



Rockaway East Planning Committee Meeting #3

October 24, 2013



Agenda

1. Project Update

7:00 - 7:15

Program Status & Key Dates

Public Meeting #1 Recap

Governor's Conference Recap

2. Conceptual Plan

7:15 – 8:30

Conceptual Plan Overview

Review and Confirm Conceptual Plan Content

Generate Initial Strategies and Projects

3. Q&A and Next Steps

8:30 – 8:45

Today's meeting will finalize key materials generated to date and review the key content for the Conceptual Plan.

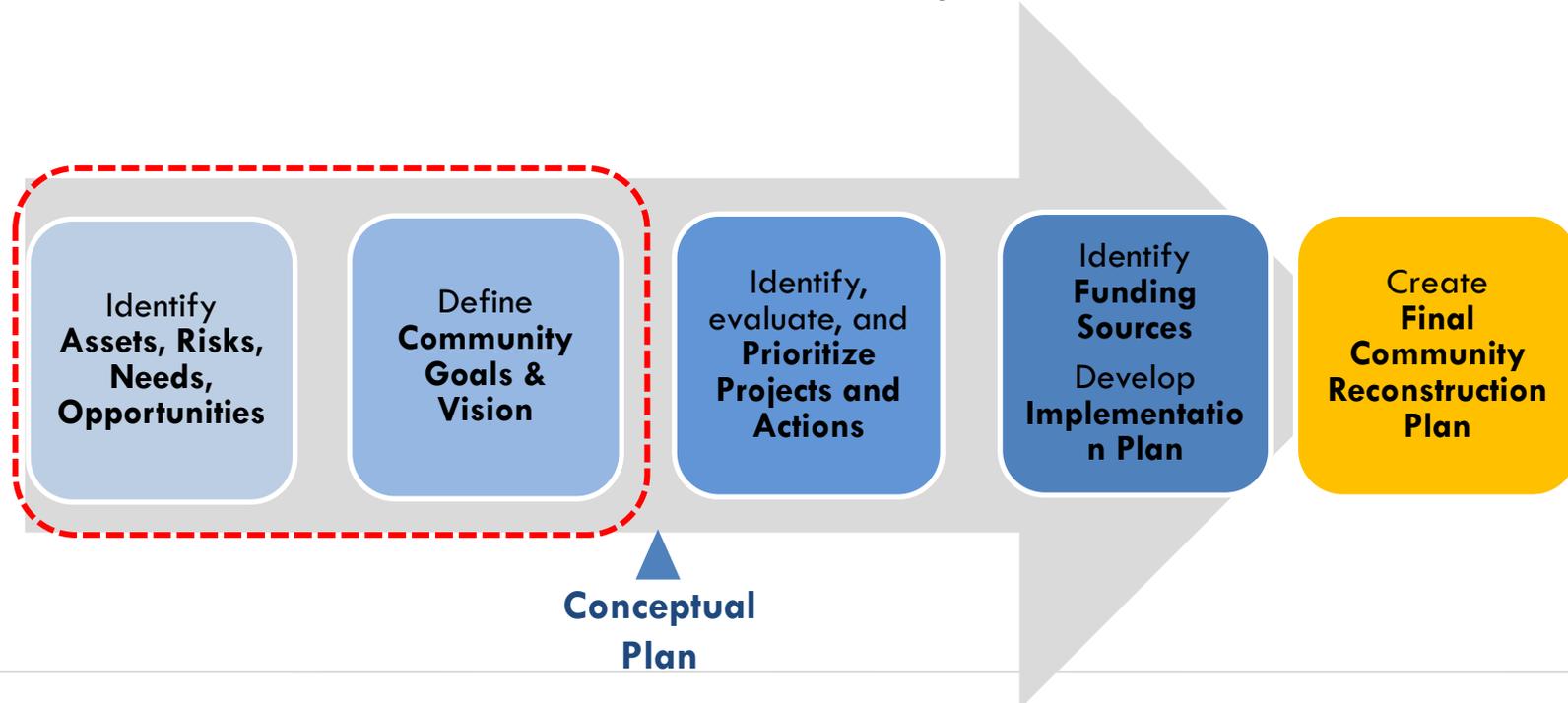
Objectives:

Review feedback from Public meeting

Finalize assets, needs and opportunities, short- and long-term goals, and community vision

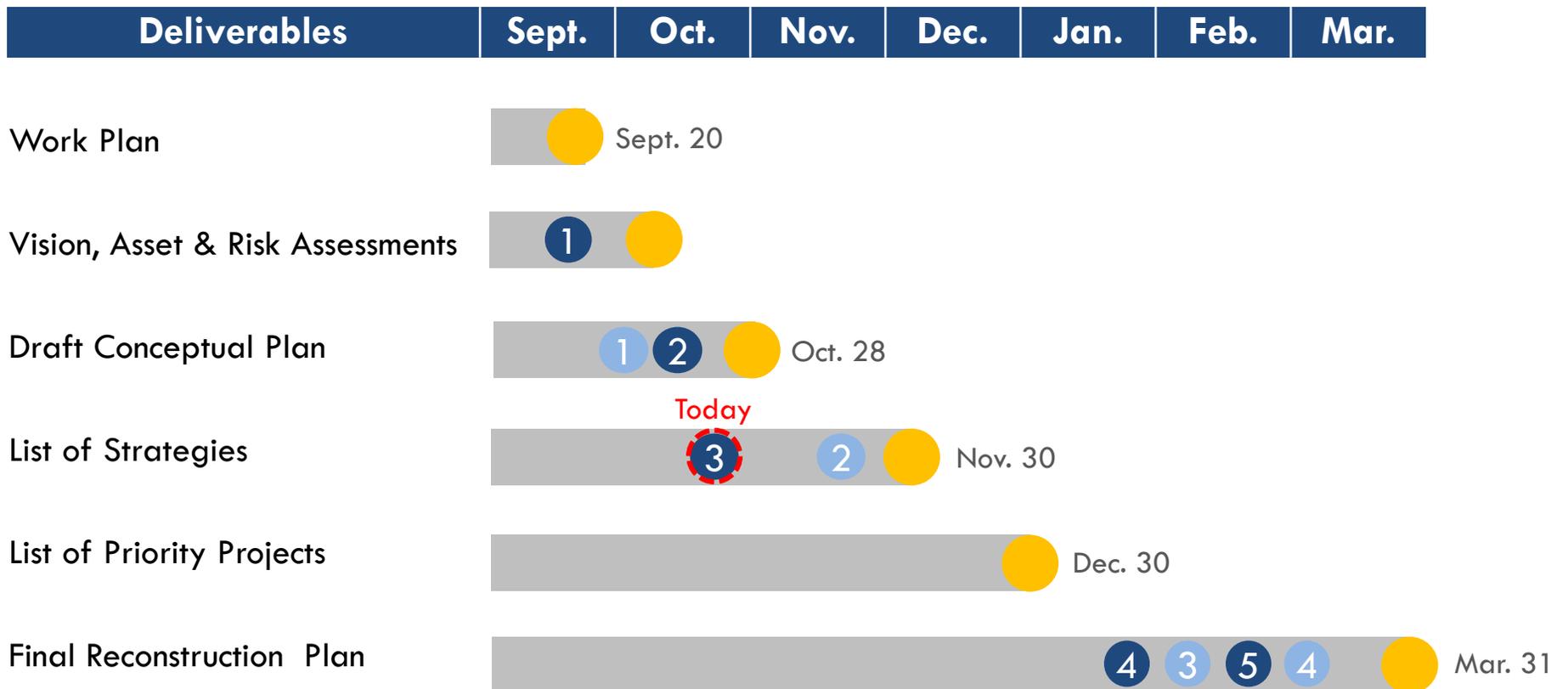
Begin to discuss strategies and projects

Provide feedback for all other sections in the Concept Plan



NY Rising Community Reconstruction Program Schedule

- Planning Committee Meeting
- Public Meeting
- Deliverable Due Date



Rockaway East Public Meeting #1

What went well?

What would you do differently?

Any other ideas/feedback?



Approach to Public Outreach

Outreach

To Date

- The Wave
- Committee Member Networks/Social Media/Newsletters
- Elected Officials

Going Forward

- Email distribution list (from public meetings and online sign-up)
- <**Additional Ideas?**>

Meetings (In person feedback, feedback cards, etc.)

Public #1 – Assets, Needs, Goals - 10/02/13

Public #2 – Concept Plan & Strategies - November 2013

Public #3 – Project Analysis and Prioritization of Projects - January 2014

Public #4 – Review Final Proposal - February 2014

Online

NY Rising Website: stormrecovery.ny.gov/community-reconstruction-program

Email: info@stormrecovery.ny.gov

NY Rising Governor's Conference Recap

Summary

Lessons Learned

Announcements





Agenda

1. Project Update 7:00 - 7:15

Program Status & Key Dates

Public Meeting #1 Recap

Governor's Conference Recap

2. **Conceptual Plan** **7:15 – 8:30**

Conceptual Plan Overview

Review and Confirm Conceptual Plan Content

Generate Initial Strategies and Projects

3. Q&A and Next Steps 8:30 – 8:45

Draft Conceptual Plan



Public document for broad audience

- Breezy NYSR residents and greater NYC coastal community
- Local, state and federal government agencies
- Elected representatives



2-Step Process

Draft Conceptual Plan Monday, October 28

Final Plan March 2014

Draft Conceptual Plan – Key Sections

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

Draft Conceptual Plan – Key Sections

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

II. Geographic Scope of Plan



II. Community Overview

Rockaway East is a predominantly residential community that is also the most densely populated of all the neighborhoods on the Peninsula. According to the 2010 U.S. Census, the area was home to 76,978 residents (59% of the total population in South Queens) and 24,535 housing units. However, much like many of the communities affected by Sandy, the size of the local population may have declined since the storm.

The area's density can partly be attributed to the high proportion of large multi-family residential buildings, many of which are public housing or government regulated developments. Far Rockaway contains five New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) public housing developments (including over 3,400 units) and seven regulated Mitchell-Lama buildings.

The housing stock varies widely by typology and vulnerability to storm damage. Older single-family homes and bungalows vulnerable to structural damage are concentrated in the Somerville, Edgemere, and Bayswater neighborhoods. Medium and large multi-family buildings are concentrated in Rockaway East, and were more vulnerable to damage to electrical and mechanical systems.

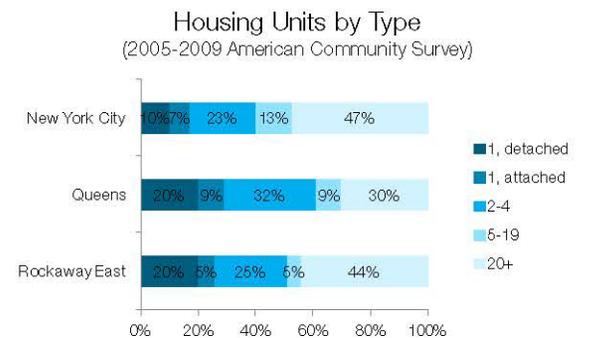
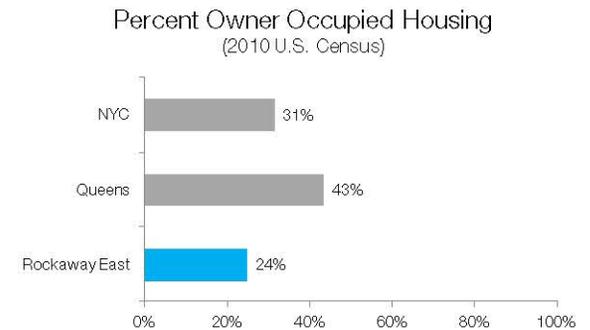
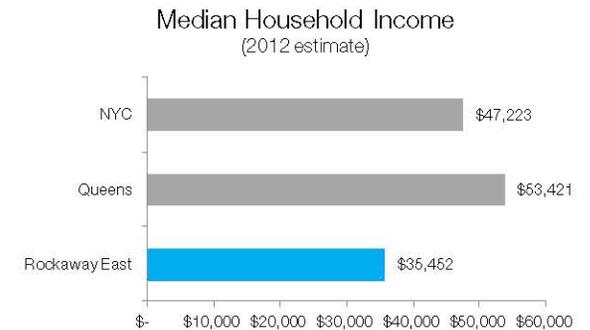
Primarily comprised of low-income households, Rockaway East also has the

highest poverty rate in South Queens. The estimated median household income in 2012 was \$35,452, which is lower than that of Queens and New York City as a whole. The area featured a high proportion of renters in 2010—69% of all households – and a lower homeownership rate than that of nearby communities and NYC as a whole.

The community is home to a few clusters of commercial activity, including Mott Avenue in Far Rockaway and a retail hub on Rockaway Beach Boulevard in Arverne. Anchored by governmental and educational institutions, Mott Avenue is home to small businesses and the offices of nonprofit organizations, as well as larger big box retailers and supermarkets.

Rockaway East is additionally home to some of the only healthcare facilities on the peninsula, making the healthcare sector an important employer in the community. The sole hospital serving South Queens, St. John's Episcopal Hospital, is located in Rockaway East and has an inpatient bed capacity of approximately 400.

The community benefits from substantial natural social and recreational amenities, such as the Rockaway Beach Boardwalk and Rockaway Community Park. The beaches are an important economic driver, attracting visitors from throughout NYC.



Draft Conceptual Plan – Key Sections

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

III. Storm Impacts

Ocean met the Bay

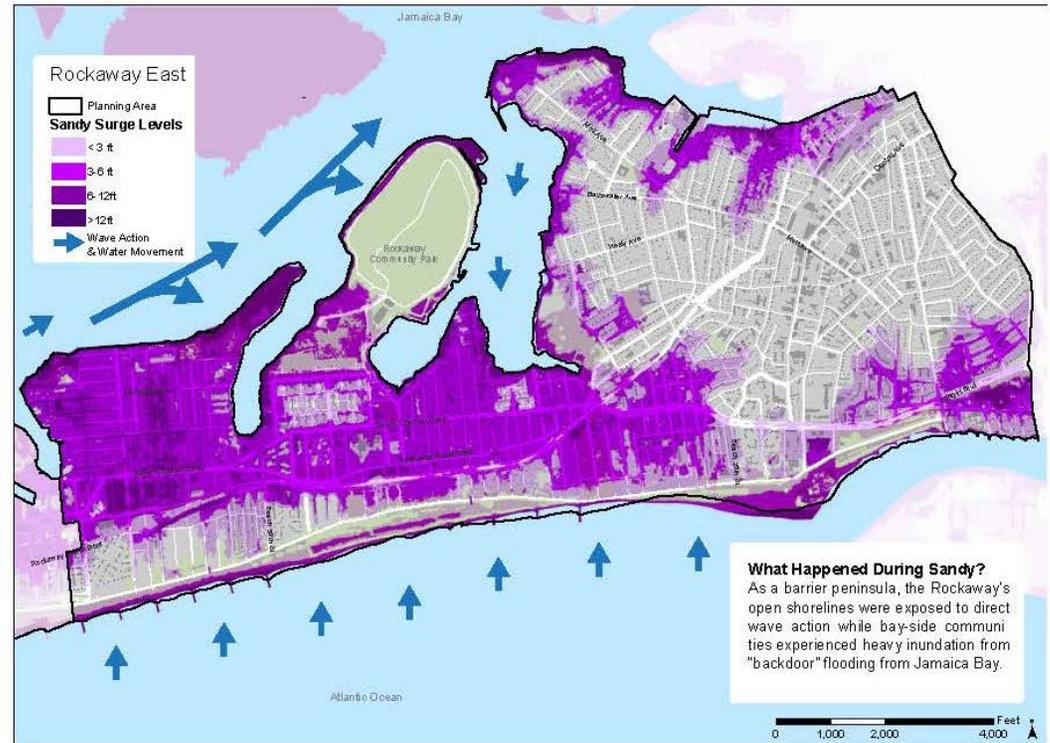
- Surge via access roads cutting through dunes
- All homes damaged

Extensive Fires & Emergency Access Issues

- Electrical fire spread across hundreds of homes
- Emergency Services unable to reach in timely manner

Critical Infrastructure Impairment

- Bridges, trains, roads out
- Loss of LIPA service
- Communication break-down



III. Recovering from the Storm

Rebuilding Homes

- Some homes being privately fixed
- Many people in BiB process
- Many questions remain about insurance, elevation, etc.

Improving Transportation/Access

- Most roads and sidewalks repaired
- Temporary Ferry Service
- Strengthened, restored train

Community Redevelopment

- Some retail/service restored
- Other studies/projects to strengthen the ocean front



Draft Conceptual Plan – Key Sections

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. Community Assets – Infrastructure & Recreational



IV. Needs & Opportunities

Rockaway East Needs & Opportunities Public Meeting Feedback Summary

DRAFT - FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES ONLY

Asset Category	Needs & Opportunities	Times Mentioned by Public
HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES	Access to medical services	18
	Coordinated emergency response	4
	Improved communications	3
	Broadened educational opportunities	2
INFRASTRUCTURE	Accessibility to rest of NYC	15
	Improved internal circulation	6
	Improved water/sewer & drainage	3
	Resilient power & utilities	2
OVERALL	Bayside protection	11
	Defined identity	4
	Better sanitation service	1
NATURAL & RECREATIONAL	Beach & recreation amenities	8
	Increased quality public spaces	6
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	Strengthened retail corridor	8
	Green building standards	1
HOUSING	Affordable housing	2
	Quality senior housing	1

IV. Goals & Vision

Vision Statement:

The neighborhoods of Rockaway East seek to leverage our rich social networks and natural resources to enable and grow a more vibrant, resilient, and sustainable community.

Goals

Short-Term	Long-Term
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improve quality and type of services with existing healthcare centers• Strengthen Emergency Preparedness• Improve transit and access to existing infrastructure Address any immediate risks with both the Ocean and Bay edges• Support strengthening of existing retailers in commercial corridors Pursue near-term beach and boardwalk renewal and improvement opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Become a health services hub for Southern Queens and Long Island Enable self-sufficiency in and after emergencies• Expand and improve overall transit and connectedness of Rockaway East• Create hard and soft edges to maximally protect all of the communities in Rockaway East• Expand overall economic development and activity through the community and become a regional destination• Strengthen relationship between community, water, and abundant natural resources

Draft Conceptual Plan – Key Sections

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

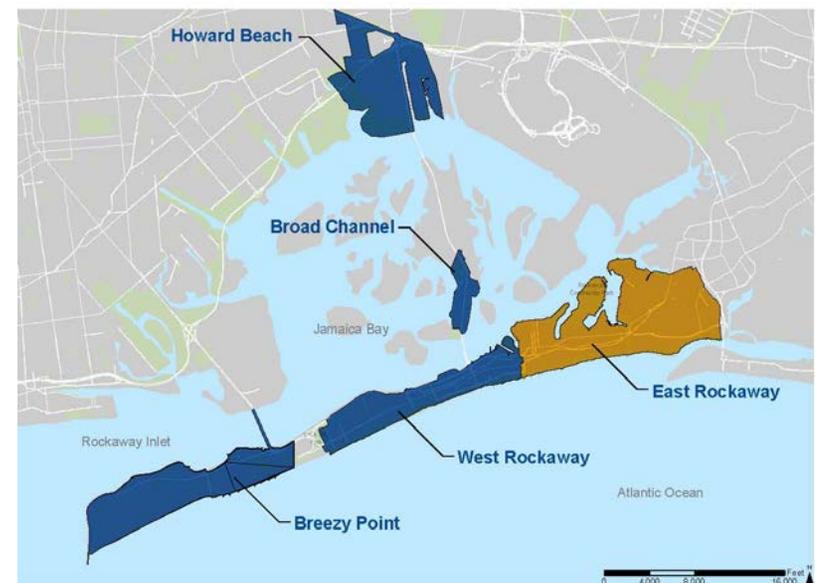
Preliminary Strategies, Projects and Actions
Next Steps & Implementations Planning

V. Regional Perspectives

The Rockaway East Communities are located on the tip of the Rockaway Peninsula, along the Atlantic Ocean and Jamaica Bay, a region that contains four other New York Rising Communities: Rockaway West, Rockaway East, Broad Channel, and New and Old Howard Beach.

These communities share climate change-related risks, and collaboration can produce solutions that address recovery and resiliency needs affecting the Bay as a whole.

The Rockaway peninsula serves as a key barrier island, protecting both the bay and all of the communities along it.



V. Existing Projects and Plans

USACE Beach Nourishment

- USACE has commenced beach re-nourishment projects and reformulation studies

MTA Ongoing Repair and Resiliency Improvements

- MTA has restored A and S train service

Rockaway Ferry Service

- Temporary commuter ferry to Pier 11 – Wall St. in Manhattan

Housing

- Homeowners have begun rebuilding homes damaged by flood

Infrastructure

- Road, sidewalks, improved gas lines are in the ground



Draft Conceptual Plan – Key Sections

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

VI. Draft Strategies & Projects

EXPAND HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES

Strategy	Short-Term Goal	Long-Term Goal	Initiatives
Expand health and social services in Rockaway East, especially during and after emergencies	Improve quality and type of services within existing healthcare centers	Become a health services hub for Southern Queens and Long Island	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install emergency medical equipment in schools and other community centers • Bolster all emergency service providers (e.g. police, fire, hospital) to ensure readiness in a large weather-related event • <i>Evaluate and pursue opportunities to create and expand health services in Rockaway East, especially emergency walk-in centers*</i> • <i>Evaluate risks to vulnerable populations in the V-zone and determine new guidelines on new construction in high-risk areas*</i>

VI. Draft Strategies & Projects

Strategy

Strengthen Rockaway East's ability to contend with and recover from large-scale weather events

Short-Term Goal

Strengthen emergency preparedness

Long-Term Goal

Enable self-sufficiency in and after emergencies

Initiatives

- Identify and bolster key locations (e.g. private schools, open spaces) across the community to serve as safe, emergency/evacuation centers and potential temporary sites for pop-up centers. Determine needs, locations and resources required (e.g. food, medical, sleeping supplies, etc.) and create emergency management plans.
- Pursue requirements for multi-family building owners to create, communicate, and ensure adherence to evacuation and emergency planning and recovery, including identifying and assisting seniors, ensuring back-up electricity systems, etc.
- *Pursue a strategy to create similar emergency plans for single-family homes neighborhoods, especially for vulnerable community residents.**

VI. Draft Strategies & Projects

ENSURE ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY

Strategy

Strengthen commercial corridors to protect and sustain economic health during and after storms and to maintain overall vibrancy of the community

Short-Term Goal

Support rebuilding and strengthening retailers in commercial corridors

Long-Term Goal

Expand overall retail offerings and become a regional destination

Initiatives

- Consider regulations to require basic emergency preparedness and recovery standards for businesses, especially critical services like food, water, banks, and gas (e.g. require back-up generators, emergency supplies, etc.)
- Evaluate scope of City’s business recovery plans, determine gaps, and create a proposal to address other needs to rebuild or protect retail corridors
- Expand low-cost loan programs to help make businesses more resilient
- *Pursue business incentive programs to draw more businesses to Rockaway East**

VI. Draft Strategies & Projects

Strategy

Expand the access and opportunities presented by the water, the nucleus of the Rockaway communities

Short-Term Goal

Identify near-term projects to improve the boardwalk and expand beach-front and bay side activity

Long-Term Goal

Maximize waterfront use and access along the bay and the beach

Initiatives

- *Create plan to expand recreation, public spaces, and other opportunities that complement the new plans for the boardwalk**
- *Pursue strategies to utilize the bay for recreation (e.g. private boating or commercial outfits, kayaking, windsurfing, sailing, etc.)**
- *Create and implement a comprehensive plan to maximize community engagement with both the ocean and the bay, which aligns with resiliency protection but enables full access, recreation, and economic development along the water**

VI. Draft Strategies & Projects

Strategy

Minimize entry of rising water into Rockaway East Communities by strengthening the ocean and bay edges

Short-Term Goal

Address any immediate flood risks with respect to both the ocean and bay edges

Long-Term Goal

Create hard and soft edges to maximally protect all of the communities in Rockaway East

Initiatives

- *Identify vulnerabilities in the bay wall and determine near term remediation where feasible.**
- *Determine any gaps in current beachfront plans and determine short- and longer-term projects to address.**
- *Evaluate opportunities to protect the vulnerable 'edges' along the parks.**
- *Implement green infrastructure projects (e.g., assist with stormwater runoff & sewer overflows)**



Agenda

1. Project Update 7:00 - 7:15

Program Status & Key Dates

Public Meeting #1 Recap

Governor's Conference Recap

2. Conceptual Plan 7:15 – 8:30

Conceptual Plan Overview

Review and Confirm Conceptual Plan Content

Generate Initial Strategies and Projects

3. Q&A and Next Steps 8:30 – 8:45

Q&A and Next Steps

General Questions?

Next Steps

- Conceptual Plan Final Review
- Nominate Regional Working Group Representative
- Schedule Future Meetings



THANK YOU