

Appendix C
Smart Growth

Smart Growth Screening Tool

Coastal and Social Resiliency Initiatives for Tottenville Shoreline

Prepared By: AKRF, Inc.

Smart Growth Screening Tool (STEP 1)

Lead Agency & Local Sponsors – Fill out the Smart Growth Screening Tool until the directions indicate to **STOP** for the project type under consideration. For all other projects, complete answering the questions. For any questions, refer to [Smart Growth Guidance](#) document.

Title of Proposed Project: Coastal and Social Resiliency Initiatives for Tottenville Shoreline

Location of Project: Tottenville, Borough of Staten Island, City of New York

Brief Description: This EIS analyzes two related projects—the Living Breakwaters Project and the Tottenville Shoreline Protection Project— which together form the Layered Tottenville Shoreline Resiliency Strategy. The Living Breakwaters Project, would create an ecologically enhanced breakwater system that would reduce wave energy at the shoreline, and reduce or reverse shoreline erosion. It includes a proposed community Water Hub that would provide a place for access to the waterfront, orientation, education, information on shoreline resiliency, and community gathering space. The Breakwaters Project would also include several on-shore and near-shore landscape elements in the area of the Water Hub as educational landscapes. The Tottenville Shoreline Protection Project would consist of a series of shoreline risk reduction measures—including an earthen berm, a hybrid dune system, an eco-revetment, and a raised edge (revetment with trail), along with wetland enhancement and native coastal plant species—from approximately Carteret Street to Page Avenue. The EIS also analyzes alternatives that would consist of only one project or the other.

A. Infrastructure:

Addresses SG Law criterion a. –

(To advance projects for the use, maintenance or improvement of existing infrastructure)

1. Does this project use, maintain, or improve existing infrastructure?

Yes

No

N/A

Explain: (use this space to expand on your answers above – the form has no limitations on the length of your narrative)

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The Proposed Actions would improve on existing resiliency infrastructure that is in place along the Tottenville shoreline. In response to Superstorm Sandy, temporary dune structures were built along the southern shore of Tottenville to protect the neighborhood from future effects of wave action and shoreline erosion. The Proposed Actions would improve this existing resiliency infrastructure to further protect the neighborhood from both the effects of storms and from everyday erosion.

Maintenance Projects Only

- a. Continue with screening tool for the four (4) types of maintenance projects listed below, as defined in **NYSDOT PDM Exhibit 7-1 and described in 7-4:**
<https://www.dot.ny.gov/divisions/engineering/design/dqab/pdm>
 - Shoulder rehabilitation and/or repair;
 - Upgrade sign(s) and/or traffic signals;
 - Park & ride lot rehabilitation;
 - 1R projects that include single course surfacing (inlay or overlay), per Chapter 7 of the NYSDOT Highway Design Manual.
- b. For all other maintenance projects, **STOP here**. Attach this document to the programmatic [Smart Growth Impact Statement and signed Attestation](#) for Maintenance projects.

For all other projects (**other than maintenance**), continue with screening tool.

B. Sustainability:

NYSDOT defines Sustainability as follows: A sustainable society manages resources in a way that fulfills the community/social, economic and environmental needs of the present without compromising the needs and opportunities of future generations. A transportation system that supports a sustainable society is one that:

- Allows individual and societal transportation needs to be met in a manner consistent with human and ecosystem health and with equity within and between generations.
- Is safe, affordable, and accessible, operates efficiently, offers choice of transport mode, and supports a vibrant economy.
- Protects and preserves the environment by limiting transportation emissions and wastes, minimizes the consumption of resources and enhances the existing environment as practicable.

For more information on the Department's Sustainability strategy, refer to Appendix 1 of the Smart Growth Guidance and the NYSDOT web site, www.dot.ny.gov/programs/greenlites/sustainability

(Addresses SG Law criterion j : to promote sustainability by strengthening existing and creating new communities which reduce greenhouse gas emissions and do not compromise the needs of future generations, by among other means encouraging broad based public involvement in developing and

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implementing a community plan and ensuring the governance structure is adequate to sustain and implement.)

1. Will this project promote sustainability by strengthening existing communities?

Yes No N/A

2. Will the project reduce greenhouse gas emissions?

Yes No N/A

Explain: (use this space to expand on your answers above)

As described above, the proposed project would enhance and improve neighborhood resiliency in Tottenville, a developed urban neighborhood, and support its existing residential and commercial uses.

C. Smart Growth Location:

Plans and investments should preserve our communities by promoting its distinct identity through a local vision created by its citizens.

(Addresses SG Law criteria b and c: to advance projects located in municipal centers; to advance projects in developed areas or areas designated for concentrated infill development in a municipally approved comprehensive land use plan, local waterfront revitalization plan and/or brownfield opportunity area plan.)

1. Is this project located in a developed area?

Yes No N/A

2. Is the project located in a municipal center?

Yes No N/A

3. Will this project foster downtown revitalization?

Yes No N/A

4. Is this project located in an area designated for concentrated infill development in a municipally approved comprehensive land use plan, waterfront revitalization plan, or Brownfield Opportunity Area plan?

Yes No N/A

Explain: (use this space to expand on your answers above)

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The proposed project is located in Tottenville, a dense residential area at the southern tip of Staten Island. While not a municipal center or downtown, the area has a sizeable population and is largely built out. The Proposed Actions would increase the resilience of the waterfront within Conference House Park and that of the Tottenville community enhance the existing ecological communities along the waterfront and provide improved access to the water for the community, consistent with the New York City Waterfront Revitalization Program.

D. Mixed Use Compact Development:

Future planning and development should assure the availability of a range of choices in housing and affordability, employment, education, transportation, and other essential services to encourage a jobs/housing balance and vibrant community-based workforce.

(Addresses SG Law criteria e and i: to foster mixed land uses and compact development, downtown revitalization, brownfield redevelopment, the enhancement of beauty in public spaces, the diversity and affordability of housing in proximity to places of employment, recreation and commercial development and the integration of all income groups; to ensure predictability in building and land use codes.)

1. Will this project foster mixed land uses?
Yes No N/A
2. Will the project foster brownfield redevelopment?
Yes No N/A
3. Will this project foster enhancement of beauty in public spaces?
Yes No N/A
4. Will the project foster a diversity of housing in proximity to places of employment and/or recreation?
Yes No N/A
5. Will the project foster a diversity of housing in proximity to places of commercial development and/or compact development?
Yes No N/A
6. Will this project foster integration of all income groups and/or age groups?
Yes No N/A
7. Will the project ensure predictability in land use codes?
Yes No N/A
8. Will the project ensure predictability in building codes?

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Yes No N/A

Explain: (use this space to expand on your answers above)

The Proposed Actions would be undertaken in Conference House Park, a public park under the jurisdiction of the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation. The Proposed Actions would enhance this public park and would contribute to improvements to the natural and man-made environment within the park through the incorporation of numerous landscape features, living breakwaters, improved access to the waterfront, and the Water Hub community education center.

E. Transportation and Access:

NYS DOT recognizes that Smart Growth encourages communities to offer a wide range of transportation options, from walking and biking to transit and automobiles, which increase people's access to jobs, goods, services, and recreation.

(Addresses SG Law criterion f: to provide mobility through transportation choices including improved public transportation and reduced automobile dependency.)

1. Will this project provide public transit?

Yes No N/A

2. Will this project enable reduced automobile dependency?

Yes No N/A

3. Will this project improve bicycle and pedestrian facilities (such as shoulder widening to provide for on-road bike lanes, lane striping, crosswalks, new or expanded sidewalks or new/improved pedestrian signals)?

Yes No N/A

(Note: Question 3 is an expansion on question 2. The recently passed Complete Streets legislation requires that consideration be given to complete street design features in the planning, design, construction, reconstruction and rehabilitation, but not including resurfacing, maintenance, or pavement recycling of such projects.)

Explain: (use this space to expand on your answers above)

The proposed project would provide new and enhanced pathways in Conference House Park along the route of the proposed shoreline protection system, which would improve the pedestrian and cycling network and encourage recreational activity within the park. ADA-compliant access points to the park would ensure that these facilities are accessible to all.

F. Coordinated, Community-Based Planning:

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Past experience has shown that early and continuing input in the transportation planning process leads to better decisions and more effective use of limited resources. For information on community based planning efforts, the MPO may be a good resource if the project is located within the MPO planning area.

(Addresses SG Law criteria g and h: to coordinate between state and local government and inter-municipal and regional planning; to participate in community based planning and collaboration.)

1. Has there been participation in community-based planning and collaboration on the project?

Yes No N/A

2. Is the project consistent with local plans?

Yes No N/A

3. Is the project consistent with county, regional, and state plans?

Yes No N/A

4. Has there been coordination between inter-municipal/regional planning and state planning on the project?

Yes No N/A

Explain: (use this space to expand on your answers above)

The proposed project has also been identified in long-range plans by HUD, GOSR, NYC Office of Recovery and Resiliency, NYC Office of Sustainability, and the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation, and has been coordinated with the local Community Board.

G. Stewardship of Natural and Cultural Resources:

Clean water, clean air and natural open land are essential elements of public health and quality of life for New York State residents, visitors, and future generations. Restoring and protecting natural assets and open space, promoting energy efficiency, and green building should be incorporated into all land use and infrastructure planning decisions.

(Addresses SG Law criterion d :To protect, preserve and enhance the State's resources, including agricultural land, forests surface and ground water, air quality, recreation and open space, scenic areas and significant historic and archeological resources.)

1. Will the project protect, preserve, and/or enhance agricultural land and/or forests?

Yes No N/A

2. Will the project protect, preserve, and/or enhance surface water and/or groundwater?

Yes No N/A

3. Will the project protect, preserve, and/or enhance air quality?

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Yes No N/A

4. Will the project protect, preserve, and/or enhance recreation and/or open space?

Yes No N/A

5. Will the project protect, preserve, and/or enhance scenic areas?

Yes No N/A

6. Will the project protect, preserve, and/or enhance historic and/or archeological resources?

Yes No N/A

Explain: (use this space to expand on your answers above)

The Proposed Actions would make improvements to Conference House Park, including both recreational and community facilities and the natural environment of the park, both on land and offshore within the waters of Raritan Bay. Maritime plant communities would be enhanced along the shoreline and the ecological function of a portion of the aquatic habitat within Raritan Bay would be restored and enhanced as part of the project. The proposed Water Hub may be located in either the Henry Hogg Biddle House or the Rutan-Beckett House, two historic houses located in Conference House Park. If either of these options is chosen, the selected historic building would be rehabilitated and adaptively used in a manner that does not diminish its historic character in coordination with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission (LPC).

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Smart Growth Impact Statement (STEP 2)

Lead Agency: Complete a Smart Growth Impact Statement (SGIS) below using the information from the Screening Tool.

Local Sponsors: The local sponsors are **not** responsible for completing a Smart Growth Impact Statement. Proceed to **Step 3**.

Smart Growth Impact Statement

Project Name: Coastal and Social Resiliency Initiatives for Tottenville Shoreline

Pursuant to ECL Article 6, this project is compliant with the New York State Smart Growth Public Infrastructure Policy Act. This project has been determined to meet the relevant criteria, to the extent practicable, described in ECL Sec. 6-0107. Specifically, the project:

- Criterion a. to advance projects for the use, maintenance or improvement of existing infrastructure: Consistent: The proposed project would improve existing infrastructure along Tottenville's Raritan Bay shoreline. It would replace existing emergency dunes with a comprehensive shoreline protection system and social resiliency initiatives.
- Criterion b. to advance projects located in municipal centers: Consistent: The proposed project is located in Tottenville, an important residential community in southwest Staten Island.
- Criterion c. to advance projects in developed areas or areas designated for concentrated infill development in a municipally approved comprehensive land use plan, local waterfront revitalization plan, and/or brownfield opportunity area plan: Consistent: Tottenville is a largely built-out residential community.
- Criterion d. to protect, preserve, and enhance the state's resources, including agricultural land, forests, surface and groundwater, air quality, recreation and open space, scenic areas, and significant historic and archeological resources: Consistent: The proposed project would preserve and enhance natural areas including maritime forests, wetlands and other shoreline habitat, and would construct new in-water structural habitat in the form of ecologically enhanced living breakwaters. The work would take place in Conference House Park, beautifying and enhancing this regionally important open space.
- Criterion e. to foster mixed land uses and compact development, downtown revitalization, brownfield redevelopment, the enhancement of beauty in public spaces, the diversity and affordability of housing in proximity to places of employment, recreation and commercial development and the integration of all income and age groups: Consistent: The proposed project would support mixed land uses and compact development, as well as neighborhood revitalization, by increasing neighborhood coastal and social resiliency to storm events as well as ongoing shoreline erosion.

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- Criterion f. to provide mobility through transportation choices including improved public transportation and reduced automobile dependency: Consistent: The Proposed Actions would improve the resiliency of the transportation infrastructure in Tottenville and would also provide new walking/cycling paths in Conference House Park, with ADA accessible entrance points, improving accessibility and transportation options within the park.
- Criterion g. to coordinate between state and local government and intermunicipal and regional planning: Consistent: The proposed project has been well coordinated between various agencies including HUD, GOSR, NYC Office of Recovery and Resiliency, NYC Office of Sustainability and the NYC Department of Parks and Recreation. The project is consistent with local and regional plans.
- Criterion h. to participate in community-based planning and collaboration: Consistent: The proposed project is consistent with long-term community goals for enhanced resiliency in Tottenville. The project has been coordinated with the local community board.
- Criterion i. to ensure predictability in building and land use codes: Not Applicable: The proposed project is a resiliency infrastructure improvement project.
- Criterion j. to promote sustainability by strengthening existing and creating new communities which reduce greenhouse gas emissions and do not compromise the needs of future generations, by among other means encouraging broad-based public involvement in developing and implementing a community plan and ensuring that the governance structure is adequate to sustain its implementation: Not Applicable: The proposed project is a resiliency infrastructure improvement project and would not affect greenhouse gas emissions.

This publicly supported infrastructure project complies with the state policy of maximizing the social, economic and environmental benefits from public infrastructure development. The project will not contribute to the unnecessary costs of sprawl development, including environmental degradation, disinvestment in urban and suburban communities, or loss of open space induced by sprawl.

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Review & Attestation Instructions (STEP 3)

Local Sponsors: Once the Smart Growth Screening Tool is completed, the next step is to submit the project certification statement (**Section A**) to Responsible Local Official for signature. After signing the document, the completed Screening Tool and Certification statement should be sent to the Lead Agency for review as noted below.

Lead Agency: For state-let projects, the Screening Tool and SGIS is forwarded to Regional Director/ RPPM/Main Office Program Director or designee for review, and upon approval, the attestation is signed (**Section B.2**). For locally administered projects, the sponsor's submission and certification statement is reviewed by Lead Agency staff, the appropriate box (**Section B.1**) is checked, and the attestation is signed (Section B.2).

A. CERTIFICATION (LOCAL PROJECT)

I HEREBY CERTIFY, to the best of my knowledge, all of the above to be true and correct.

Preparer of this document:

Signature

Date

Title

Printed Name

Responsible Local Official (for local projects):

Signature

Date

Title

Printed Name

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B. ATTESTATION (LEAD AGENCY)

1. I HEREBY:

Concur with the above certification, thereby attesting that this project is in compliance with the State Smart Growth Public Infrastructure Policy Act

Concur with the above certification, with the following conditions (information requests, confirming studies, project modifications, etc.):

(Attach additional sheets as needed)

do not concur with the above certification, thereby deeming this project ineligible to be a recipient of State funding or a subrecipient of Federal funding in accordance with the State Smart Growth Public Infrastructure Policy Act.

2. **NOW THEREFORE**, pursuant to ECL Article 6, this project is compliant with the New York State Smart Growth Public Infrastructure Policy Act, to the extent practicable, as described in the attached Smart Growth Impact Statement.

Lead Agency Commissioner, Regional Director, MO Program Director,
Regional Planning & Programming Manager (or official designee):



Signature

March 15, 2017
Date

Governor's Office of Storm Recovery, General Counsel
Title

Daniel Greene
Printed Name