional Comments?

Your comments will remain confidential, however, if you would like to stay informed through the planning process, please leave your contact information:

Name: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____



New York Rising
Community Reconstruction Program

www.stormrecovery.ny.gov/cr
#NYRising @NYStormRecovery



Next Steps

- Confirm planning committee meeting dates/locations
- Confirm public engagement meeting date/location
- Complete vision statement
- Complete overview
- Asset identification homework
- Ethics Handbook

