



# Gravesend & Bensonhurst NY Rising Community Reconstruction Planning Committee

Meeting #3  
August 5, 2014

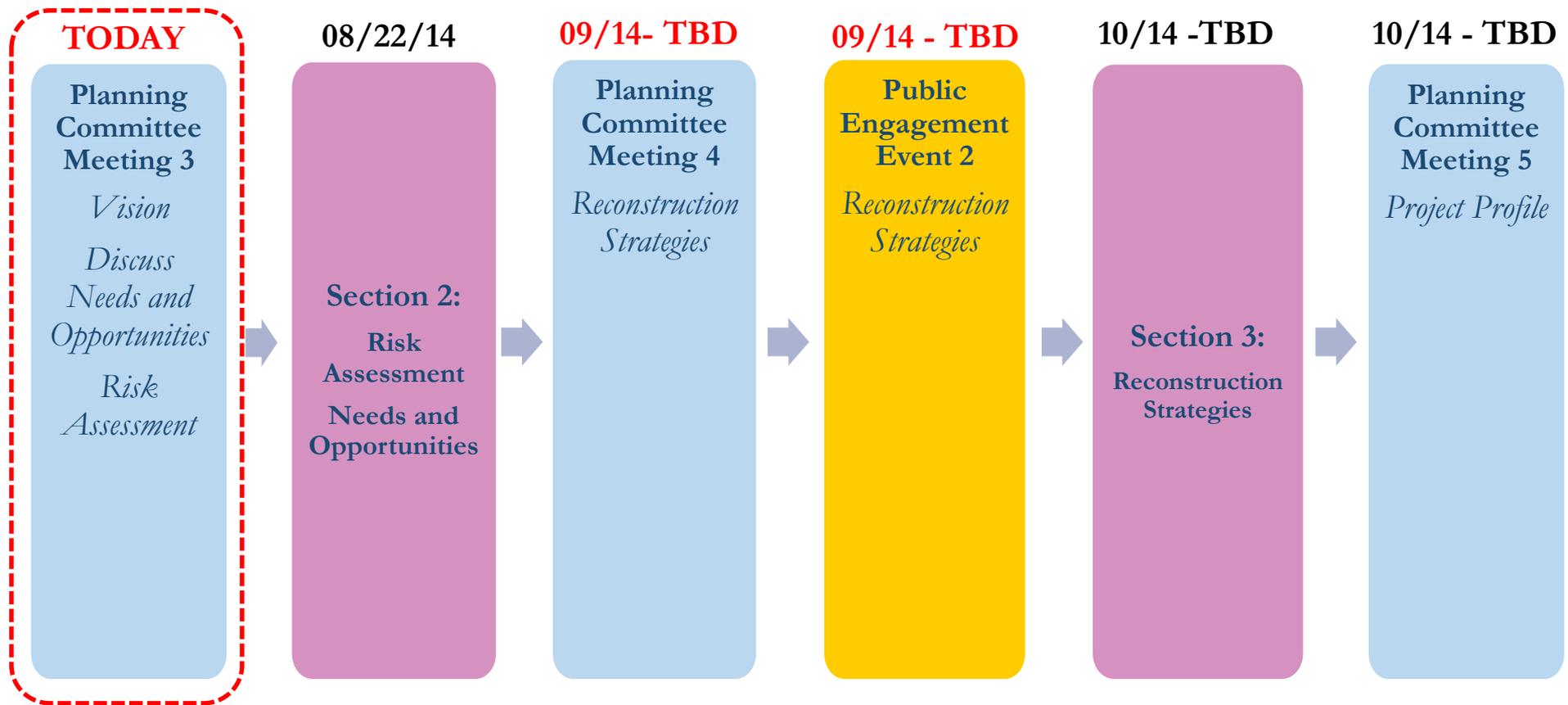
# Agenda

1. **Introduction and Welcome (6:00 pm)**
2. **Where we are in the process (6:05pm)**
3. **What we have done since last meeting (6:10 pm)**
  1. Public Meeting Summary
  2. Meetings with Agencies
  3. Existing Plans and Projects
4. **Draft Vision Statement (6:30 pm)**
5. **Assets, Critical Issues & Needs and Opportunities (6:45 pm)**
6. **Next Steps and Q&A (7:45 pm)**
7. **Wrap-up (8:00 pm)**





# 2 Months Look Ahead



# Public Meeting Summary



# Summary of Meeting with DEP

## Current Projects and Funding:

- Developing a drainage plan for the area surrounding Bay 23rd St, Bath Avenue and Cropsey Avenue due to recurring flooding there.
- Avenue V pumping station should be operational soon, if not already.

## Planned Projects and Funding

- No planned projects currently, but after the development of the drainage plan there will be projects **(not funded)**

## Potential NYRCR Projects:

- Projects will be “partial separations” that create storm sewers in the combined sewer area to relieve flows in the combined sewer system.
- DEP needs a better sense of what types of projects can go into the plan



*Drainage Plan Study Area*



*Coney Island Creek*



## Meetings with City/State Agencies

- **NYC Parks Department (NYCDPR) - 8/08/2014**
- **NYC Economic Development Corporation (EDC) - 8/08/2014**
- **NYC Office of Emergency Management (OEM) - 8/04/2014**
- **NYC Department of Transportation (DOT) - TBD**
- **Community Board 11, 13 & 15 District Managers - TBD**

To be scheduled:

- **NYC Housing Authority (NYCHA)**
- **Office of Long-Term Planning and Sustainability (OLTPS)**
- **NYC City Planning (DCP)**
- **MTA**



# Existing and Proposed Projects:



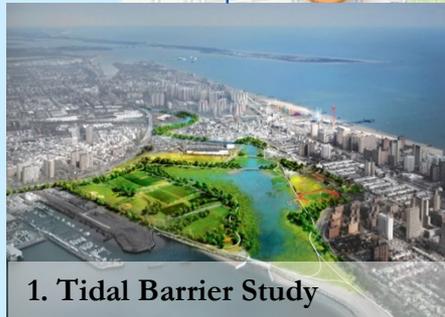
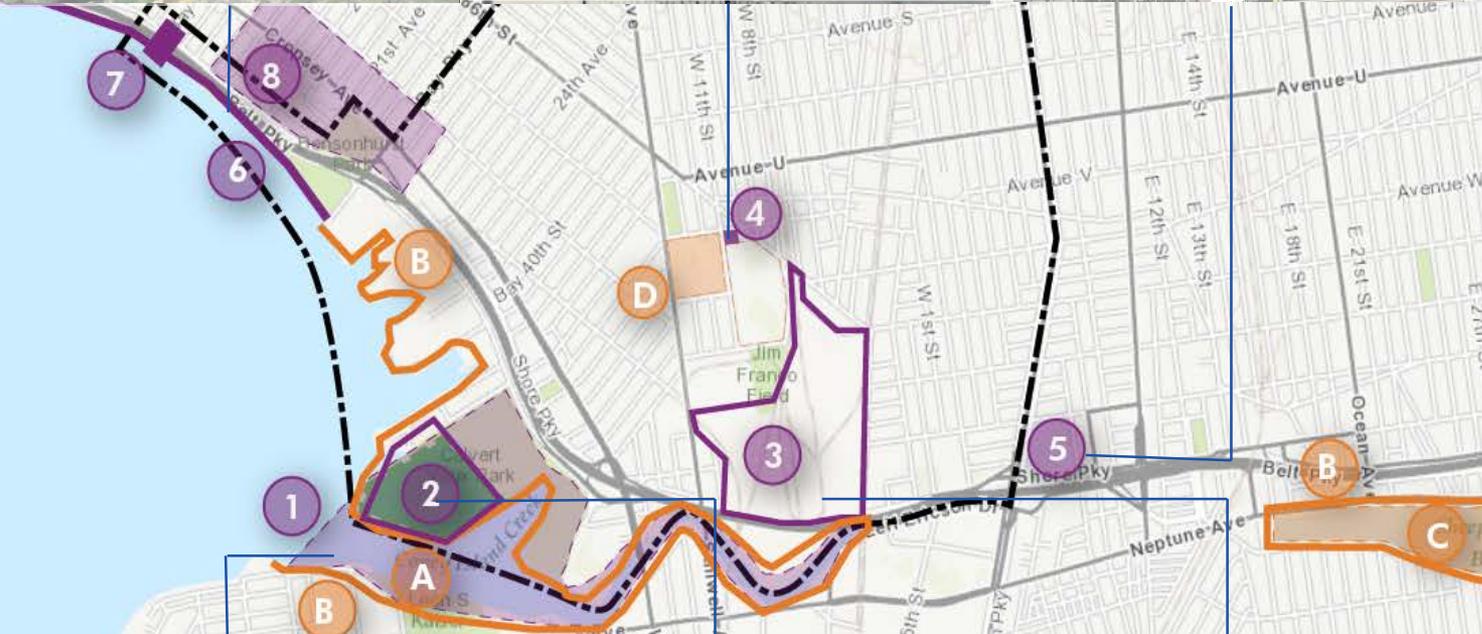
6. Bulkhead Repair



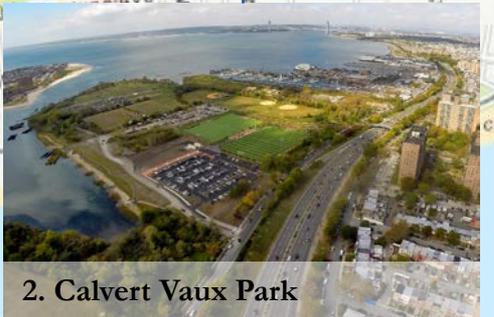
4. Ave V Pumping Station Expansion



5. Coney Island Hospital



1. Tidal Barrier Study



2. Calvert Vaux Park



3. MTA Yard Flood Mitigation

## Projects Funded/Completed Post Sandy

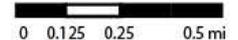
- 1 Implementation plan for new Coney Island Creek wetlands and tidal barrier (2015)
- 2 Improvements at Calvert Vaux Park
- 3 Flood mitigation design at MTA's Coney Island complex (Planning Stage)
- 4 Pumping station and force mains expansion(2014)
- 5 Coney Island Hospital improvements
- 6 Bulkhead repairs (Completed)
- 7 17th Ave pedestrian bridge replacement (Design)
- 8 High level storm sewer drainage plan (2015)

## Recommended Projects Post Sandy

- A Install armored stone shoreline protection (revetments) at Coney Island Creek to prevent "back-door" flooding (SIRR)
- B Raise bulkheads in low-lying neighborhoods (SIRR)
- C Reconnaissance Study for Storm Surge Reduction and Flood Barrier Systems (Gerritsen Beach and Sheepshead Bay/Coney Island NYRCR Plan)
- D Retrofit public housing units damaged by Sandy and increase future resiliency if public housing

## Coney Island NYRCR Relevant Proposed Projects (not mapped)

- Southern Brooklyn emergency Response Plan (NYRCR Coney Island)
- Public Emergency Preparedness Outreach Campaign
- Designation of Emergency Response and recovery centers
- Increase resiliency of small businesses throughout peninsula
- Vocational Training Program
- Funding for microgrid study for NYCHA and Mitchell-Lama Properties





# Community Strengths

- Access to public transportation
- Vibrant and diverse community:
  - “mosaic of ethnicities”
  - “Community is quiet and peaceful, people are friendly and helpful”
  - “Community pulled together”
- Great parks and parklands along the waterfront
- Many small businesses and shopping that serve local community needs
  - “mom and pops are the lifeblood”
- Stable, low crime rate, clean
  - “Location is great, very clean, walking distance, low crime”
- Great schools
- Community is Booming / Important / Valuable



# *Vision Statement*

Gravesend and Bensonhurst are **culturally** and **generationally diverse communities**, home to **safe** and **stable residential neighborhoods** that have **excellent access to transportation**, shopping and the waterfront.

Our vision is to **rebuild** and **plan** for a more **resilient** future where the **safety** and well-being of our community is maintained in the face of future storm events. We will **work together** to develop solutions that foster **strengthened infrastructure systems**, **economic vitality**, a **healthy environment**, **improved access to the water**, and enhanced tools for **communication** and **emergency planning**.



# Assets, Critical Issues & Needs and Opportunities

## *Six Recovery Support Functions*



### 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



# Economic Development



**Legend**

- ECONOMIC ASSETS

**ECONOMIC CORRIDORS**

- BATH AVENUE ECONOMIC CORRIDOR
- B&TH STREET ECONOMIC CORRIDOR
- KINGS HIGHWAY ECONOMIC CORRIDOR
- AVENUE U ECONOMIC CORRIDOR
- MCDONALD AVENUE INDUSTRIAL AREA
- AVENUE X ECONOMIC CORRIDOR

**EMPLOYERS WITH 100+ EMPLOYEES**

- KOHL'S DEPARTMENT STORE
- WENDY'S
- BEST BUY
- BJ'S WHOLESALE CLUB
- ADVENTURERS AMUSEMENT PARK
- HSBC BANK
- RAINBOW
- HI PRESS MACHINE INC
- MCDONALD'S
- AARDVARK AMUSEMENTS
- CONY ISLAND AUTO PARTS UNLIMITED
- MEGA MEDICAL & DENTAL BILLING
- MACGRAY COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL LAUNDERERS
- HOYT TRANSPORTATION CORP
- HOME DEPOT
- MERCEDES BENZ OF BROOKLYN

**ECONOMIC ASSET SUBCATEGORIES**

- GROCERY
- HOTEL
- ★ TOURISM

**Other Legend Items:**

- MAJOR ECONOMIC CORRIDOR
- MAJOR ECONOMIC AREA
- RETAIL
- INDUSTRIAL
- MIXED-USE
- PLANNING AREA BOUNDARY

0 0.125 0.25 0.5 mi N



# Economic Development: Critical Issues

- Protect key commercial corridors in low lying areas
- Many local businesses along Shore Parkway and Cropsey Avenue were damaged and closed for a long time or permanently
- Lack of employment and training, including safety for low-wage workers who helped clean up the neighborhood post-Sandy



*Caesar's Bay Shopping Center*



*Businesses along Cropsey Avenue were closed for a long time*

**What needs and opportunities stem from these issues?**

# Health and Social Services

**Legend**

HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICE ASSETS

EMERGENCY RESPONSE



- 1 ASCONA INCORPORATED
- 2 FDNY ENG 253
- 3 BENSONHURST VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE SERVICE
- 4 AVA AMBULETTE
- 5 HEART TRANSPORTATION AMBULETTE
- 6 MERCY CARE TRANSPORTATION INC
- 7 MIDWOOD AMBULANCE & OXYGEN SERVICE
- 8 LIFE LINE AMBULANCE INC
- 9 NYPD COUNTER-TERRORISM DIVISION
- 10 CONEY ISLAND HOSPITAL
- SOCIAL SERVICES**
- 11 MCC PARTNER CORPORATION
- 12 HAYM SOLOMON HOME FOR NURSING



- 13 LIFESPIRE, INC. AT HARWAY AVE
- 14 BLOCK INSTITUTE AT 506 BAY 44TH ST
- 15 NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT CENTERS, INC.
- 16 BLOCK INSTITUTE SCHOOL AT 133 27TH AVE
- 17 OUR SPACE FAMILY MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING PLLC
- 18 COUNCIL FOR UNITY
- 19 DIVINITY AMOUR
- 20 WORKER'S JUSTICE PROJECT
- GOVERNMENT SERVICES**
- 21 HIGHLAWN POST OFFICE
- 22 GRAVESSEND POST OFFICE



# Health and Social Services: Critical Issues

- Socially Vulnerable populations:
  - 15% of population is over 65 years of age
  - 26% of households have 1+ person with a disability
  - 23% of population speaks English “less than very well”
- Emergency support services such as 911 were a major issue
- Over capacity of emergency rooms.
- Coney Island Hospital is in high risk area
- Nursing homes and adult care facilities at high risk of flooding and power outage
- Access to doctors, pharmacies, other services disrupted

**What needs and opportunities stem from these issues?**



# Housing



## Legend

● MULTI-FAMILY HOUSING ASSETS

- 1 GARDEN OF EDEN HOME (AH)
- 2 SEPHARDIC HOME FOR THE AGED INC
- 3 SEPHARDIC NURSING & REHABILITATION CENTER
- 4 KINGS ADULT CARE CENTER
- 5 HAYM SOLOMON HOME FOR NURSING AND REHABILITATION
- 6 HAYM SOLOMON HOME FOR THE AGED
- 7 REGINA PACIS HOUSING CORPORATION
- 8 WATERVIEW TOWERS
- 9 SONS OF ITALY SENIOR CITIZENS HOUSING
- 10 OCEANVIEW TOWERS
- 11 CONTELLO TOWERS
- 12 HARWAY TERRACE
- 13 AVENUE W DEVELOPMENT
- 14 NYCHA MARLBORO HOUSES
- 15 NEW YORK CITY HOUSING AUTHORITY
- 16 HIGHLAWN TERRACE
- 17 AHI EZER PLAZA
- 18 BEACH HAVEN APARTMENTS
- 19 MARC JCH GOODFRIENDS NORC

- 1-2 FAMILY
- MULTI-FAMILY WALK-UP
- MULTI-FAMILY ELEVATOR

PLANNING AREA BOUNDARY



# Housing Discussion: Critical Issues

- Flooding and damage to homes
- Damage to utility systems in high-rise buildings

**What needs and opportunities stem from these issues?**



*3'-6' flooding in the areas along Stillwell Ave*



*High-rise along Cropsey Ave*



*Malboro Houses was flooded during Sandy*



# Infrastructure



## Legend

● INFRASTRUCTURE ASSET

**MTA FACILITY**

- 1 SUBWAY LINE (D)
- 2 BAY PARKWAY STATION (D)
- 3 25TH AVENUE STATION (D)
- 4 BAY 50TH STREET STATION (D)
- 5 SUBWAY LINE (N)
- 6 KINGS HIGHWAY STATION (N)
- 7 AVENUE U STATION (F)
- 8 86TH STREET STATION (N)
- 9 SUBWAY LINE (F)
- 10 AVENUE P STATION (F)
- 11 KINGS HIGHWAY STATION (F)
- 12 AVENUE U STATION (N)
- 13 AVENUE X STATION (F)
- 14 ULMER PARK MTA BUS DEPOT
- 15 CONEY ISLAND NYCT SUBWAY YARD
- 16 CONEY ISLAND NYCT MAINTENANCE YARD

**ROADWAYS**

- 17 CROPSY AVENUE
- 18 86TH STREET
- 19 AVENUE U
- 20 BELT PARKWAY
- 21 STILLWELL AVENUE

**BIKE LANES**

- 22 SHORE PARKWAY BIKEWAY
- 23 W. 6TH STREET BIKE LANE
- 24 OCEAN PARKWAY BIKE LANE

**OTHER**

- 25 BAYSIDE FUEL OIL DEPOT-1776 SHORE PKWY
- 26 ROSE FUEL
- 27 SAVINO OIL & HEATING
- 28 BAYSIDE FUEL OIL DEPOT CORP
- 29 BP
- 30 NYC SANITATION DEPARTMENT GARAGE & SPECIAL WASTE DROP-OFF

— SUBWAY LINES

● BUS STOPS

— BIKE ROUTES

⇄ EVACUATION ROUTES

■ TELECOMMUNICATIONS

■ TRANSPORTATION (TAXI, LIMO, PRIVATE BUS)

▲ HAZARDOUS MATERIALS, SOLID WASTE & RECYCLING

○ SEWER OUTFALLS

□ PUMPING STATION

— PLANNING AREA BOUNDARY

0 0.125 0.25 0.5 mi

N



# Infrastructure: Critical Issues

- Power outages
- Gas stations lost power and did not operate
- Contiguous protection along shoreline
- Flooding along Shore Parkway/Belt Parkway in Bath Beach
- Recurring flooding in low-lying areas near Cropsey and Bath Aves
- Maintenance and capacity of stormwater facilities (e.g. sewers)



*Varying conditions along the shore*



*Flooding from Sandy at Stillwell and Ave V*

# Infrastructure: Critical Issues

- Sewer backups in basements
- Lack of permeable surfaces to capture stormwater runoff
- Low lying backyards and driveways –(lower the street level).
- Belt Parkway is vulnerable
- Flooded subways and MTA rail yard
- Congestion on north/south access roads to Coney Island
- Roads in disrepair

**What needs and opportunities stem from these issues?**



*Low lying driveways and backyards*



*Flooding of Belt Parkway*



*Flooding of MTA Coney Island Complex*



# Natural and Cultural Resources



## Legend

NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCE ASSETS

### LIBRARY

- 1 HIGHLAWN LIBRARY
- 2 ULMER PARK LIBRARY
- 3 GRAVESEND LIBRARY

### PARK/PLAYGROUND

- 4 BENSONHURST PARK
- 5 BATH PLAYGROUND
- 6 NELLIE BLY PARK
- 7 CALVERT VAUX PARK
- 8 CONEY ISLAND BOAT BASIN
- 9 SIX DIAMONDS
- 10 DRIER OFFERMAN PARK
- 11 LAFAYETTE PLAYGROUND
- 12 SCARANGELLA PARK
- 13 P.S. 97 PLAYGROUND
- 14 P.S. 215 PLAYGROUND
- 15 MCDONALD PLAYGROUND
- 16 MARLBORO PLAYGROUND
- 17 WEST PLAYGROUND

### WATERBODY

- 18 SHORE PARKWAY GREENWAY
- 19 GRAVESEND BAY
- 20 CONEY ISLAND CREEK

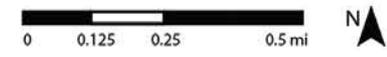
PUBLIC ACCESS TO WATERFRONT

"GREEN STREET"

PLACE OF WORSHIP

HISTORIC LANDMARK

PLANNING AREA BOUNDARY



# Natural and Cultural Resources: Critical Issues

- Pollution and degradation of Coney Island Creek
- Lack of access to parks along shoreline, access to water
- Fragmented park system
- Poor maintenance of parks
- Lack of green space north of Belt Parkway
- Impermeable surfaces throughout community



*Belt Parkway blocks access to parks*



*Lack of parks north of Belt Parkway*

**What needs and opportunities stem from these issues**

# Community Planning and Capacity Building: Critical Issues

- Lack of comprehensive community response to storm
- Communication: information came too late, if at all
- Lack of information about recovery tools
- Emergency response (e.g. 911) was inadequate



**What needs and opportunities**

**Stem from these issues**



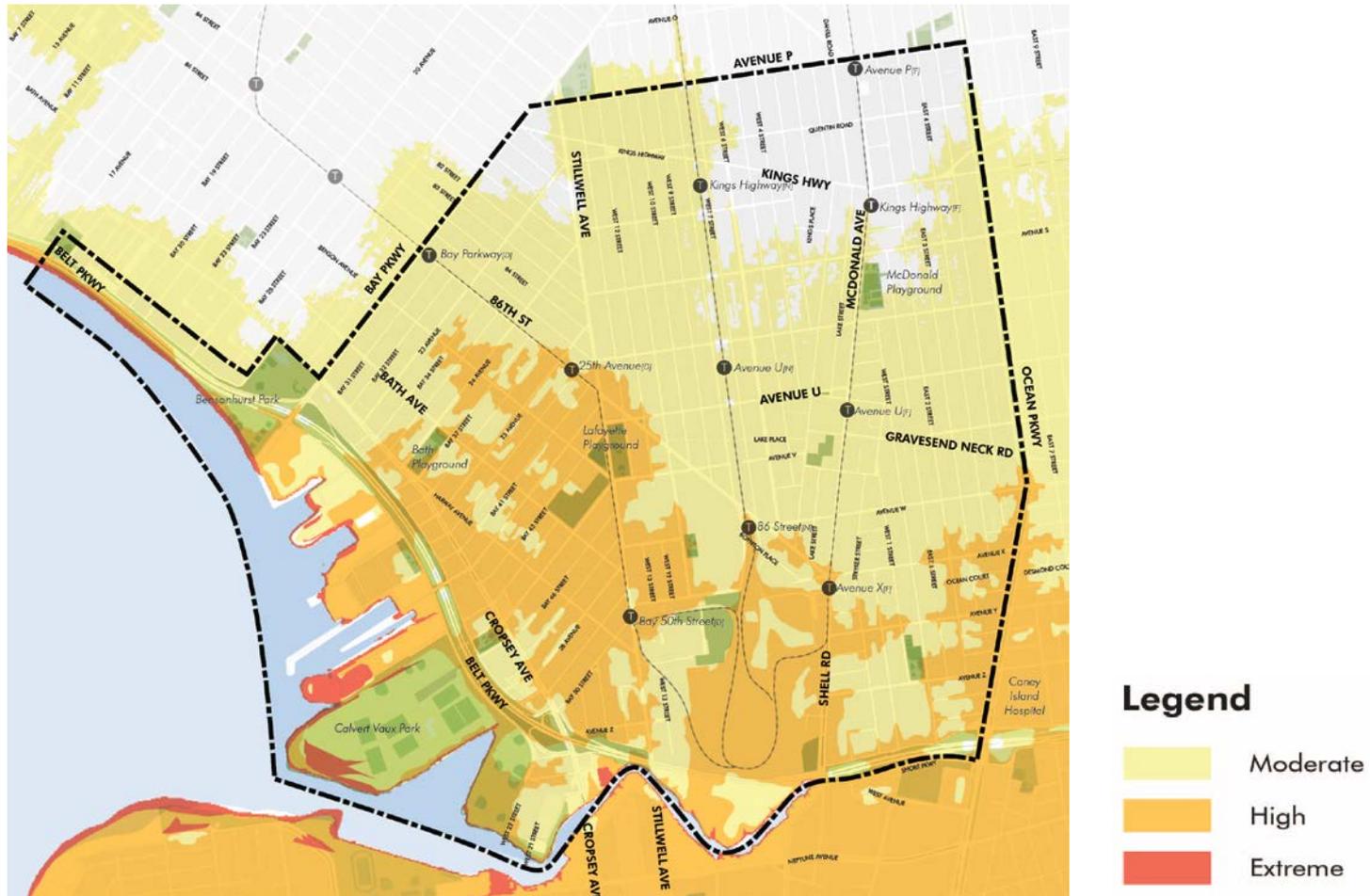


# Risk Assessment: Risk to Assets

- **Risk = HAZARD x EXPOSURE x VULNERABILITY**
  - Risk is the chance that an asset will be damaged or destroyed in future storm events
  - Assessing risk will help the Committee understand and prioritize projects to protect assets at risk
- **Risk Assessment is Limited to:**
  - All Assets within Extreme and High Risk Areas
  - Critical and Locally Significant Assets throughout the community
  - Infrastructure Systems (e.g., power, sewer, transportation)



**HAZARD = Storms that are typical for the community, which have greater impact on assets in extreme or high risk areas**



# EXPOSURE = local topography and shoreline conditions that can increase or decrease the effects of coastal hazards on assets



### Erosion Rate

Erosion Rate  $\geq 1$  ft per year or unknown



### Wetland Width

Waterline is frequently at shore defense or upland vegetation



### Shore Defenses

Shore defenses absent OR not constructed to anticipated storm conditions, OR deteriorating



### Vegetation

Protective vegetation OR intervening structures between asset and flood source are absent



### Dunes or Bluffs

Dunes absent OR below BFE OR eroding OR lacks vegetation; Bluff slope unstable OR lacks vegetation

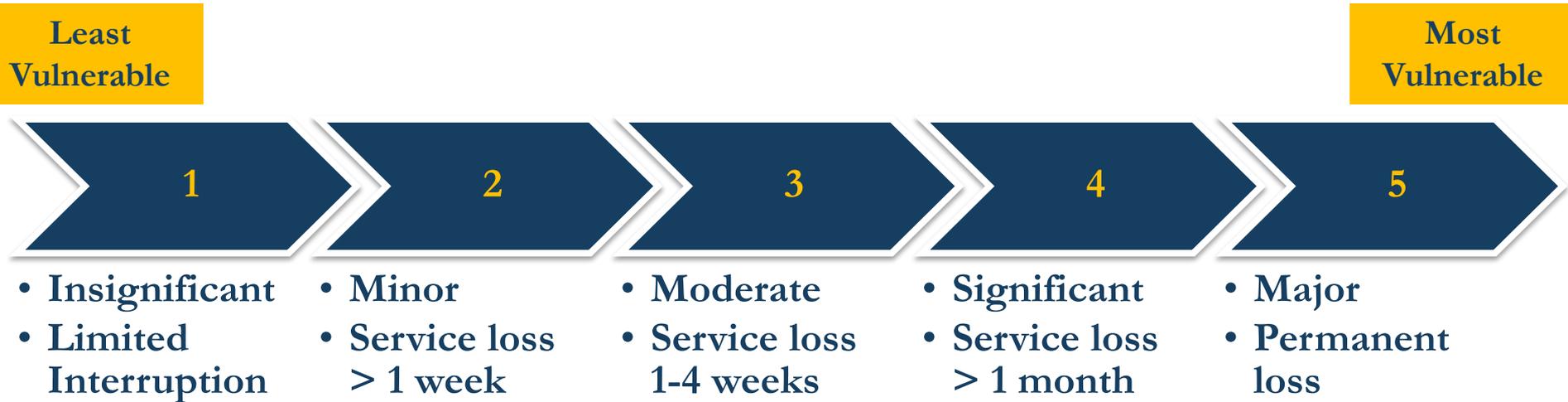


### Soils

Asset is located on coastal barrier island OR filled wetland

**VULNERABILITY= Loss of Service or Function of an Asset after a storm**

- **How was each asset impacted by:**
  - Superstorm Sandy or Hurricane Irene
  - Frequent storm events such as microbursts, severe rain storms, etc.
- **Rank the vulnerability on a scale of 1-5:**



# Next Steps

- Planning Committee Meeting #4
  - Possible dates: Wednesday Sept. 3 or Monday Sept. 8?
- Confirm public engagement meeting date/location
  - Wednesday September 10?
  - Format/Location?
  - Outreach
- Overview Section: Review by Planning Committee

