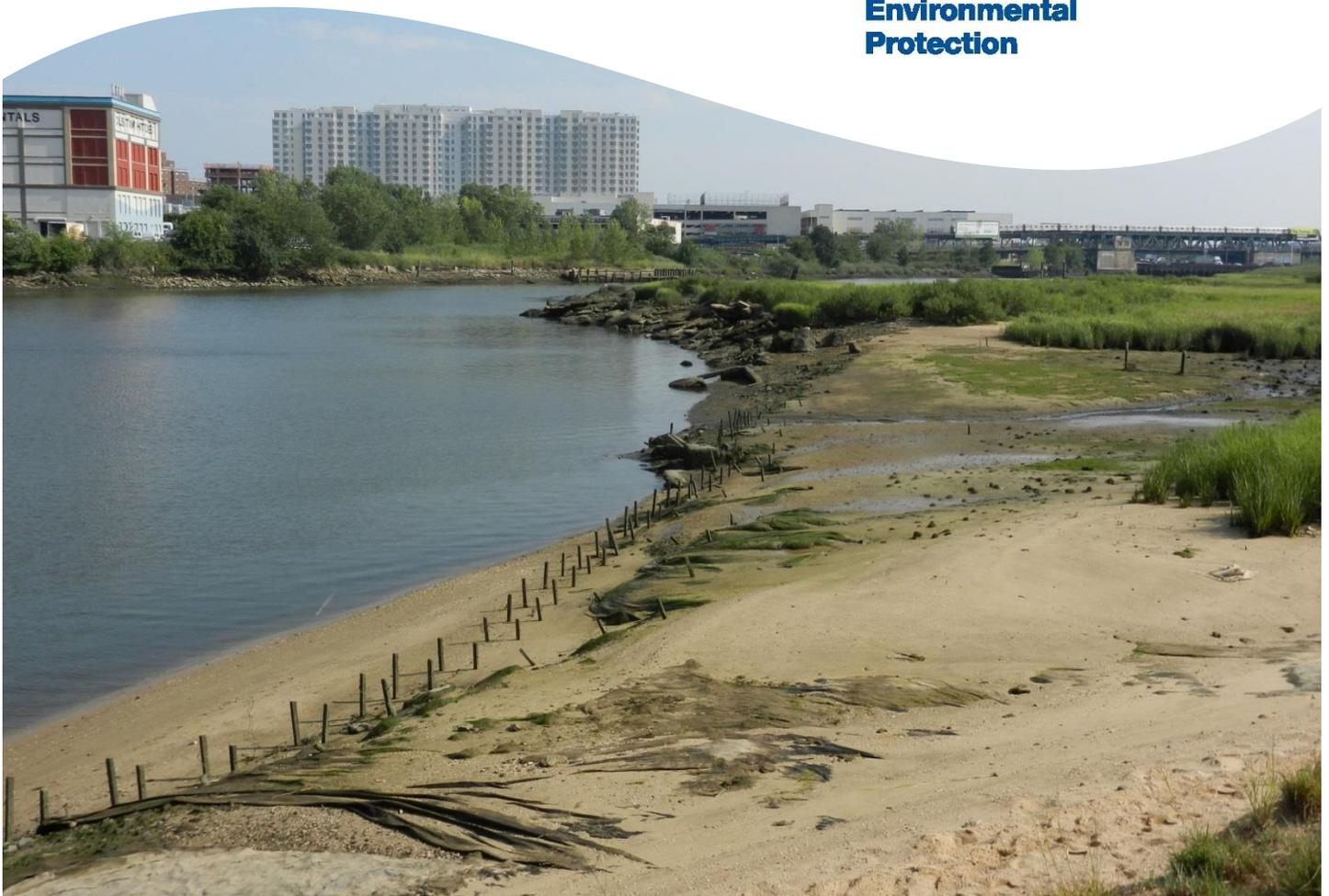


Flushing Creek

Combined Sewer Overflows Long Term Control Plan

Flushing Creek is located in the northern part of central Queens and flows into Flushing Bay and ultimately into the East River. Urban modifications over the last century led to the filling and paving of many parts of the creek, its tributaries, and their attendant wetlands. DEP has committed more than **\$399 million** to reduce pollution and improve water quality in Flushing Creek. Water quality improvement projects include a 28 million gallon underground storage tank, including an additional 15 million gallons of storage in the sewers conveying flow to the tank; green infrastructure investments on streets, sidewalks, and City-owned property; and conveyance enhancements to allow more flow to the Tallman Island Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP). Some of these investments were recommendations of the August 2011 Waterbody Watershed Facility Plan, the first step in the development of a LTCP for Flushing Creek.

For the Flushing Creek combined sewer overflow (CSO) LTCP, DEP has started to evaluate additional improvements to reduce CSO impacts on water quality and related recreational uses within this waterbody, and will continue to work with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. The goal of the CSO LTCP is to identify the appropriate controls necessary to achieve waterbody-specific water quality standards, consistent with Federal CSO Policy and the water quality goals of the Clean Water Act.



Increased Wet Weather Conveyance

DEP has initiated work on a number of Tallman Island system conveyance enhancements to maximize the flow delivered to the Tallman Island WWTP and reduce CSOs to Flushing Creek as well as the East River. The elements include modifications to Tallman Island regulators R10, R10A, and R13 and to the Whitestone Interceptor. A detailed engineering evaluation of the Flushing Interceptor is also being performed. The estimated construction cost of the improvements is **\$30 million**. When completed later this year, this project is expected to reduce CSO flows to Flushing Creek by approximately 20 million gallons. CSO flows to the East River are also expected to be reduced.



Flushing Creek CSO Retention Facility

DEP's **\$349 million** Flushing Creek CSO Retention Facility became operational in May 2007. This 43 million gallon storage tank captures and stores combined sewage that previously would have discharged to Flushing Creek. The Flushing Creek CSO Retention Facility has been constructed largely underground in Flushing Meadows Corona Park. As part of the project DEP also constructed a number of public amenities, including:

- The AI Oerter Recreation Center, a multi-purpose building serving the NYC Department of Parks and Recreation and DEP (pictured);
- Four baseball fields;
- Two soccer fields; and
- Improvements to the Queens Botanical Gardens.



The tank reduces CSOs to Flushing Creek by approximately 56%, from over 1,900 million gallons to less than 850 million gallons per year and helps to reduce flooding in streets.

Green Infrastructure

By 2030, DEP is planning for \$2.4 billion in public and private funding for targeted green infrastructure installations toward the goal of managing the equivalent of stormwater generated by one inch of precipitation from 10 percent of impervious surfaces citywide. DEP is coordinating with other City agencies to build green infrastructure in the public right-of-way and on other public property through an area-wide approach focusing initially on priority CSO tributary areas. The target under the Green Infrastructure Program for the Flushing Creek waterbody is to manage 479 acres or 8% of the combined sewer impervious area in the Flushing Creek watershed by 2030.

In order to meet the 2030 target as described above, DEP will initiate several green infrastructure projects in the Flushing Creek combined sewer area. Currently, DEP has budgeted **\$16.5 million** for two projects in the priority areas draining to outfalls TI-11 and TI-22 in Flushing Creek, including design, construction, and construction management costs. In the future, DEP expects to initiate area-wide contracts in the combined sewer area draining to outfall TI-10. More details on the status of total area managed in Flushing Creek can be found in the Green Infrastructure Annual Reports on the DEP website.



An additional **\$3.5 million** in green infrastructure investments in Flushing Creek include, among other projects, the implementation of four environmental benefit projects* including treatment wetlands and rain gardens for treating stormwater entering Meadow Lake and the installation of a modular green roof project on New York Hospital, designed to control runoff from a 1 to 1.5-inch rainfall on a half-acre roof.

Watershed Statistics

Total Drainage Area:
11,016 acres

Combined Sewer
Contributory Area: **6,323
acres (57%)**

Wastewater Treatment
Plant: **Tallman Island
and Bowery Bay**

NYSDEC Classification:
**Class I – Boating and
Fishing**

*This project was undertaken in connection with the settlement of an enforcement action taken by New York State and DEC for violations of New York State law and DEC regulations.

For more information on DEP's CSO program, please visit our website at www.nyc.gov/dep/ltcp or visit [www.Facebook.com/NYCWater](https://www.facebook.com/NYCWater).