



## **Lower Manhattan Planning Committee Meeting #3**

November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2013

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## **Agenda for Planning Committee Meeting #3**

- 1. Schedule Review and Project Update**
- 2. Conceptual Plan Review**
- 3. Strategies – Evaluation and Prioritization**
- 4. Public Meeting #2 Preparation**
- 5. Next Steps**

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The Planning Committee is working towards a Community Reconstruction Plan supporting specific goals

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## Goals

- Increase resiliency of key assets
- Address short, medium, and long-term risks
- Balance costs and benefits
- Protect vulnerable populations
- Drive economic growth
- Coordinate with regional initiatives
- Outline steps for implementation



# Community Reconstruction Plan

## Six Recovery Functions

Community Planning  
& Capacity Building



Economic  
Development



Health &  
Human Services



Housing



Infrastructure



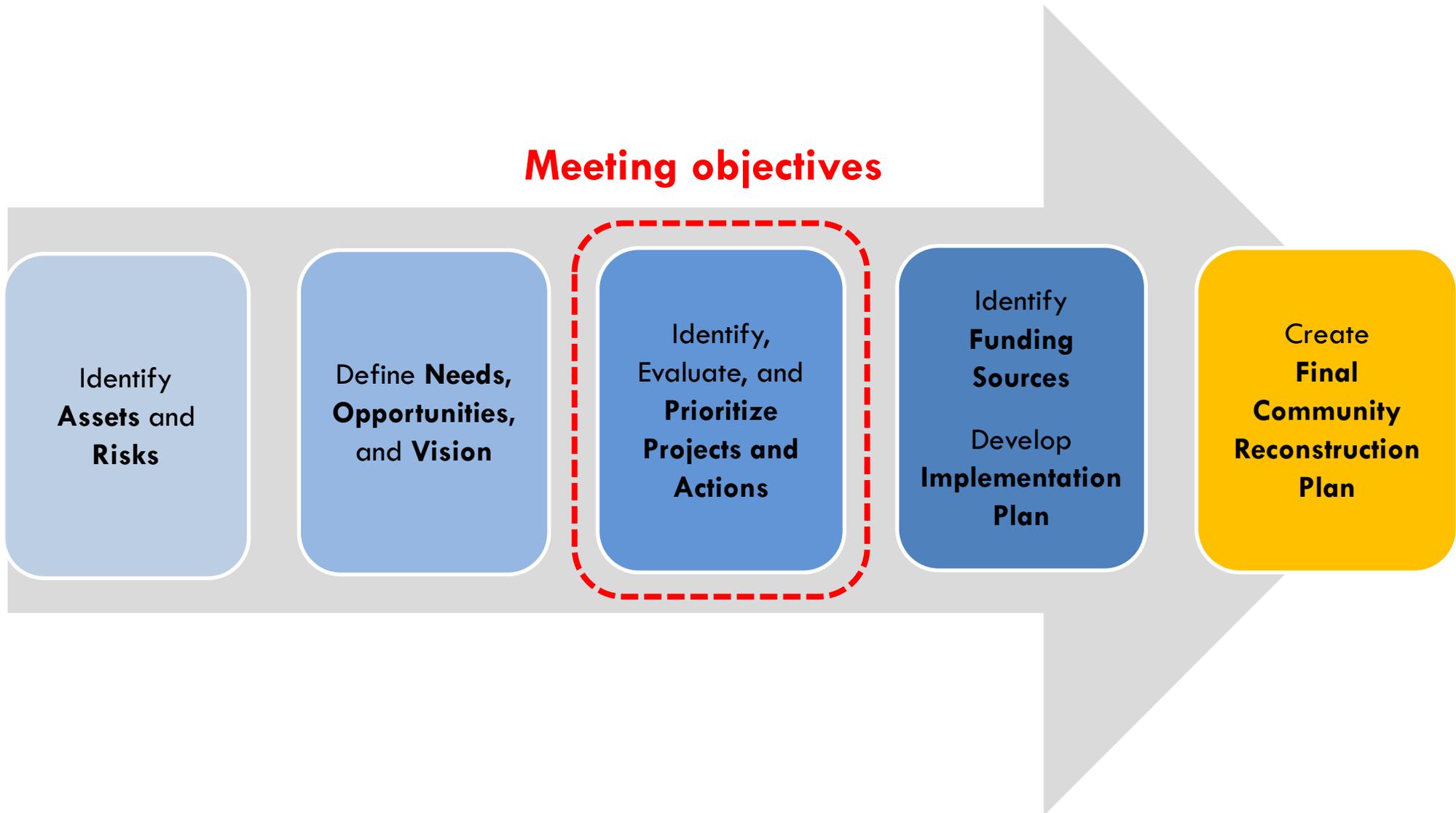
Natural &  
Cultural Resources



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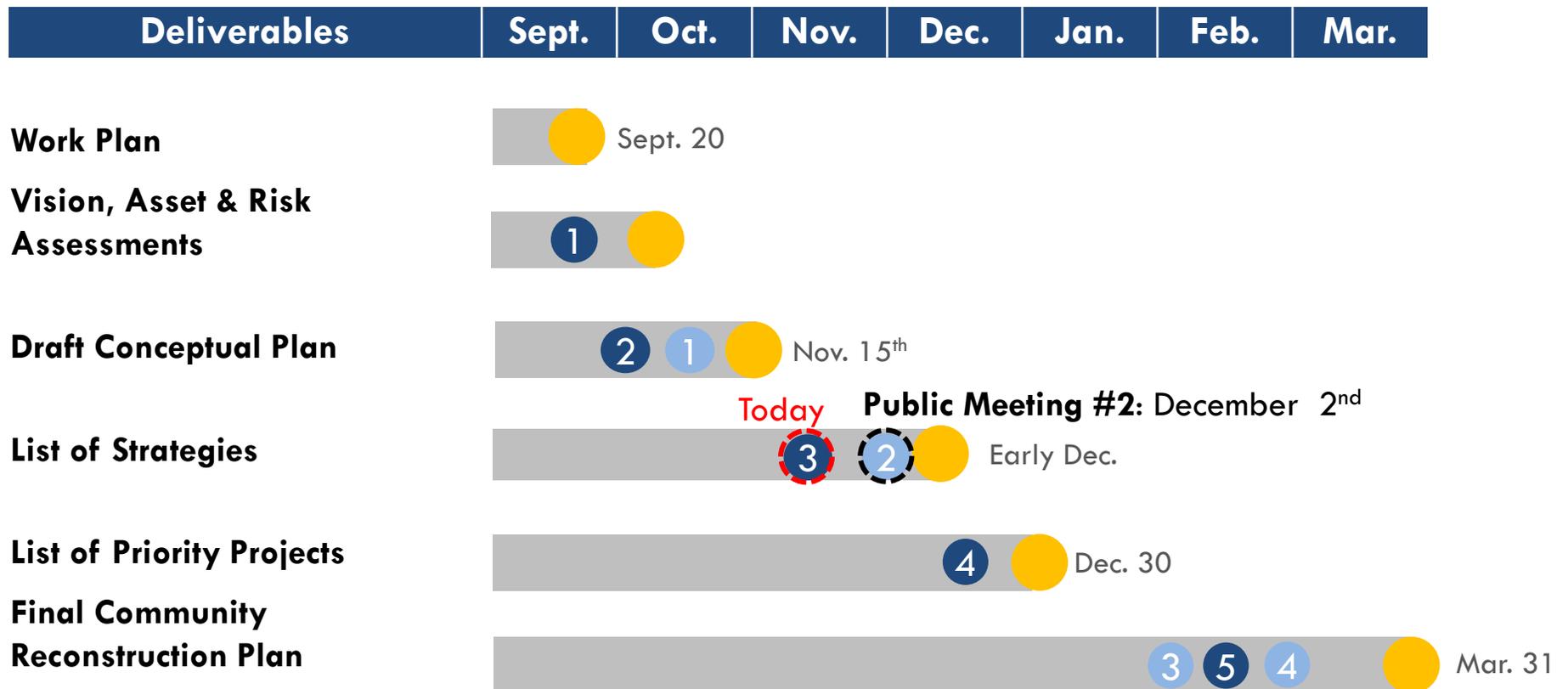
In today's meeting we will discuss the Conceptual Plan, prioritize strategies, and prepare for Public Meeting #2

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# NY Rising Community Reconstruction Program work schedule

- Planning Committee Meeting
- Public Meeting
- Deliverable Due Date



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## NY Rising to The Top Competition

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### **NY Rising Community Reconstruction Program Funds:**

Lower Manhattan: up to \$25 million

Possible additional funds (\$3 million per category)

1. Regional collaboration
2. Use of technology in the planning process
3. Community involvement
4. Inclusion of vulnerable populations
5. Use of green infrastructure
6. Innovative and cost-effective financing
7. Infrastructure investment with multiple co-benefits

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## Public Meeting #1

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### Public Meeting #1:

- Approx. 80 attendees
- High rate of attendee feedback and interaction

### Goals for Public Meeting #2:

- Expand attendance
- Better representation of the diversity of residents and neighborhoods

Additional input or comments?



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# Draft Conceptual Plan – Key Sections

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## I. Introduction

NY Rising Program Overview  
Approach to Public Outreach

## II. Community Context

Geographic Scope  
Community Overview

## III. Storm Impacts & Risk

Summary of Storm Impacts  
Recovering from the Storm

## IV. Rebuilding & Resiliency Planning

Process Overview  
Community Assets  
Needs & Opportunities  
Goals & Vision

## V. Additional Considerations

Regional Perspectives  
Existing Plans, Studies, and Projects

## VI. Preliminary Strategies & Projects

Preliminary Strategies, Projects and Actions  
Next Steps & Implementations Planning



## IV. Public Input

### Needs and Opportunities Summary

Recovery Function	Need	Times Mentioned
COMMUNITY PLANNING & CAPACITY BUILDING	Improved knowledge around preparedness, response, and recovery	18
	Protection of vulnerable populations	11
	Strengthened community organizations	8
INFRASTRUCTURE	Resilient power supply	8
	Coastal flood protection	7
	Resilient and redundant transportation options	4
	Improved drainage	3
	Resilient telecommunications	1
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES	Improved and expanded evacuation center(s)	8
	Ensured access to quality healthcare and medicine	3
	Ensured food supply	2
HOUSING	Resilient residential buildings	8
	Resilient affordable housing	1
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	Resilient small business operations	4
	Resilient groundfloor businesses and retail	1
NATURAL & CULTURAL RESOURCES	Resilient public realm	2

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## Prioritization of strategies

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1. Review prioritization process
2. Discuss key strategies
  - Precedents
  - Current status
  - Potential projects
  - Pros/cons

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## Projects and recommendations

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### Projects

- High priority
- Address unmet need
- Appropriate scale and cost
- CDBG-DR eligible

### Recommendations

- City/state/federal entities working to address
- Inappropriate scale and cost
- Lack resiliency benefits
- CDBG-DR ineligible

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## Next steps for projects and recommendations

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### Projects



#### Subsequent evaluation:

- Feasibility
- Cost
- Risk Reduction
- Co-benefits
- Funding availability
- Public support

### Recommendations



#### Limited further analysis

To be included in Final  
Community Reconstruction  
Plan

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## Key strategies

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- 1. Improve emergency preparedness, response, and recovery**
- 2. Increase resiliency of small businesses**
- 3. Increase building resiliency**
- 4. Increase infrastructure systems resiliency**

**Strategy: Improve emergency preparedness, response, and recovery**



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## Strategy: Improve emergency preparedness, response, and recovery

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- Increase capacity and coordination of **community organizations** to serve constituents
- Improve quality and capacity of the area's **evacuation center**
- Enable **vulnerable individuals** to better endure severe weather-related events

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## Community organizations

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### Potential initiatives:

- Establish network of clearly-identified **relief centers** with:
  - Food, water, and supplies
  - Medication and basic healthcare
  - Information and technical resources
- Create **grant program(s)** to help finance:
  - Hiring and training of skilled staff
  - Emergency education and outreach
- Form **working group** to create disaster preparedness plan and coordination mechanisms
  - Review work of Lower East Side Long Term Recovery Group and potential for scaling up
  - Investigate web-based tools for communication and coordination

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## Precedent: Red Hook Initiative (RHI)

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Initiative: Establish relief centers

Precedent: Red Hook Initiative relief center and services

Red Hook Initiative is a community organization with a facility in Brooklyn that was open 24/7 during Sandy. At Sandy's peak, over 1,200 people stopped by to get a hot meal, charge phones, and pick up emergency supplies. RHI also hosted an urgent care clinic whose volunteers brought medications to homebound individuals.



Community members getting hot food during Sandy  
Source: Red Hook Initiative

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## Initiative: Establish relief centers

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### Pros

- CDBG-DR eligible
- Community need expressed
- Leverages existing organizations and service networks

### Cons

- Requires substantial space
- May require costly resiliency and other upgrades

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## Evacuation center

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### Potential initiatives:

- Conduct **surveys** on center needs and Seward Park experience
- Assess **capacity** of Seward Park against current and future needs
- Investigate **alternative locations**
- Suggest **upgrades** to NYC Office of Emergency Management (OEM)

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## Vulnerable individuals

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### Potential initiatives:

- Review existing efforts and **clarify roles** for agencies and organizations
- Develop **registry of vulnerable individuals**, identify oversight body and tracking system
- Establish plan for **delivering needed supplies**
- Create **multilingual** training and outreach programs on emergency preparedness, response, and recovery

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## Precedent: Broadmoor Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)

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Initiative: Develop registry of vulnerable individuals

Precedent: Broadmoor Community Emergency Response Team

After Katrina, the Broadmoor Improvement Association (BIA) trained 20 residents in disaster response skills through FEMA's CERT program. The CERT maintains a list of vulnerable residents, contacts them in emergencies, and arranges rides to city evacuation pick-up points. The BIA also runs a toll-free check-in number and online community forum in which residents can report themselves as safe.



BIA CERT volunteers  
Source: Evacuteer.org

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## Initiative: Develop registry of vulnerable individuals

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### Pros

- CDBG-DR eligible
- Strong community need expressed

### Cons

- Requires consistent monitoring for complete and up-to-date records
- Privacy concerns
- Limited value if not properly implemented

**Strategy: Increase resiliency of small businesses**



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## Strategy: Increase resiliency of small businesses

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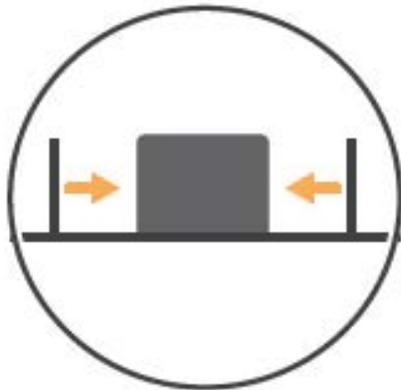
### Potential initiatives:

- Create **online resources** and workshops on resiliency upgrades
- Develop **financing programs** for upgrades to **commercial spaces** and **operating systems**
- Provide access to **mobile credit card payment solutions** that enable operations to resume more quickly
- Pursue **building and corridor protections** along vulnerable retail corridors

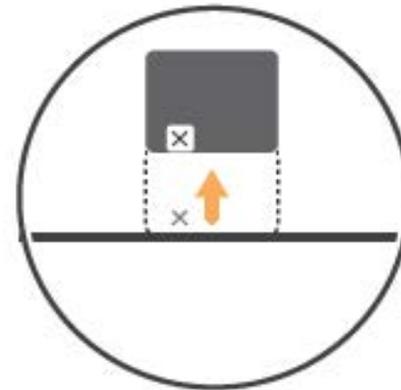
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## Initiative: Financing for commercial resiliency

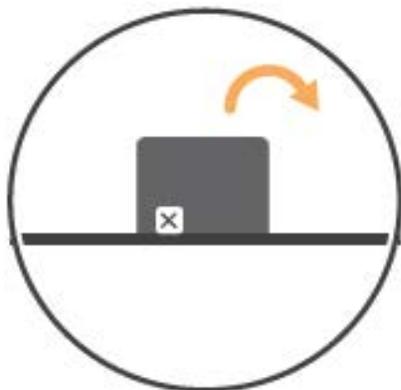
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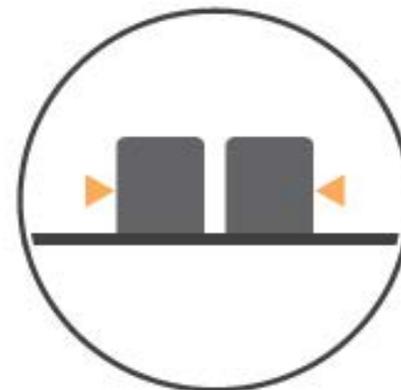
PROTECT



ELEVATE



SHIFT



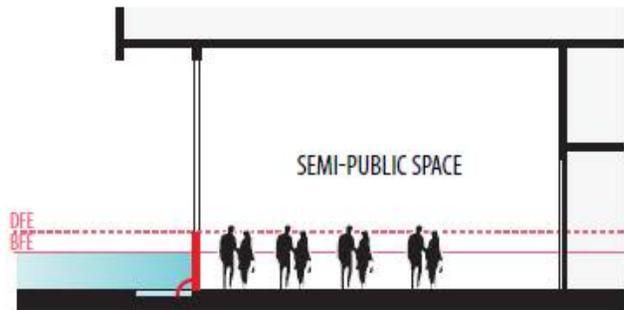
CONNECT



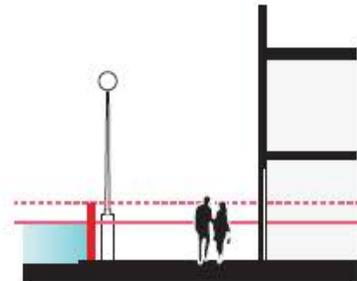
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## Precedent: Deployable flood protection for retail corridors

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Hydraulic Floodgate



Embedded Flood Barrier



**Strategy: Increase building resiliency**



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## Strategy: Increase building resiliency

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### Potential initiatives:

- Develop **technical training materials** and **workshops** on resiliency **best practices** for building owners and property managers
- Develop **financial incentives** and **technical support** to encourage property owners to undertake upgrades to buildings and utility systems
- Establish **guidelines** for resiliency upgrades
- Support purchase of **backup generators** for large residential and commercial developments

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## Precedent: Enterprise Partners Learning Collaborative for Resilience

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Initiative: Provide technical assistance to support resiliency upgrades in affordable housing

Precedent: Enterprise Partners Learning Collaborative for Resilience

Enterprise launched a program to help organizations in New York City improve the resiliency of their affordable housing properties.

The program will provide technical assistance to help organizations develop comprehensive disaster preparedness and response plans for their housing portfolios and explore resilient retrofit option.



LESPMHA participating property 227 East Third Street.  
Source: Sandy Success Stories

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## Initiative: Provide technical assistance to support resiliency upgrades

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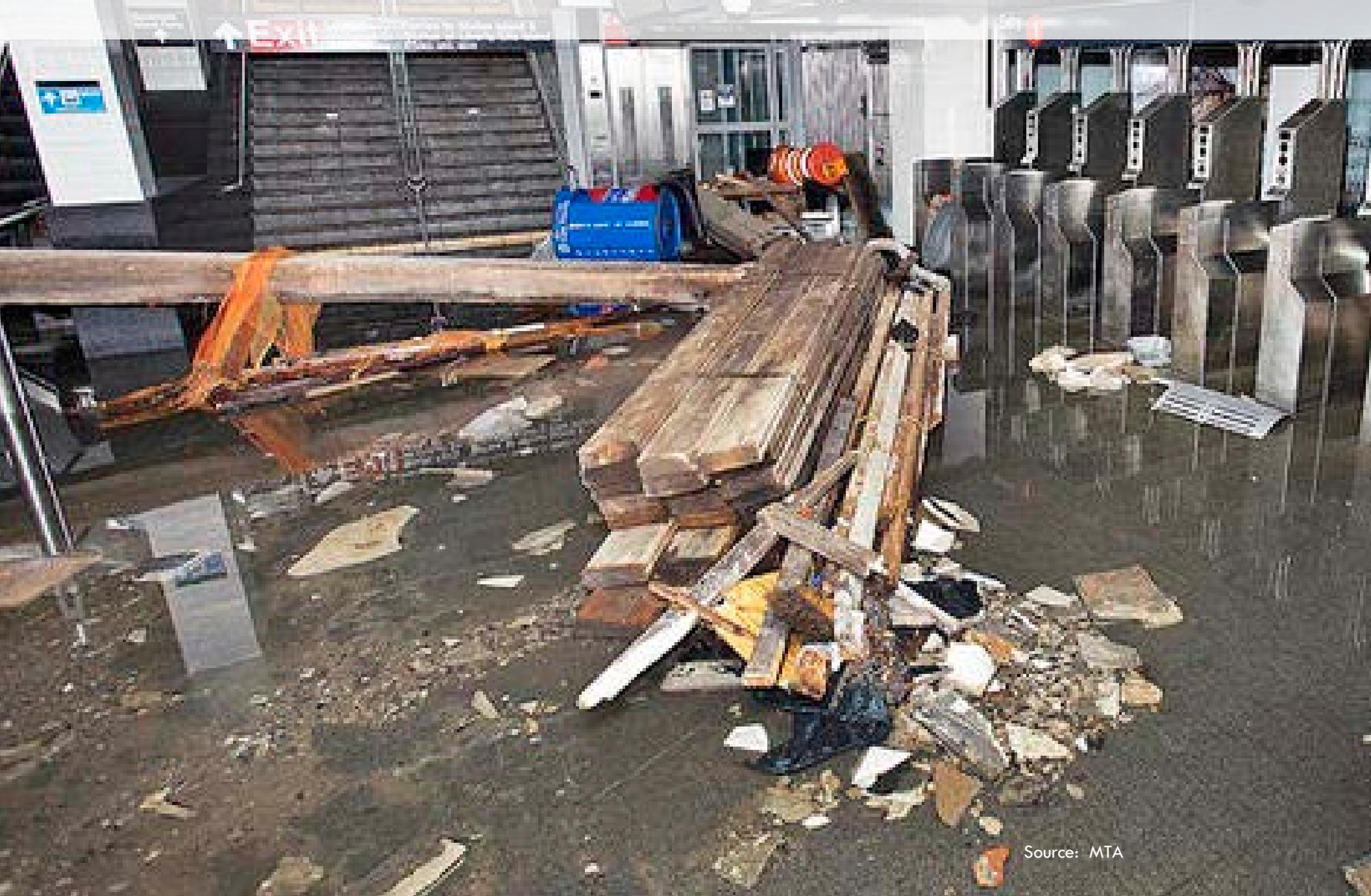
### Pros

- Building owners receive immediate guidance
- Effective for helping large portfolio owners such as affordable housing developers

### Cons

- Still may require financial resources for upgrades to be realized
- Inefficient for supporting individual residential and commercial property owners

## Strategy: Increase infrastructure system resiliency



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## Strategy: Increase infrastructure system resiliency

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### Sub-categories:

- Increase resiliency of **telecommunications**
- Increase **transportation** resiliency and redundancy
- Increase **coastal protection**

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## Telecommunications resiliency

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### Potential initiatives:

- Renewable, **redundant power sources** for **cell-phone towers**
- Provide **grants to community organizations** to increase resiliency of on-site telecommunications infrastructure
- Encourage telecommunications companies to **improve the resiliency** of assets
- Explore potential for use of the **NYCWiN network** for key community organizations during emergencies

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## Precedent: Solar-powered cell phone tower backup

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Initiative: Renewable, redundant power sources for cell-phone towers

Precedent: Solar-powered cell phone tower backup

In India, solar arrays are being installed to provide primary and back-up energy for cell phone towers.

This could be a solution for emergency backup in Lower Manhattan with solar arrays placed on roofs.



NYC Department of Parks and Recreation solar installation test site  
Source: NYC Department of Parks and Recreation

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## Initiative: Renewable, redundant power sources for cell-phone towers

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### Pros

- CDBG-DR eligible
- Reliable cell phone access is critical need
- Sustainable solution

### Cons

- Requires space for solar panels
- Maintenance issues for backup that is used infrequently (but may be less than for generators)
- High cost

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## Transportation resiliency and redundancy

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### Potential initiatives:

- Enhance safe and convenient **pedestrian and bicycle routes** during emergencies
- Leverage **car-sharing** presence in Lower Manhattan for evacuation and recovery
- **Expand bus service** during and after emergency events

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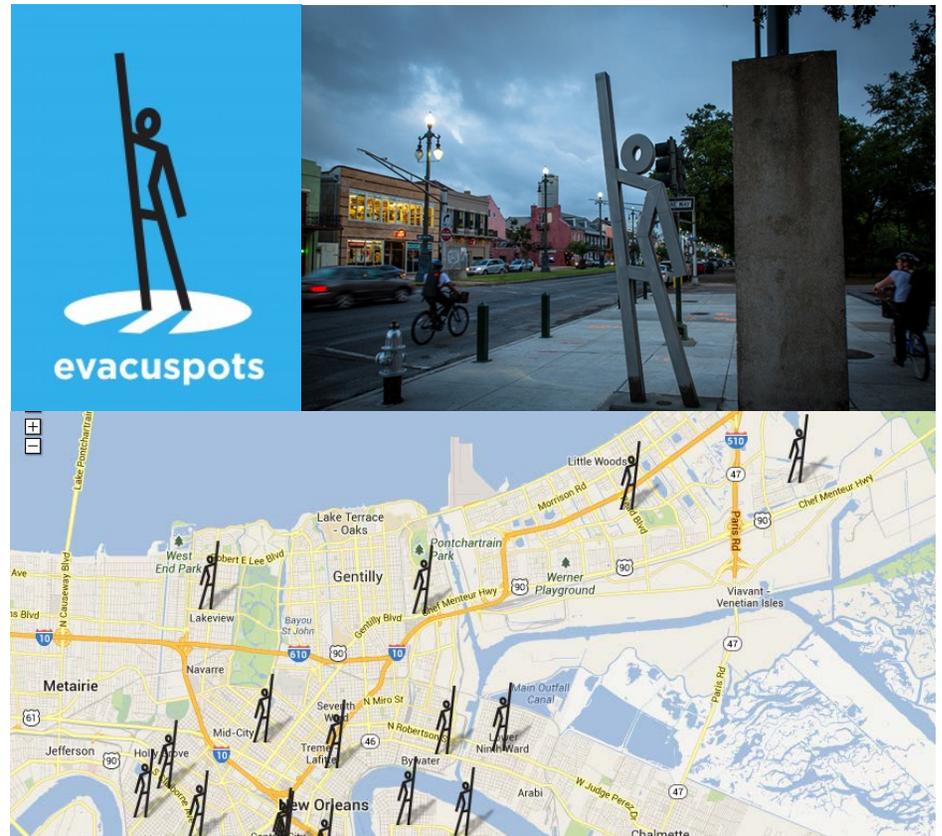
## Precedent: “Evacuspots” to enhance mobility after emergency events

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Initiative: Provide flexible, redundant evacuation options

Precedent: Evacuation support through “evacuspots” program in New Orleans

17 “evacuspots” were designated in New Orleans to serve as pick-up points for residents and visitors who cannot self-evacuate during a mandatory evacuation emergency.



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## Initiative: Provide flexible, redundant transportation options

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### Pros

- Flexible solution
- Can be targeted to vulnerable populations
- Can be incorporated into wider emergency coordination plan

### Cons

- Requires operational funding and staffing
- Requires significant interagency coordination

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## Coastal protection

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### Potential initiatives:

- Identify and fund **“gap” coastal protection improvements**
- Support **City and State implementation** of coastal protection measures
- Incentivize **waterfront private property owners** to implement coastal protection measures
- Support **multi-purpose levee** (e.g. Seaport City)

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## Public Meeting #2

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**Monday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2013 | 6:00 - 8:00pm**

Location: St. Augustine Church, 290 Henry St., Lower East Side

### **Goals:**

- Inform public about the NYRCR Program
- Gather input on strategies, projects, and recommendations

### **Possible Formats:**

- Open house with break-out stations
- Small discussion group tables

# OpenPlans interactive mapping website is live and will be displayed at Public Meeting #2

<http://nyrisingmap.org/>

**NY Rising: Lower Manhattan** WHAT TO DO

SIGN IN WITH [Twitter](#) [Facebook](#)

Asset categories:

- Economic ⓘ
- Health and Social Services ⓘ
- Housing ⓘ
- Infrastructure Systems ⓘ
- Natural and Cultural ⓘ

Comments on the whole neighborhood

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