

**SUMMARY OF THE 8-STEP FLOODPLAIN AND WETLAND ANALYSIS FOR  
CANARSIE PIER ACCESS IMPROVEMENT PROJECT  
BROOKLYN, KINGS COUNTY, NEW YORK**

Governor's Office of Storm Recovery  
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Community Development Block Grant –  
Disaster Recovery

**Introduction & Overview**

The purpose of Executive Order (EO) 11988 Floodplain Management is “to avoid to the extent possible the long- and short-term adverse impacts associated with occupancy and modification of floodplains and to avoid direct or indirect support of floodplain development wherever there is a practicable alternative.” The purpose of EO 11990 Protection of Wetlands is “to avoid to the extent possible the long- and short-term adverse impacts associated with the destruction or modification of wetlands and to avoid direct or indirect support of new construction in wetlands wherever there is a practicable alternative.” This report contains the analysis prescribed by 24 CFR Part 55 and documents the eight-step decision making process for the Proposed Action and pertains to activities within the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) as defined by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), or its successors, pursuant to the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), or a successor program, whether advisory, preliminary, or final.

The Governor's Office of Storm Recovery (GOSR), an office of the New York State Housing Trust Fund Corporation (HTFC), proposes to provide Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funding for improvements to the pedestrian and bicycle access along Rockaway Parkway and Shore Parkway. These improvements will provide access to the Superstorm Sandy-damaged Canarsie Pier, mitigate safety hazards, enhance local mobility, lessen the negative effects of traffic congestion, and build a more resilient community. There will be no increase in impermeable surfaces

The Proposed Action will result in impacts to the 100-year floodplain and tidal wetland adjacent area. Based on an analysis of the Proposed Action activities and locations described herein, it is concluded that there is a reasonable basis to proceed with funding for this Proposed Action within floodplain and wetlands. The CDBG-DR funding is administered through the New York State Rising Community Reconstruction Program which is using bottom-up community participation and State-provided technical expertise to develop resilient and sustainable communities. Thus, alternatives preventing or impeding the development of resilient and sustainable communities are not considered reasonable alternatives.

***Step 1. Determine Whether the Proposed Action is Located in the 100-year Floodplain (500-year for Critical Actions) or results in New Construction in Wetlands.***

According to the Preliminary FIRM panel 3604970219G, approximately 1-acre of the Proposed Action is within a 100-year floodplain and 1.18 acres are within a tidal wetland adjacent area. A floodplain map and a tidal wetland map are attached.

The Proposed Action location is mapped as an adjacent area of New York State tidal wetlands. Since bulkheads and roads are located between the tidal wetland and the adjacent area, a permit is

not required for construction. Construction will take place within areas covered with either asphalt or concrete. Trees will be planted in earthen areas. Activities will be in disturbed areas that do not contain natural vegetation and would result in temporary impacts to approximately 1.18 acres within the wetland adjacent area. Best Management Practices (BMP) will be implemented to prevent impacts to wetlands and waterways associated with Project construction. Once construction is completed, the function of the wetlands would remain unaltered by the Proposed Action.

The Proposed Activity would result in temporary impacts approximately 1-acre of the 100-year floodplain during construction. The majority of the project site is located within Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) Zone AE (areas within the one percent annual chance of flood). Other than tree planting activities, all other construction activities will take place in areas covered by asphalt and concrete. Once construction is completed, the function of the floodplain would remain unaltered by the Proposed Action.

***Step 2. Initiate Public Notice for Early Review of Proposal.***

Because the Proposed Action is located within a floodplain and tidal wetland adjacent area, GOSR published an early notice, that allowed for the public and public agencies to provide input on the decision to provide funding for the Proposed Action. The early public notice and 15-day comment period is complete.

"Early Notice of a Proposed Activity in a 100-Year Floodplain and Wetland" was published in the Brooklyn Home Reporter/Sunset News newspaper on October 11, 2019, with the 15-day period expiring on October 28, 2019. The notice targeted local residents, including those within the floodplain. (See the attached **Early Notice and Affidavit of Publication**). The notice was also sent to the following state and Federal agencies on March 8, 2019: HUD; Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA); U.S Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS); U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA); NYSDEC; NY State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO); NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation; NYS Department of Transportation (DOT); and the NYS Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Services. The notice was also sent to agencies within the City of New York. No public comments were received.

***Step 3. Identify and Evaluate Practicable Alternatives to Locating the Proposed Action in a 100-year Floodplain (or 500-year Floodplain if a Critical Action) or Wetland.***

The New York State Rising Community Reconstruction Program is structured to provide eligible communities' resources and expertise to build projects resilient to future flooding events.

The primary alternative for the current Proposed Action is the "no action" alternative. Not undertaking the Project would not be consistent with the goals and objectives of the Canarsie NY Rising Community Reconstruction Plan to provide improvements to the Belt Parkway underpass and roundabout to increase pedestrian and cyclist ridership and reduce automobile use to Canarsie Pier as well as provide pedestrian safety. Greenhouse gas emissions and other air pollutants from cars would not be decreased and there would be no increase in the environmental sustainability of Canarsie and the surrounding communities. Additionally, the health and social benefits would not be realized including access improvements that would result in improved conditions for biking and walking in Canarsie, address existing safety concerns and increase the use of alternative modes of

transportation and providing expanded opportunities for recreation and active living for residents. Finally, improving access to Canarsie Pier may attract new visitors to the Pier as well as to the larger Community, which could contribute to the local economy.

The above identified alternatives will be re-evaluated in response to public comments received.

***Step 4. Identify and describe the Proposed Action's direct and indirect effects associated with occupying or modifying the floodplain and wetlands.***

The Proposed Activity would have no direct or indirect impacts to the floodplain or wetland because the improvements will take place in areas covered with asphalt and concrete. No new impervious area would be created. The function of the floodplain would not change. The project area is located in the adjacent area of a tidal wetland. This area is separated from the tidal wetland by bulkheads and roads and therefore, the adjacent area is not hydrologically connected to the tidal wetland and therefore the Proposed Action would have no impact to the tidal area. The floodplain would be disturbed temporarily during construction.

The floodplain and wetland impact analysis focus on potential adverse effects on lives and property and on natural and beneficial floodplain and wetland values. Natural and beneficial values include consideration of potential for adverse impacts on water resources such as natural moderation of floods, water quality maintenance, and groundwater recharge. The Proposed Action would have no change on these values.

*Natural moderation of floods*

The Proposed Action would not have direct or indirect effects on the moderation of floods. The existing floodplain area would not be changed.

*Living resources such as flora and fauna*

No adverse effects on flora and fauna is anticipated since construction BMP following permit requirements and conditions will be implemented during the construction period and disturbed areas returned to improved conditions upon completion of project activities. Water quality will be protected from temporary disturbance from construction of the Proposed Action by preventing erosion, sedimentation, and the introduction of contaminants associated with construction equipment within the floodplain. Temporary erosion and sediment controls would be installed over the length of the Project. These measures would be installed prior to disturbance and would remain in place until all slopes are stabilized and revegetated as necessary. All stockpiled soils would be protected with sediment and erosion control measures in compliance with Section 207-02 of the NYS Department of Transportation Standard Specifications. All necessary precautions would be undertaken to prevent contamination of any streams, channels or waterways by silt, sediment, fuel, solvents, lubricants, epoxy coatings, debris, concrete leachate, or any other pollutant associated with Project construction would be avoided through proper equipment maintenance and washout basins, platforms, nets, and screens for equipment cleaning. Debris or excess construction material would be immediately removed off-site.

*Impacts to property and lives*

The Proposed Action does not present the potential to impact occupancy of the floodplain. The project area will continue to function as an access route to Canarsie Pier. The Proposed Action will not modify property in floodplains.

The Proposed Activity would provide waterfront access for recreation.

*Cultural resources such as archaeological, historic & recreational aspects*

Consultation with the New York State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and the Division for Historic Preservation (DHP) in the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. SHPO evaluated the project for potential cultural and historic impacts and in a letter on October 1, 2019, SHPO stated that it is the opinion of SHPO that there will be no historic properties affected by the Project.

**Step 5. Identify methods to minimize the potential adverse impacts within a floodplain and wetland and to restore and preserve the natural and beneficial values.**

Implementation of the Proposed Action will comply with BMP and permit requirements and conditions set forth in the applicable Federal, State, and local permits. BMPs following permit requirements and conditions will be implemented during the construction period and disturbed areas returned to improved conditions upon completion of project activities. Water quality will be protected from temporary disturbance from construction of the Proposed Action by preventing erosion, sedimentation, and the introduction of contaminants associated with construction equipment within the floodplain. Temporary erosion and sediment controls would be installed over the length of the Project. These measures would be installed prior to disturbance and would remain in place until all slopes are stabilized and revegetated as necessary. All stockpiled soils would be protected with sediment and erosion control measures in compliance with Section 207-02 of the NYS Department of Transportation Standard Specifications. All necessary precautions would be undertaken to prevent contamination of any streams, channels or waterways by silt, sediment, fuel, solvents, lubricants, epoxy coatings, debris, concrete leachate, or any other pollutant associated with Project construction would be avoided through proper equipment maintenance and washout basins, platforms, nets, and screens for equipment cleaning. Debris or excess construction material would be immediately removed off-site.

While the Proposed Activity would temporarily disturb floodplain and wetland adjacent areas, once the construction is completed, the floodplain and wetland adjacent area will remain the same in function and size.

**Step 6. Reevaluate the Alternatives and Proposed Action.**

The “no action” alternative would not address the purpose and need of the Proposed Action. Not undertaking the Project would not be consistent with the goals and objectives of the Canarsie NY Rising Community Reconstruction Plan to provide improvements to the Belt Parkway underpass and roundabout to increase pedestrian and cyclist ridership and reduce automobile use to Canarsie Pier. Greenhouse gas emissions and other air pollutants from cars would not be decreased and there would be no increase in the environmental sustainability of Canarsie and the surrounding communities. Additionally, the health and social benefits would not be realized including access improvements that would result in improved conditions for biking and walking in Canarsie, address existing safety concerns and increase the use of alternative modes of transportation and providing expanded opportunities for recreation and active living for residents. Finally, improving access to Canarsie Pier may attract new visitors to the Pier as well as to the larger Community, which could contribute to the local economy. The impacts of these alternatives will be re-evaluated in response to any public comments received.

***Step 7. If the only practicable alternative is locating in a floodplain, publish a final public notice.***

It is the finding of this report that there is no practicable alternative to locating the project in the floodplain and wetlands. The location within floodplain and wetland adjacent area cannot be avoided to provide safe access to Canarsie Pier.

A combined Notice of Intent to Release Funds (NOIRROF)/final public notice was published in the Brooklyn Home Reporter/Sunset News newspaper by the Governor's Office of Storm Recovery on November 8, 2019, in compliance with Executive Orders 11988 and 11990 and 24 CFR Part 55. The final notice details the reasons why the project must be located in the floodplain, a list of alternatives considered, and all mitigation measures taken to minimize adverse impacts and preserve natural and beneficial floodplain values. All comments received during the comment period will be addressed prior to funds being committed to the Proposed Action. The comment period started with the Notice of Intent to Release Funds (NOIRROF)/final public notice on November 15, 2019. The comment period for the Final Notice is 7 days, which expires at 5pm on November 15, 2019. The Final Notice was also sent to the following state and Federal agencies on November 15, 2019: the US Army Corps of Engineers, HUD, FEMA, USFWS, EPA, NYSDEC, NY SHPO, NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, NYS DOT, and the NYS Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services. The notice was also sent to the agencies within the City of New York.

***Step 8. Implement the Proposed Action***

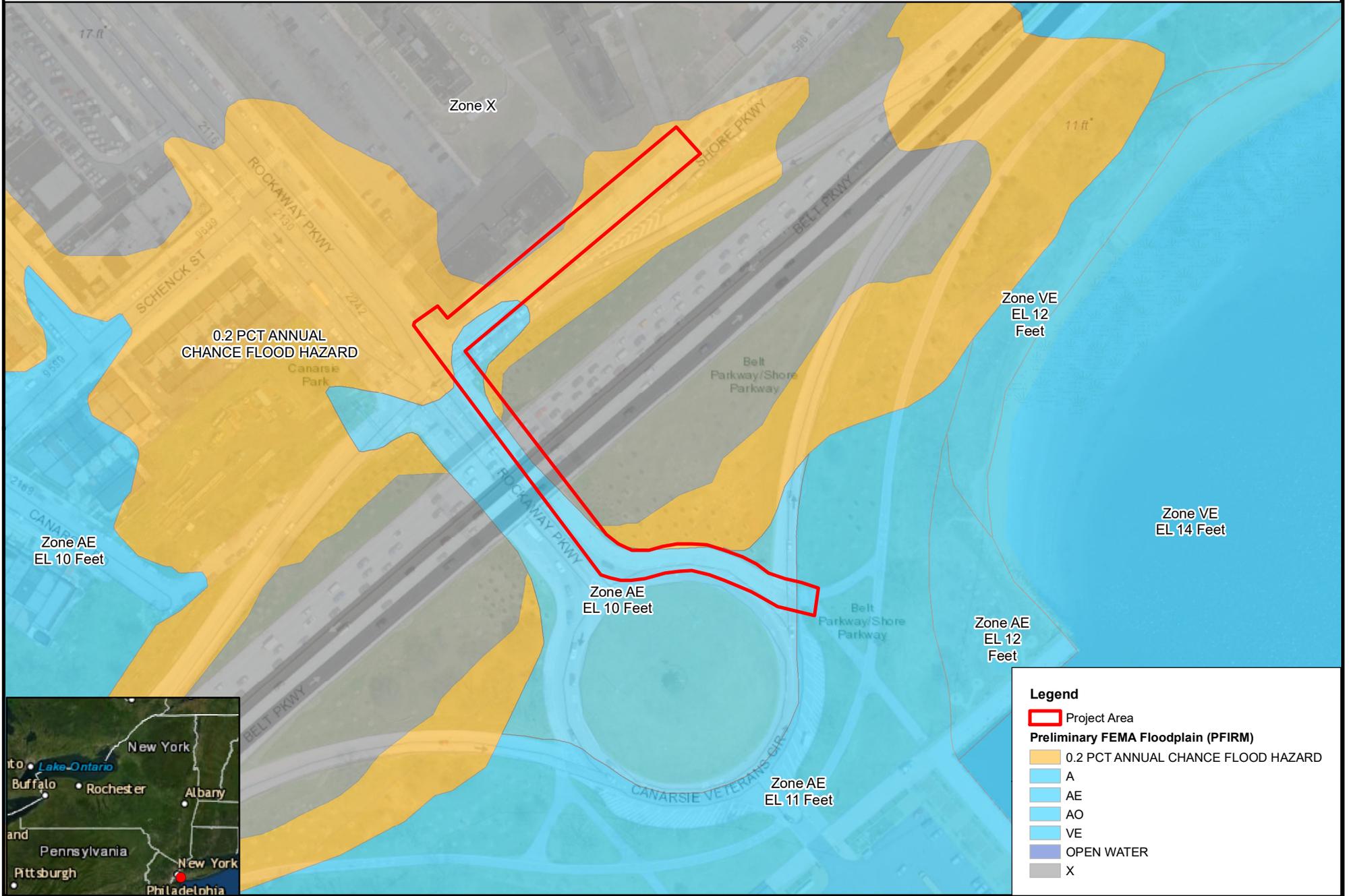
GOSR, operating under the auspices of the New York State Homes and Community Renewal's (NYSHCR) Housing Trust Fund Corporation, is the responsible entity. GOSR will ensure that the Proposed Action, as described above, is executed and necessary language will be included in all agreements with participating parties. Implementation of the Proposed Action may require additional local and state permits, which could place additional design modifications or mitigation requirements on the Project. It is acknowledged there is a continuing responsibility by the responsible entity to ensure, to the extent feasible and necessary, compliance with Steps 5 through 7.

Attachments

Floodplain and Wetland Maps  
Early Notice and Affidavit

## Floodplain and Wetland Maps

# Preliminary FIRM Map



## Canarsie Pier Access Improvements Brooklyn, Kings County, New York

0 0.0175 0.035 Miles

Data Sources: Esri Topographic and World Imagery Basemap, NYOPDIG, NYDEC, USGS, USFWS, FEMA, NYC MapPluto, EPA OAR-OAQPS, NYS GIS Clearinghouse



Governor's Office of  
Storm Recovery

Drawn By: ASL | Version: 2.0 | Date: 9/26/2019



FEMA data uses NAVD88\*

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# Preliminary FIRM Map



**Legend**

- Project Area
- Preliminary FEMA Floodplain (PFIRM)**
- 0.2 PCT ANNUAL CHANCE FLOOD HAZARD
- A
- AE
- AO
- VE
- OPEN WATER
- X

0 0.0275 0.055 Miles

## Canarsie Pier Access Improvements Brooklyn, Kings County, New York

Data Sources: Esri Topographic and World Imagery Basemap, NYOPDIG, NYDEC, USGS, USFWS, FEMA, NYC MapPluto, EPA OAR-OAQPS, NYS GIS Clearinghouse



Governor's Office of Storm Recovery

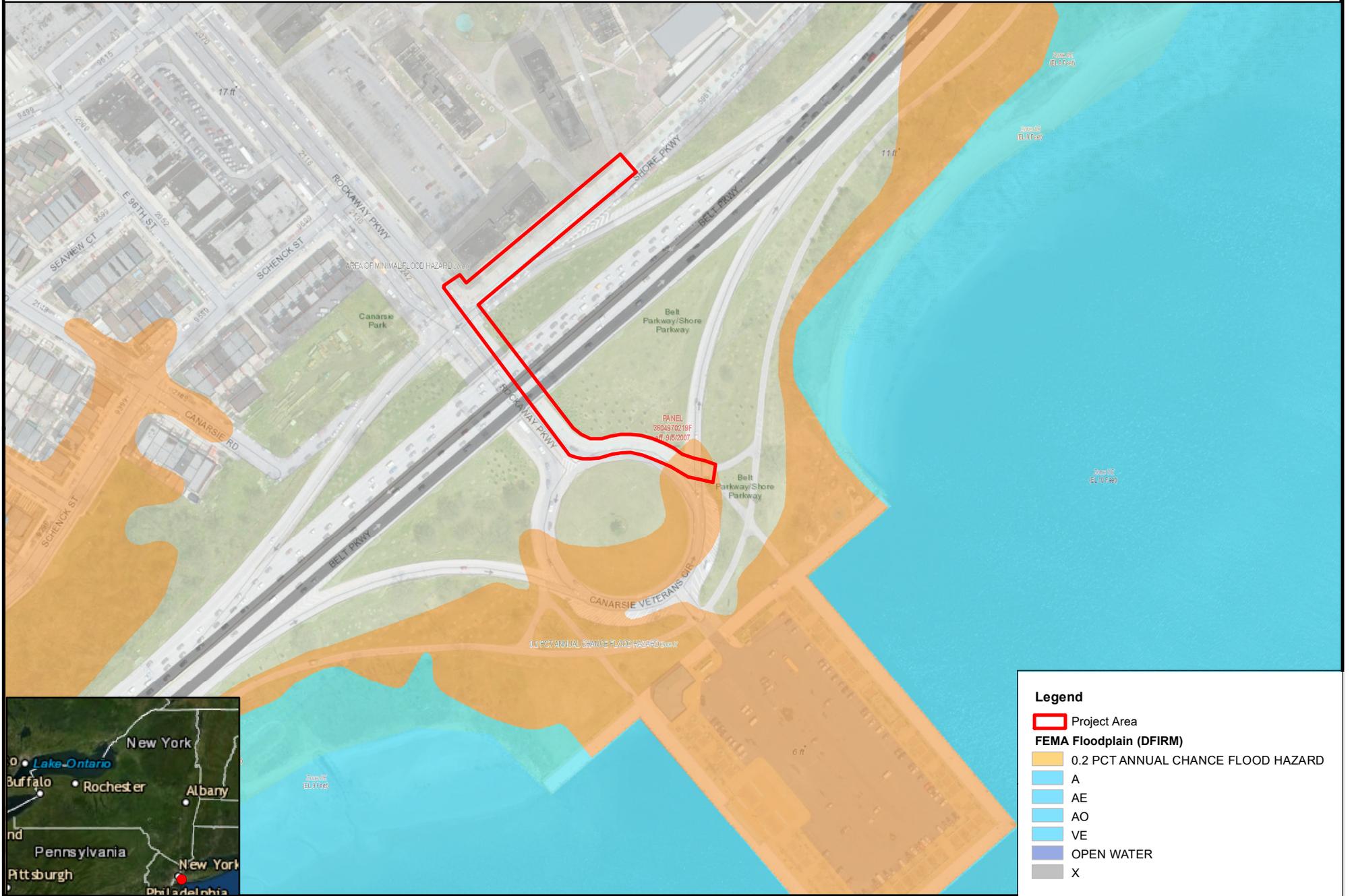
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# FEMA FIRM Map



**Legend**

- Project Area
- FEMA Floodplain (DFIRM)**
- 0.2 PCT ANNUAL CHANCE FLOOD HAZARD
- A
- AE
- AO
- VE
- OPEN WATER
- X



0 0.0275 0.055 Miles

## Canarsie Pier Access Improvements Brooklyn, Kings County, New York

Data Sources: Esri Topographic and World Imagery Basemap, NYOPDIG, NYDEC, USGS, USFWS, FEMA, NYC MapPluto, EPA OAR-OAQPS, NYS GIS Clearinghouse



Governor's Office of Storm Recovery

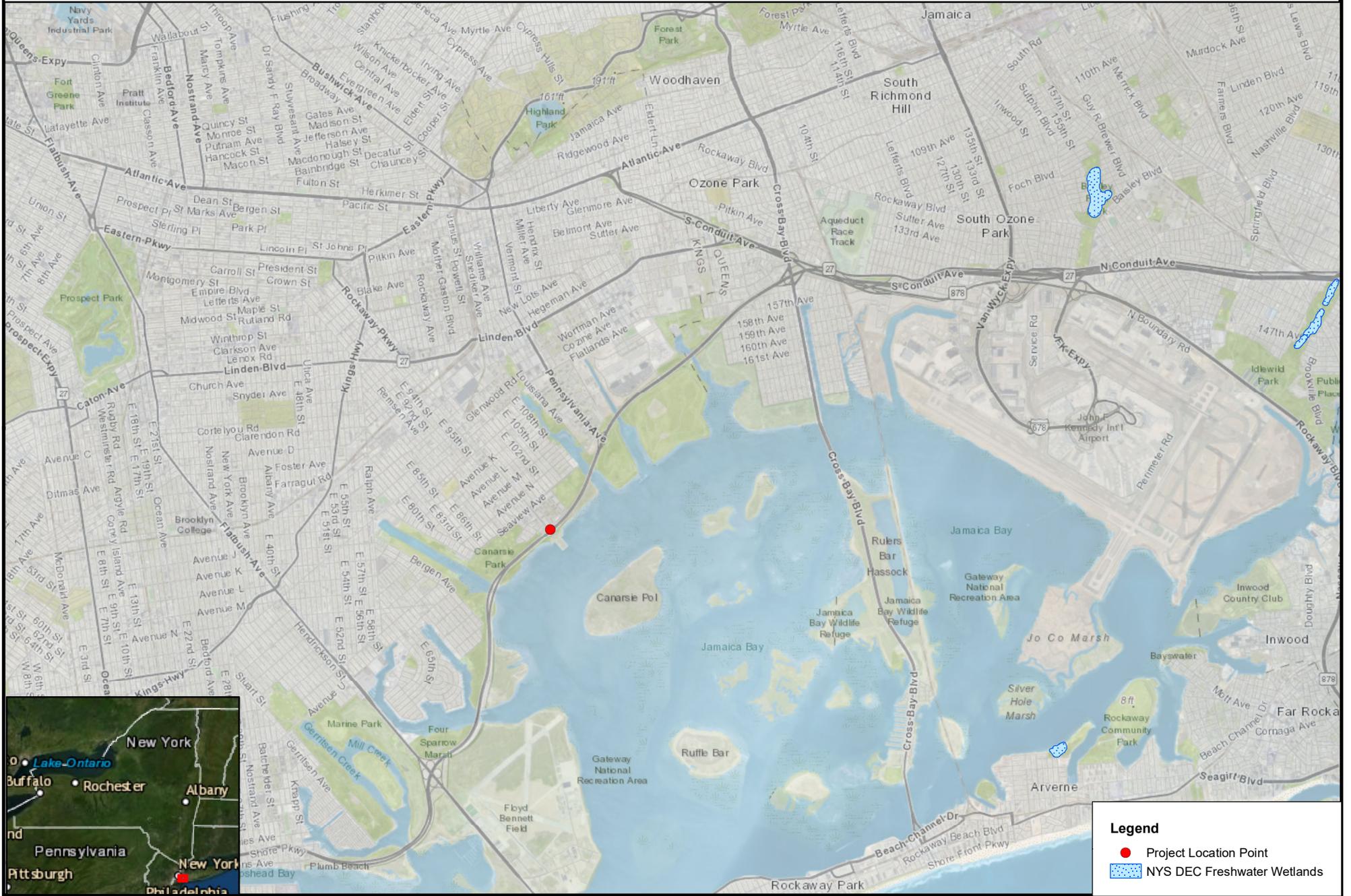
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# DEC Freshwater Wetlands Map



- Legend**
- Project Location Point
  - NYS DEC Freshwater Wetlands

0 0.75 1.5 Miles

## Canarsie Pier Access Improvements Brooklyn, Kings County, New York

Data Sources: Esri Topographic and World Imagery Basemap, NYOPDG, NYDEC, USGS, USFWS, FEMA, NYC MapPluto, EPA OAR-OAQPS, NYS GIS Clearinghouse



Governor's Office of  
Storm Recovery

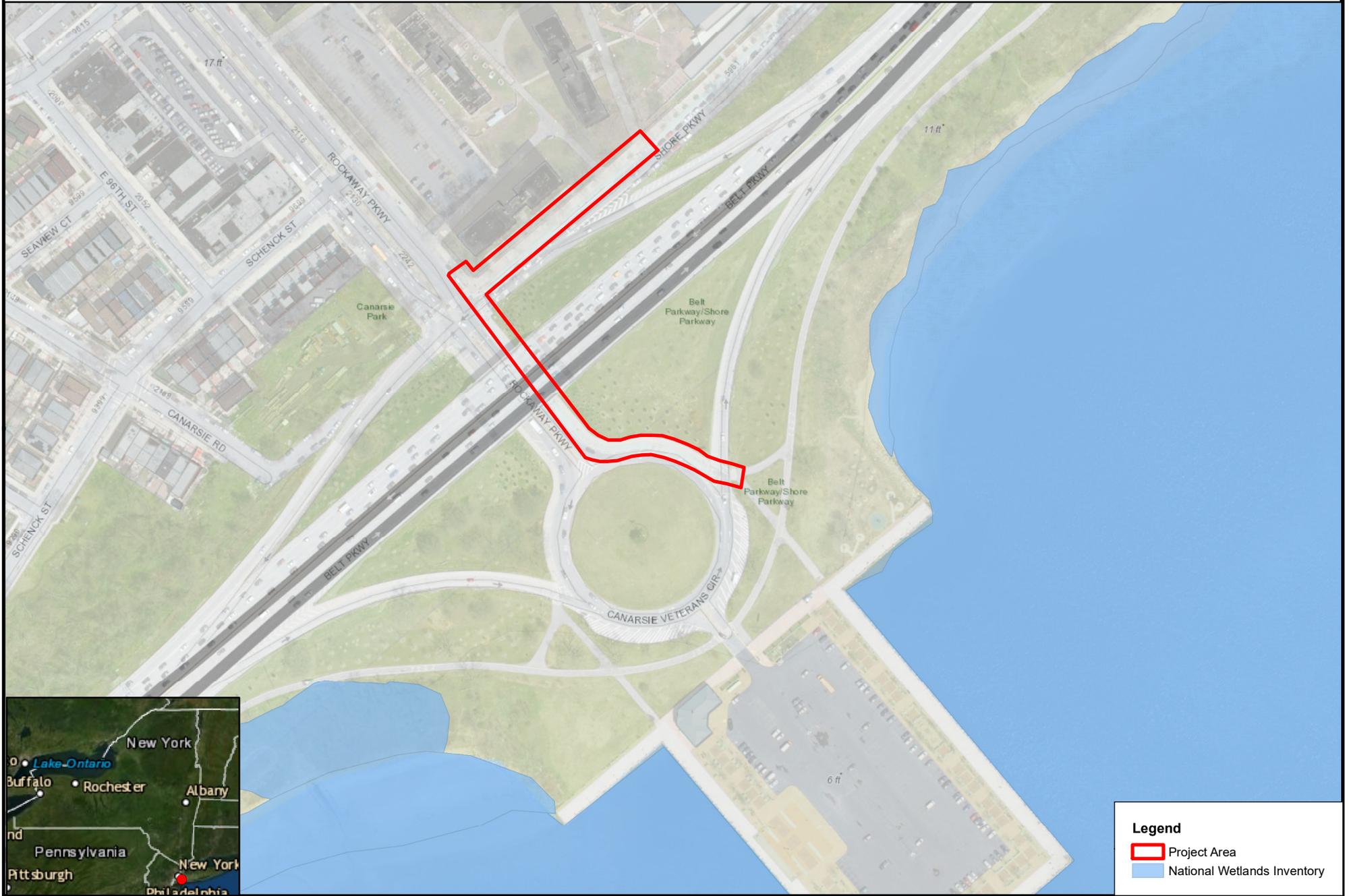
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# National Wetlands Inventory Map



## Canarsie Pier Access Improvements Brooklyn, Kings County, New York

Data Sources: Esri Topographic and World Imagery Basemap, NYOPDIG, NYDEC, USGS, USFWS, FEMA, NYC MapPluto, EPA OAR-OAQPS, NYS GIS Clearinghouse



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# Tidal Wetlands Map



## Canarsie Pier Access Improvements Brooklyn, Kings County, New York

0 0.0375 0.075 Miles

Data Sources: Esri Topographic and World Imagery Basemap, NYOPDIG, NYDEC, USGS, USFWS, FEMA, NYC MapPluto, EPA OAR-OAQPS, NYS GIS Clearinghouse



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Early Notice and Affidavit



**ANDREW M. CUOMO**  
Governor

**EARLY NOTICE OF A PROPOSED ACTIVITY  
IN A 100-YEAR FLOODPLAIN**

**CANARSIE PIER ACCESS IMPROVEMENT PROJECT  
BROOKLYN, KINGS COUNTY, NEW YORK  
OCTOBER 11, 2019**

To: All interested Agencies, Groups, and Individuals

This is to give notice that the Governor's Office of Storm Recovery (GOSR), an office of the New York State Housing Trust Fund Corporation (HTFC), has received an application from the City of New York to use Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funding from the NY Rising Community Reconstruction Program to implement the proposed Canarsie Pier Access Improvement Project in Brooklyn, New York (hereinafter, the "Proposed Activity") and is conducting an evaluation as required by Executive Order 11988 and Executive Order 11990 in accordance with U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) regulations (24 CFR Part 55).

There are three primary purposes for this notice. First, to provide the public an opportunity to express their concerns and share information about the Proposed Activity, including alternative locations outside of the floodplain and wetlands. Second, adequate public notice is an important public education tool. The dissemination of information about floodplains and wetlands facilitates and enhances governmental efforts to reduce the risks associated with the occupancy and modification of these special areas. Third, as a matter of fairness, when the government determines it will participate in actions taking place in floodplains or wetlands, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk. Funding for the Proposed Activity will be provided by the HUD CDBG-DR program for storm recovery activities in New York State.

The Proposed Activity includes improvements to the pedestrian and bicycle access along Rockaway Parkway and Shore Parkway. The project includes tree removal and planting. Any shrubbery, debris, fences, and other encroachments found on and within the city's right of way that interfere with the new work will be removed.

As a result of curb relocation, existing street appurtenances projecting above paved surfaces, such as hydrants, lampposts and traffic signal poles, bus shelters, etc., will have to be relocated. Portions of the existing sidewalks will be widened and narrowed and associated curb reconstructed. Sidewalk pedestrian ramps will be embedded with preformed detectable warning units at all corners. At all proposed bus stop pads, new continuous sidewalk will be constructed for the entire length of the bus pad, from the curb line to the property line/fence line.

Trolley tracks will be removed if encountered in excavations and new manhole covers provided when required. Eleven (11) new catch basin connections will be made to existing sewers at manholes. All new catch basins will be equipped with a hood on the outlet pipe.

The grass and tree covered area within the project area will be graded and seeded. There will be no increase in impermeable surfaces

The majority of the Proposed Activity is located within Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) Zone AE (areas within the one percent annual chance of flood). The Proposed Activity would result in temporary impacts approximately 1-acre of the 100-year floodplain during construction. Other than tree planting activities, all other construction activities will take place in areas with existing asphalt and concrete cover. Once construction is completed, the function of the floodplain would remain unaltered by the Proposed Activity. Thus, the Proposed Activity would not result in any permanent impacts to the floodplain.

Floodplain maps based on the FEMA Base Flood Elevation Maps have been prepared and are available for review with additional information at <http://www.stormrecovery.ny.gov/environmental-docs>.

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the Proposed Activity or request further information by contacting Matt Accardi, Governor's Office of Storm Recovery, 25 Beaver Street, 5th Floor, New York, NY 10004; email: [NYSCDBG\\_DR\\_ER@nyshcr.org](mailto:NYSCDBG_DR_ER@nyshcr.org). Standard office hours are 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM Monday through Friday. For more information, call (212) 480-6265. All comments received by October 28, 2019 will be considered



**Governor's Office of  
Storm Recovery**

**ANDREW M. CUOMO**  
Governor

**Canarsie Pier Access Improvement Project**  
**Early Floodplain Notice**

<b><u>FEDERAL AGENCIES</u></b>	<b><u>FEDERAL AGENCIES</u></b>
<p>Jerome Hatfield, Regional Administrator U.S. Dep. of Homeland Security Federal Emergency Management Agency, R II 26 Federal Plaza New York, NY 10278-0002</p> <p>By email only: <a href="mailto:disaster_recovery@hud.gov">disaster_recovery@hud.gov</a></p> <p>Mr. Mike Poetzsch (By email only) U.S. Environmental Protection Agency <a href="mailto:michael@epa.gov">michael@epa.gov</a></p> <p>Mr. Steven T. Papa U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Long Island Field Office 340 Smith Rd Shirley, NY 11967</p> <p>Ms. Therese J. Fretwell, Enviro. Officer, R 1 &amp; 2 U.S. Dep. of Housing and Urban Development 26 Federal Plaza, Room 3541 New York, NY 10278-0068</p> <p>Tennille Smith Parker, Director U.S. Dep. of Housing and Urban Development Disaster Recovery and Special Issues Division 451 7th Street SW, Room 7272 Washington, DC 20410</p> <p>Donna Mahon, Disaster Recovery Field Enviro. Officer R 2 U.S. Dep. of Housing and Urban Development One Newark Center 1085 Raymond Blvd. 12th Floor Newark, NJ 07102</p>	<p>Mrs. Irene Chang-Cimino, Sandy Recovery Coordination and Policy Advisor U.S. Department of Homeland Security Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region II 26 Federal Plaza New York, NY 10278-0002</p> <p>Jennifer Nersesian Superintendent Gateway National Recreation Area 210 New York Avenue Staten Island, New York 10305</p> <p><b><u>NYS &amp; LOCAL AGENCIES</u></b></p> <p>Mayor Bill de Blasio City Hall New York, NY 10007</p> <p>Stephen Watts, Regional Permit Administrator, Region 2 New York State Department of Environmental Conservation 1 Hunter's Point Plaza 47-40 21st Street Long Island City, NY 11101-5401</p> <p>Mr. Matt Maraglio Supervisor, Consistency Review Unit Division of Coastal Resources New York State Department of State One Commerce Plaza 99 Washington Avenue Albany, New York 12231-0001</p>

<b><u>NYS &amp; LOCAL AGENCIES</u></b>	<b><u>NYS &amp; LOCAL AGENCIES</u></b>
<p>Michael Marrella, Director of Waterfront and Open Space New York Department of City Planning 22 Reade Street 6E New York, NY 10007</p> <p>Richard Egan Executive Director Capital Program Management NYC Department of Transportation 55 Water St, NY 10041</p> <p>Herve Carrie Executive Director Program Management NYC Department of Design and Construction 30-30 Thomson Ave, NY 11101</p> <p>Mr. Ron Rausch, Director Environmental Management Bureau Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation 625 Broadway, 2nd Floor Albany, New York 12238</p> <p>Marlene White Chief of Mitigation Programs &amp; Agency Preservation Office NYS Division of Homeland Security &amp; Emergency Services 1220 Washington Avenue Bldg 7A, Floor 4 Albany, NY 12242</p> <p>Mitchell J. Silver, FAICP Commissioner NYC Department of Parks and Recreation The Arsenal Central Park 830 Fifth Avenue New York, New York 10065</p>	<p>Galileo Orlando Deputy Commissioner NYC Department of Transportation City of New York 253 Broadway 10<sup>th</sup> Floor New York, New York 10007</p> <p>Cherry Mui Program Manager Mayor's Office of Resiliency 253 Broadway, 14th Floor NY, NY 10007</p> <p>Nayeem Ameen Infrastructure Design II 30-30 Thomson Avenue, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor #290 Long Island City, NY 11101</p> <p>Queens County Clerk's Office 8811 Sutphin Blvd, Ste 106 Jamaica, NY 11435</p> <p>Hon. Audrey I. Pheffer, Queens County Clerk 88-11 Sutphin Blvd., Room 105 Jamaica, New York 11435</p> <p>Marisa Lago, Director Queens Dept. of City Planning 120-55 Queens Blvd., Room 201 Kew Gardens, NY 11424</p>

# AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

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## STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF NEW YORK

Alison Bloom being duly sworn hereby declares and says, that she is the Advertising Account Executive responsible for placing the attached advertisement in: the Brooklyn Home Reporter newspaper for Miller Advertising Agency, Inc.; located in New York, NY, and that the New York State Governor's Office of Storm Recovery advertisement, of which the annexed is a true copy, has been published in the said publication on the following issue date(s): October 11, 2019.

Alison Bloom

Alison Bloom

### Subscribed to and Sworn before me

This 16<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2019

Donna Perez

Notary Public

Donna Perez  
Notary Public State Of New York  
No. 01PE6151365  
Qualified In New York County  
Commission Expires August, 14<sup>th</sup> - 2022

