

Request for Expression of Interest (RFEI)

Evacuation Planning for Persons with Disabilities

I. Invitation and Terms

The New York City Office of Emergency Management (“OEM”) invites submissions of Expression of Interest (“EOI”) for the development of a needs and demand analysis for evacuation of people with disabilities.

This Request for Expression of Interest (“RFEI”) is intended to determine whether there is sufficient market interest to proceed to a competitive bidding process. In the event there is sufficient interest in this requirement, OEM may, but is not obligated to, initiate a competitive bidding opportunity through a subsequent Request for Proposal (“RFP”) or authorized procurement method in accordance with the New York City Procurement Policy Board (PPB) Rules. Information that any interested party wishes to submit as part of an EOI will be submitted voluntarily, and with the understanding that this RFEI is for information gathering purposes only; it is not an offer. No contractual relationship will be automatically generated between the respondent and OEM or the City of New York by responding to this request. Any cost information submitted by respondents will be kept confidential and used solely for the purpose of market analysis.

II. Who May Be Interested

OEM encourages a broad range of respondents to submit EOIs. Potential respondents, or joint respondents, to this RFEI include: transportation planners/modelers; demographic modelers and forecasters; academics and academic institutions with a research interest in accessible transportation issues; community organizations with experience working with disabled populations; and, any other interested parties.

III. Purpose

The focus of this RFEI is to determine a statistically significant measure of demand for government-administered transportation services among individuals with disabilities residing in New York City’s hurricane evacuation zones, in a non-institutional setting, in the event of an evacuation order.

This analysis will ultimately serve as the basis of plans for the operation and resource allocation of transportation assets utilized to transport persons with disabilities in coastal storm evacuations. As such, OEM needs a thorough understanding of how many individuals will require such services, as well as what effect different types of disabilities, and the geographic distribution of persons with disabilities, will have on operations.

Respondents should calculate overall demand from quantitative data analyses based on, but not necessarily being limited to, the following:

- Geographic distribution and/or concentration of persons with disabilities within New York City's six (6) designated hurricane evacuation zones
- Breakdown of disability types (mobility; functional; cognitive) and any specific services required to transport people with such disability types, as informed by the standards of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and/or DOJ guidelines
- Behavioral likelihood of disabled individuals to use government-administered transportation services and government shelters
- Data or research regarding the estimated compliance with evacuation orders, by persons with disabilities.

It is important to note that the number of people requiring evacuation services is a proportion of the total number of people who self-identify as having a disability, and of the total number who routinely use conventional paratransit services. In an evacuation, people will travel by many different means and modes based on their comfort level, hazard awareness, and resources. This analysis is focused on those who will not use conventional means (e.g., evacuating with friends and family or using public transportation) but will rely on the transportation services provided by the City in an emergency.

This study should entail an analysis of the behavioral likelihood of people to make certain evacuation choices. Typically this is done through survey data collection capable of achieving a 90% confidence level and +/- 5% reliability. However, suggestions and justifications for alternative methodologies (e.g., existing research or survey data, quantitative extrapolations, etc) are welcomed and encouraged.

OEM currently has the following information with regards to individuals with disabilities within the City's hurricane evacuation zones:

- US Census-American Community Survey data of geographic density of individuals with disabilities, as well as the classification of these disabilities (see Annexes C and D)
Provides an overview of geographic distribution of disability-types within the City's evacuation zones, but does not support understanding of actual service demand.
- Initial behavioral data indicating how many persons with disabilities would rely upon government-administered transportation services in the event of a coastal storm evacuation (see Annex A)
Due to the limited sample size of people with disabilities, this is not statistically significant with respect disabilities as a determinant of behavior
- Location of MTA Access-A-Ride registrants citywide (see Annex E)
Provides an overview of where existing paratransit services operate, but cannot account for those who would make alternative travel plans or use a conventional reservation system to evacuate, as opposed to an emergency system

This data may serve as a background for respondents' study.

In addition, respondents should indicate any and all data sources they would intend to use for this analysis as well as any relevant methodology. Respondents should make use of readily available public data sources (e.g., US Census) as well as any and all data sources from other research, professional or community organizations, and other relevant sources.

IV. **EOI Submission Requirements**

Respondents are asked to provide all information requested below:

- A. **Cover Letter** Submit a letter describing the respondent's interest in entering into an agreement to perform this work for the City of New York. The letter should be completed, signed and dated by an authorized representative of the respondent.
- B. **Statement of Interest** In their EOI, respondents are asked to relate their interest in evacuation planning, particularly with regards to disabled populations and accessible transportation in New York City, and their established expertise. This statement should be a clear, concise narrative that describes the respondent's current capabilities, services, and areas of specialty, and addresses how the respondent can fulfill New York City's goals and objectives for coastal storm evacuation planning.
- C. **Relevant Experience** Provide a company background and illustrate relevant expertise. Detail current capabilities and services and submit a portfolio of completed or current projects that relate to evacuation planning in areas such as: transportation planning, modeling, accessible transportation, and experience working with disabled communities/individuals. Respondents should note professional association memberships, industry awards, and past or current government projects. Annual reports or other financial performance data should also be included.
- D. **Team** Include brief biographies of company principals and potential managers for this project, noting prior work related to evacuation, emergency management or community outreach with the disabled population, if any. Describe entities that may be partnered with or subcontracted to the responder to implement the proposed vision and define their role. Note any prior collaboration with proposed partners.
- E. **Information Sheet** Provide a one-page document with a brief firm profile that summarizes company history, corporate vision, and current size and range of services. List of locations of any additional offices. Include full contact information and note any potential conflict of interest in working with the Federal, State or City Government.

EOIs will be evaluated on the basis of content, not length

V. **Timetable**

A. **RFEI Issued on November 3, 2014**

B. **Inquiries** Questions regarding the meaning or interpretation of this RFEI must be submitted to procurementmail@oem.nyc.gov via the “RFEI Questions and Answers.” Questions must be submitted no later than 4PM on November 17, 2014. Responses will be posted on OEM’s website listed as “RFEI Questions and Answers” by December 1, 2014, with preference given to topics questioned most frequently.

C. **Submission deadline** Respondents are responsible for ensuring that OEM receives six (6) copies and one (1) electronic version of the EOI in the clearly marked and sealed envelope or pack on or before 4 PM on December 15, 2014. Proposals shall be delivered to the contact person at the location specified below:

Elizabeth O’Donnell
165 Cadman Plaza East
Brooklyn, New York 11201

D. **Review** All submittals will be reviewed by OEM to determine their responsiveness to the requisites of this RFEI.

E. **Subsequent Request for Proposals (RFP)** OEM may follow this RFEI with an RFP for services related to evacuation planning for the disabled population. Failure to respond to this RFEI will not disqualify prospective bidders from participating in any subsequent RFP process. Information gathered from these EOIs may inform the specifics of the forthcoming RFP.

VI. Annexes

- A. Disabilities Affecting Evacuation, Extract from 2014 New York City Hurricane Evacuation Study Behavioral Analysis, Behavioral Survey Data Report
(Source: Hazards Management Group, Inc.)
- B. Map of Current Evacuation Zones and Centers
- C. Persons with Disability in New York City Map (by Census Tract)
- D. Persons with Disabilities in Evacuation Zones – Citywide
- E. Citywide Map of Access-A-Ride Registrants

ANNEX A: Disabilities Affecting Evacuation, Extract from 2014 New York City Hurricane Evacuation Study Behavioral Analysis, Behavioral Survey Data Report (Source: Hazards Management Group, Inc.)

The initial question asked whether the respondent or other members of the respondent’s household have a disability that would make it impossible to evacuate without assistance from another person. Results are shown in Table 9.1 and in Figures 9.1 through 9.3.

1. Borough	Evacuation Zone 1	Evacuation Zone 2	Evacuation Zones 3+4	Evacuation Zones 5+6	Non-surge Area	Borough Average
Bronx	8	14	14	13	9	12
Brooklyn	18	12	10	9	14	13
Manhattan	10	12	17	10	7	11
Queens	12	15	12	13	9	12
Staten Island	8	12	14	9	6	10
<i>Zone Average</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>12</i>

Table 9.1. Percent of respondents saying someone in their household has a disability that would make it impossible to evacuate without assistance from another person

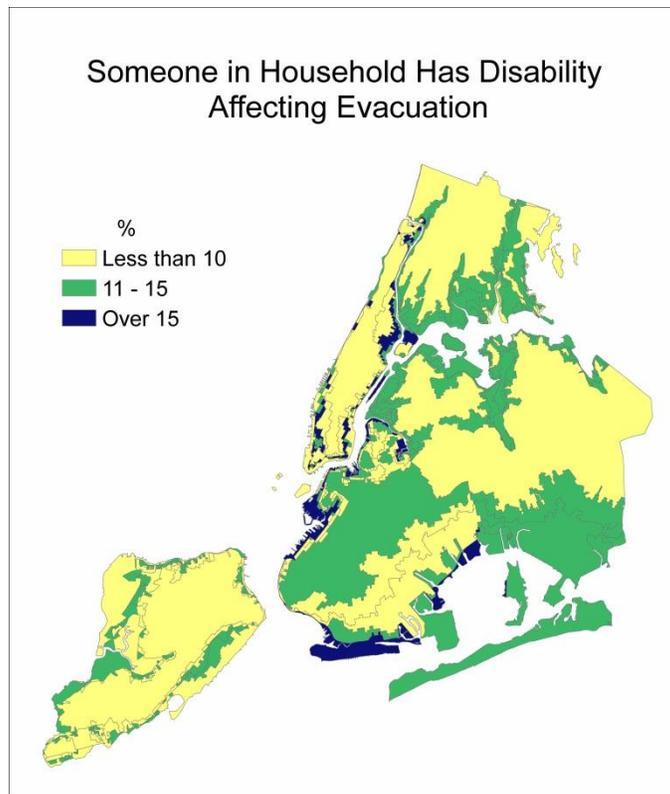


Fig. 9.1. Percent of respondents saying someone in household has a disability requiring assistance in order to evacuate

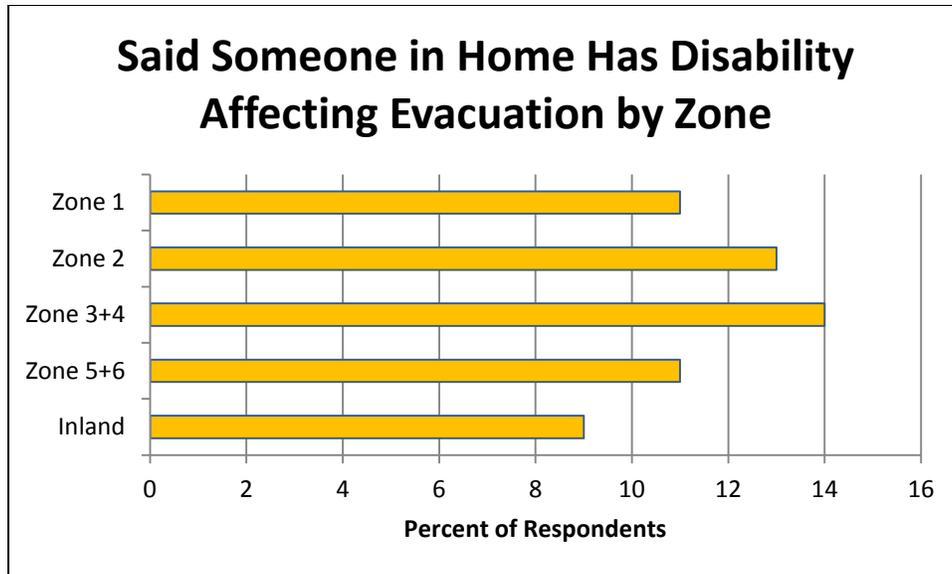


Fig. 9.2. Percent of respondents saying someone in household has disability requiring assistance in order to evacuate, by zone

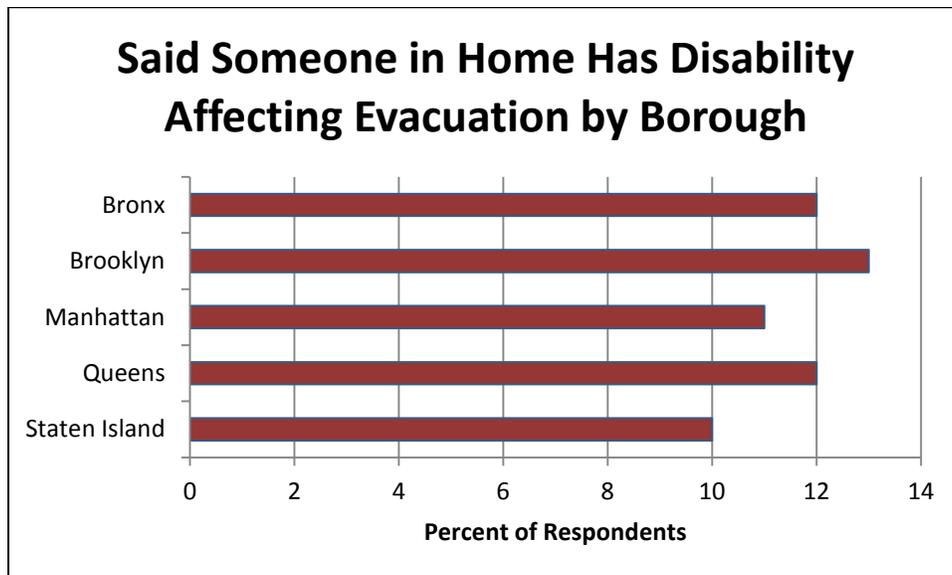


Fig. 9.3. Percent of respondents saying someone in household has disability requiring assistance in order to evacuate, by borough

9.1. Type of Disability

Interviewees saying someone in their household had a disability were asked to specify the type of disability or medical condition that would require assistance. Multiple responses were recorded, and findings are shown in Figures 9.4 and 9.5.

Most disabilities were related to mobility, followed by vision and respiratory problems. Staten Island respondents cited fewer cases of mobility and vision issues compared to other boroughs but more cases of breathing and mental difficulties. There is an “other” category for responses interviewers didn’t feel

confident placing into one of the pre-set categories. However, the great majority of the “other” responses are related to the pre-set disability groups. For example, there were answers such as “can’t walk far because of back” and “arthritis.”

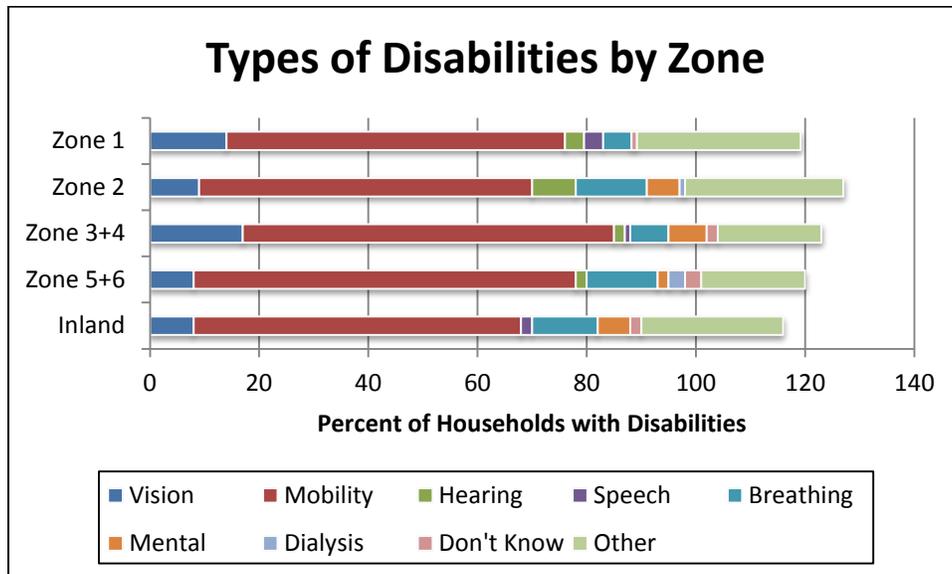


Fig. 9.4. Types of disabilities, by zone

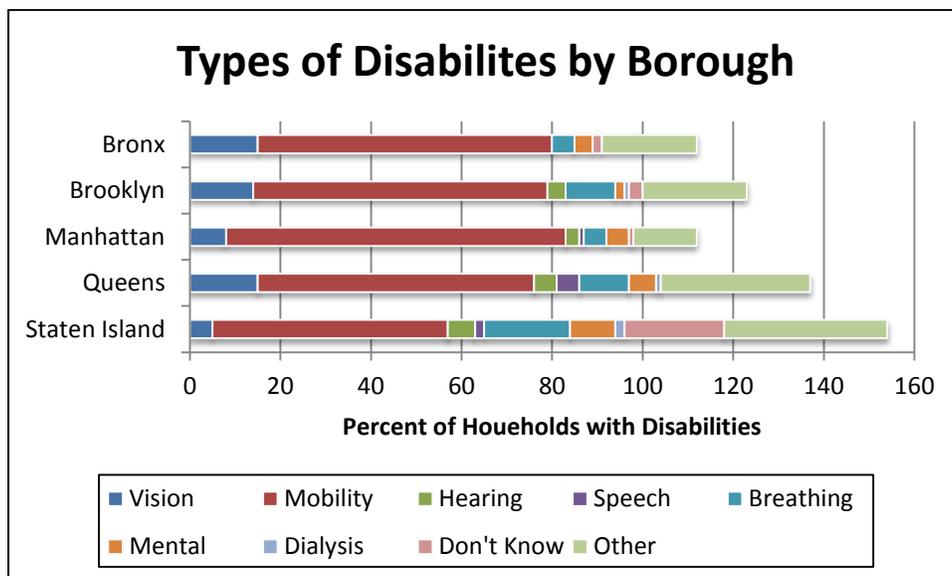


Fig. 9.5. Types of disabilities, by borough

9.2. Households Requiring Specialized Transportation

Survey respondents were asked if the person with a disability would require specialized transportation. Results are shown in Table 9.2 and in Figures 9.6 and 9.7.

Borough	Evacuation Zone 1	Evacuation Zone 2	Evacuation Zones 3+4	Evacuation Zones 5+6	Non-surge Area	Borough Average
Bronx	40	42	48	63	27	46
Brooklyn	61	44	64	55	53	56
Manhattan	60	63	63	58	71	62
Queens	50	36	67	47	40	47
Staten Island	44	47	53	70	57	52
Zone Average	53	47	57	58	48	53

Table 9.2. Percent of respondents saying person with disability would require specialized transportation

(Note: Although responses are broken down by evacuation zones within each borough in Table 9.2, recall that the question was asked only of respondents saying that someone in the household had a disability requiring evacuation assistance – 12% of the overall sample. Therefore the sample sizes in individual cells of Table 9.2 are based on a small number of interviews and are statistically less reliable than averages for zones and boroughs. This is true for all tables in this section.)

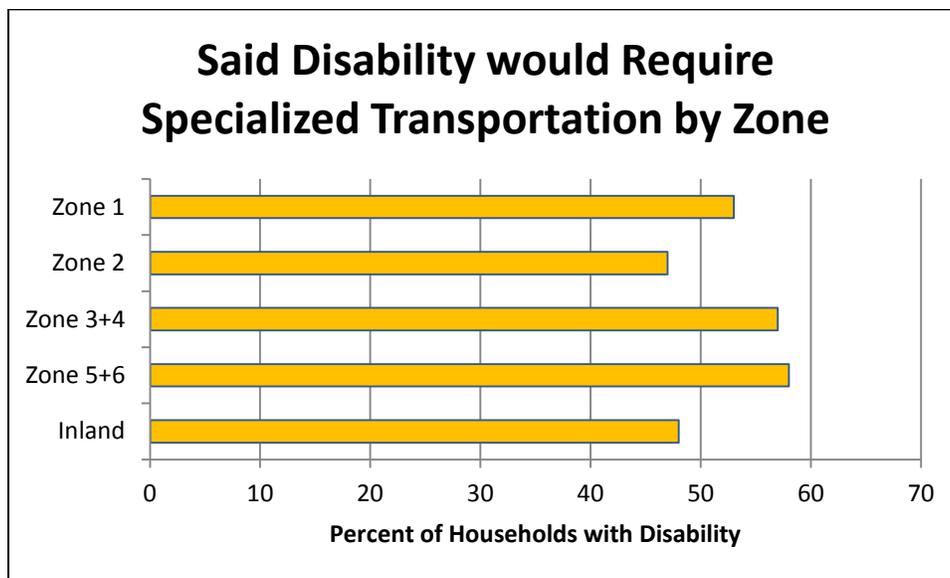


Fig. 9.6. Percent of respondents saying disability would require specialized transportation, by zone

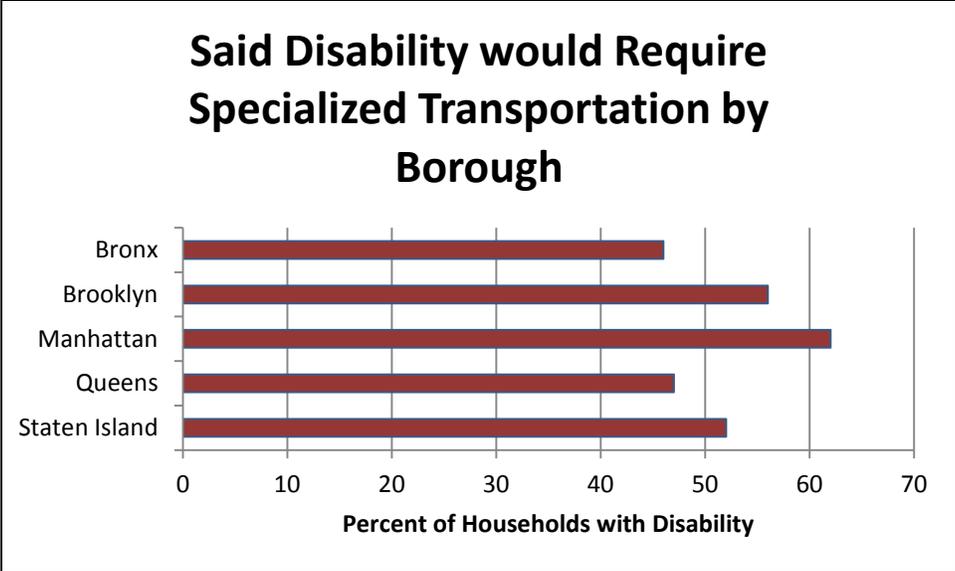


Fig. 9.7. Percent of respondents saying disability would require specialized transportation, by borough

ANNEX B: Map of Current Evacuation Zones and Centers

NEW YORK CITY HURRICANE EVACUATION ZONES

NYC EVACUATION CENTERS

BRONX		
DE CONNA COLLEGE 80 W. 183 RD ST.	IS 201 730 BRYANT AVE.	PS 102 1827 ARCHER ST.
EVANER CHILD'S HS 800 E. GUNHILL RD.	LEHMAN COLLEGE 250 BELFORD PARK BLVD. W	PS 111 1919 PROSPECT AVE.
HS OF LAW, GOVT AND JUSTICE 244 S. 143 RD ST.	HS 186 HS 660 W. 227 TH ST.	PS 106 40 W. TRIMONT AVE.
IS 98 549 BOSTON ST.	PS 5 544 JACKSON AVE.	WILLIAM M. TAFT HS 240 E. 172 ND ST.

MANHATTAN		
SIKONIN COLLEGE 150 W. 241 ST ST.	HS OF GRAPHIC COMM 439 W. 49 TH ST.	JOHN JAY COLLEGE 442 W. 29 TH ST.
LOUIS D. BRANDERS HS 145 W. 84 TH ST.	HUNTER COLLEGE 695 PARK AVE.	JULIA RICHMOND ED. COMPLEX 317 EAST 104 TH ST.
BREAD AND ROSES HS 8 E. 130 TH ST.	IS 90 71 JAMES PLACE	SEWARD PARK HS 350 GRAND ST.
CITY COLLEGE 181 CLEVELAND AVE.	IS 108 54 W. 93 RD ST.	

QUEENS		
JOHN ADAMS HS 101-01 ROCKAWAY BLVD.	GROVER CLEVELAND HS 2127 KENNEDY BLVD.	QUEENS COLLEGE 65-30 KISSENA BLVD.
AVIATION HS 45-20 80 TH ST.	HILLCREST HS 160-16 HIGHLAND AVE.	QUEENSBURY COLLEGE 229-05 131 ST AVE.
BAYSIDE HS 20-24 CROPBERRY ST.	JHS 185 147-30 79 TH DR.	WILLIAM C. BRVANT HS 48-25 25 TH AVE.
BELMONT RACETRACK 2620 HEMSTEAD TRPK.	NEWTON HS 28 01 45 TH AVE.	YORK COLLEGE 94-20 GUY R. BREWER BLVD.
FLUSHING HS 35 01 UNION ST.	PS 89 87 02 ROOSEVELT AVE.	
FOREST HILLS HS 67 01 107 TH ST.		

BROOKLYN		
BOYS & GIRLS HS 1700 TULFORD ST.	IS 136 400-41 41 ^{AVE} .	JOHN JAY HS 237 71 ^{AVE} .
BROOKLYN TECH HS 29 00 TH GREENE PLACE	IS 187 177 60 TH ST.	NYC TECHNICAL COLLEGE 100 JAY ST.
BUSHWICK HS 400 10 TH AVE.	IS 246 72 00 TH GREENE PLACE	PS 189 100 E. NEW YORK AVE.
CLARA BARTON HS 101 CLARSON ST.	IS 271 137 FERNBER ST.	PS 249 19 MARLBOROUGH DR.
FRANKLIN L. LANE HS 199 JAMAICA AVE.	IS 283 155 GREENE AVE.	PS 227 16 05 TH ST.
IS 177 300 WILLOUGHBY AVE.	JHS 57 125 STUYVESANT AVE.	ROOSEVELT HS 5800 20 TH AVE.

STATEN ISLAND		
CURTIS HS 105 HAMILTON AVE.	IS 78 135 HUGUENOT AVE.	SUSAN C. WAGNER HS 1200 MARSH DR.
IS 51 20 HOBSON ST.	PETRIKES COMPLEX 78 OCEAN TERRACE	

VISIT NYC.GOV/HURRICANEZONES OR CALL 311 TO FIND OUT IF YOU LIVE IN A HURRICANE EVACUATION ZONE.

KNOW YOUR ZONE*

- Determine whether you live in an evacuation zone by using the Hurricane Evacuation Zone Finder at www.NYC.gov/hurricanezones, calling 311 (TTY: 212-504-4115), or consulting this map. If your address is in one of the City's hurricane evacuation zones, you may be ordered to evacuate if a hurricane threatens New York City.
- Evacuees should be prepared to stay with friends or family who live outside evacuation zone boundaries.
- If you cannot stay with friends or family, use the Finder, call 311 (TTY: 212-504-4115), or use this map to identify which evacuation center is most appropriate for you.

* Evacuation information is subject to change. For the latest information, visit www.NYC.gov or call 311 (TTY: 212-504-4115). Visit the MTA's website at www.mta.info or call 511 for the latest transit information. If you need assistance evacuating during an emergency, please call 311.

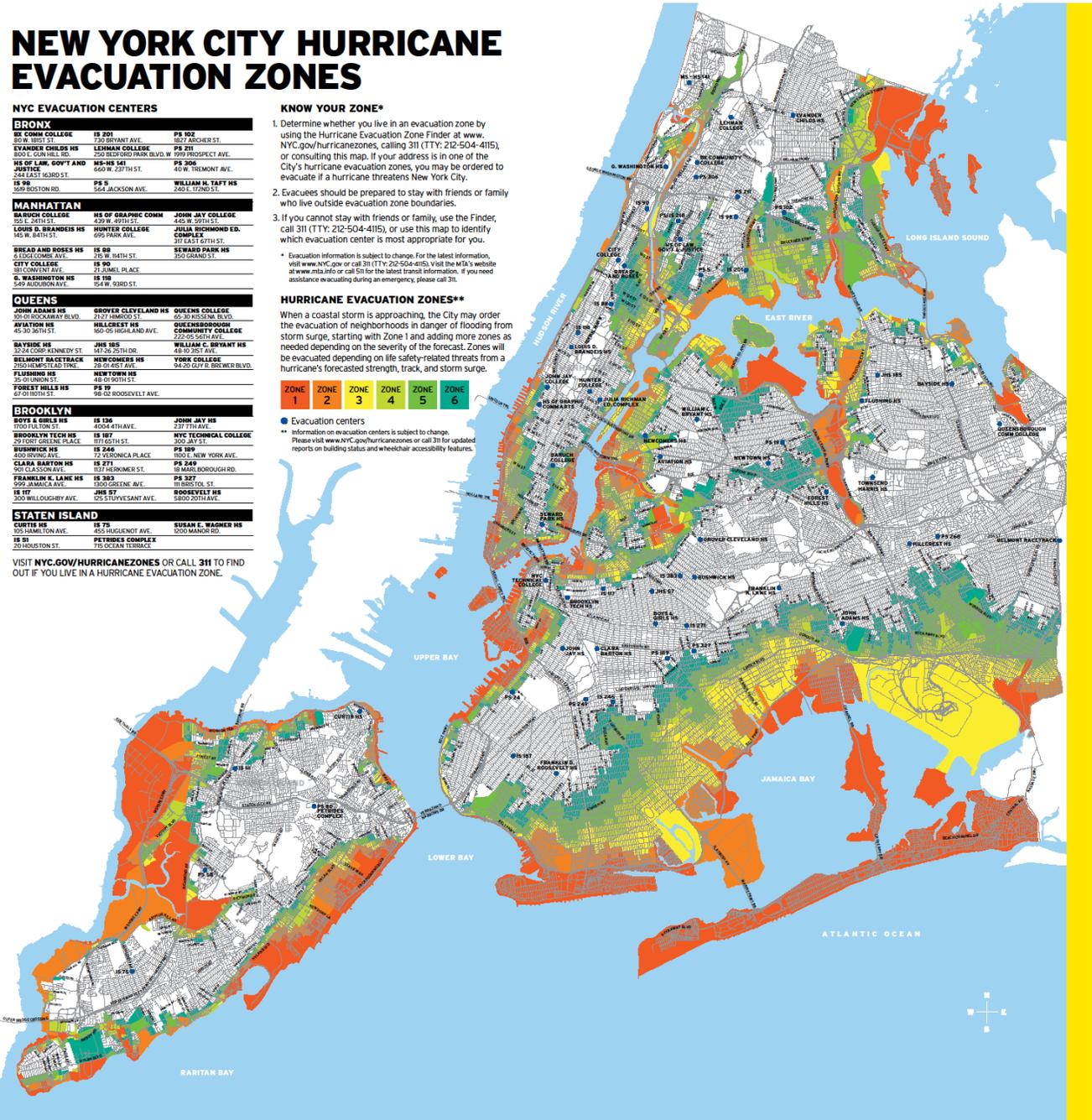
HURRICANE EVACUATION ZONES**

When a coastal storm is approaching, the City may order the evacuation of neighborhoods in danger of flooding from storm surge, starting with Zone 1 and adding more zones as needed depending on the severity of the forecast. Zones will be evacuated depending on life safety-related threats from a hurricane's forecasted strength, track, and storm surge.

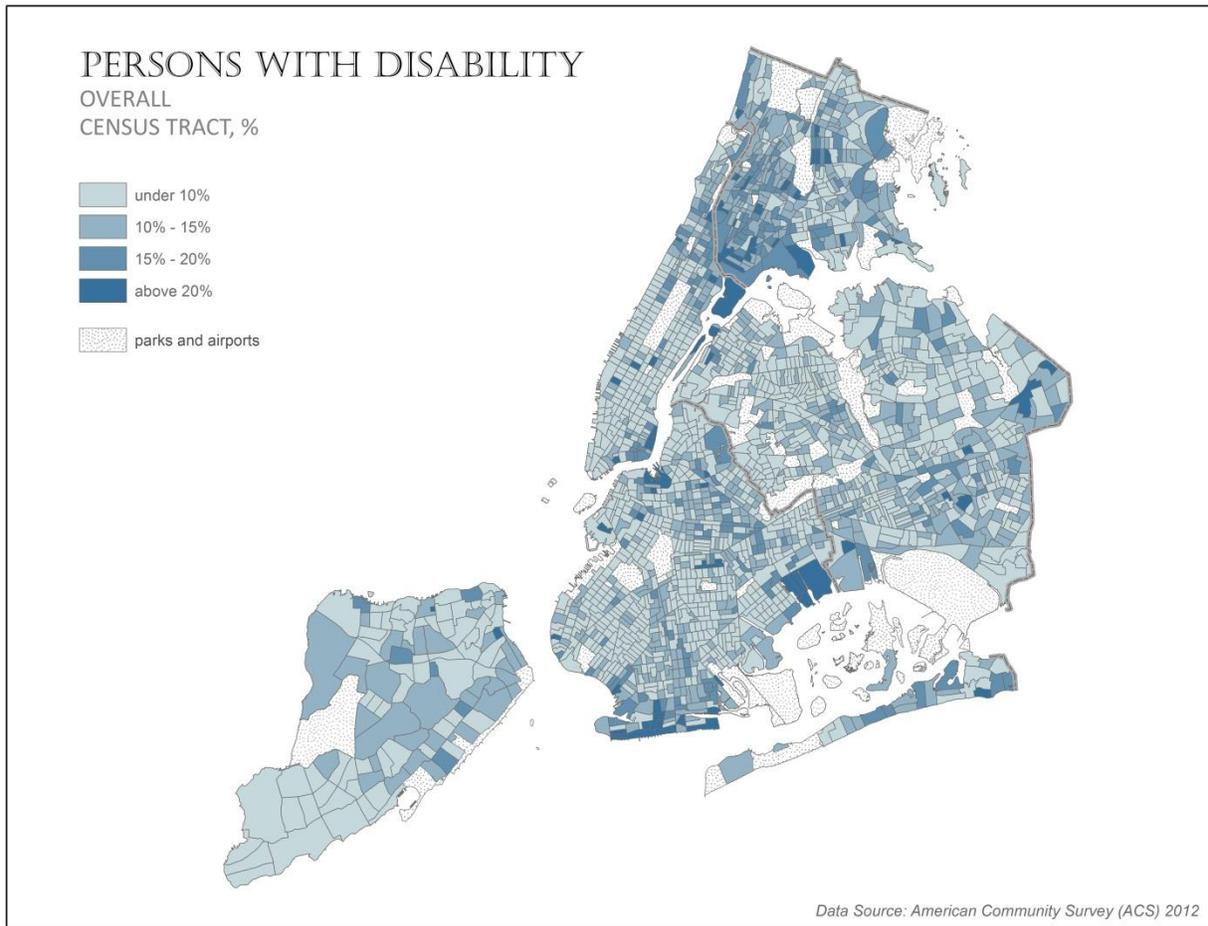


Evacuation centers

** Information on evacuation centers is subject to change. Please visit www.NYC.gov/hurricanezones or call 311 for updated reports on building status and wheelchair accessibility features.



ANNEX C: Persons with Disability in New York City Map (by Census Tract)



Provided by NYC DOT

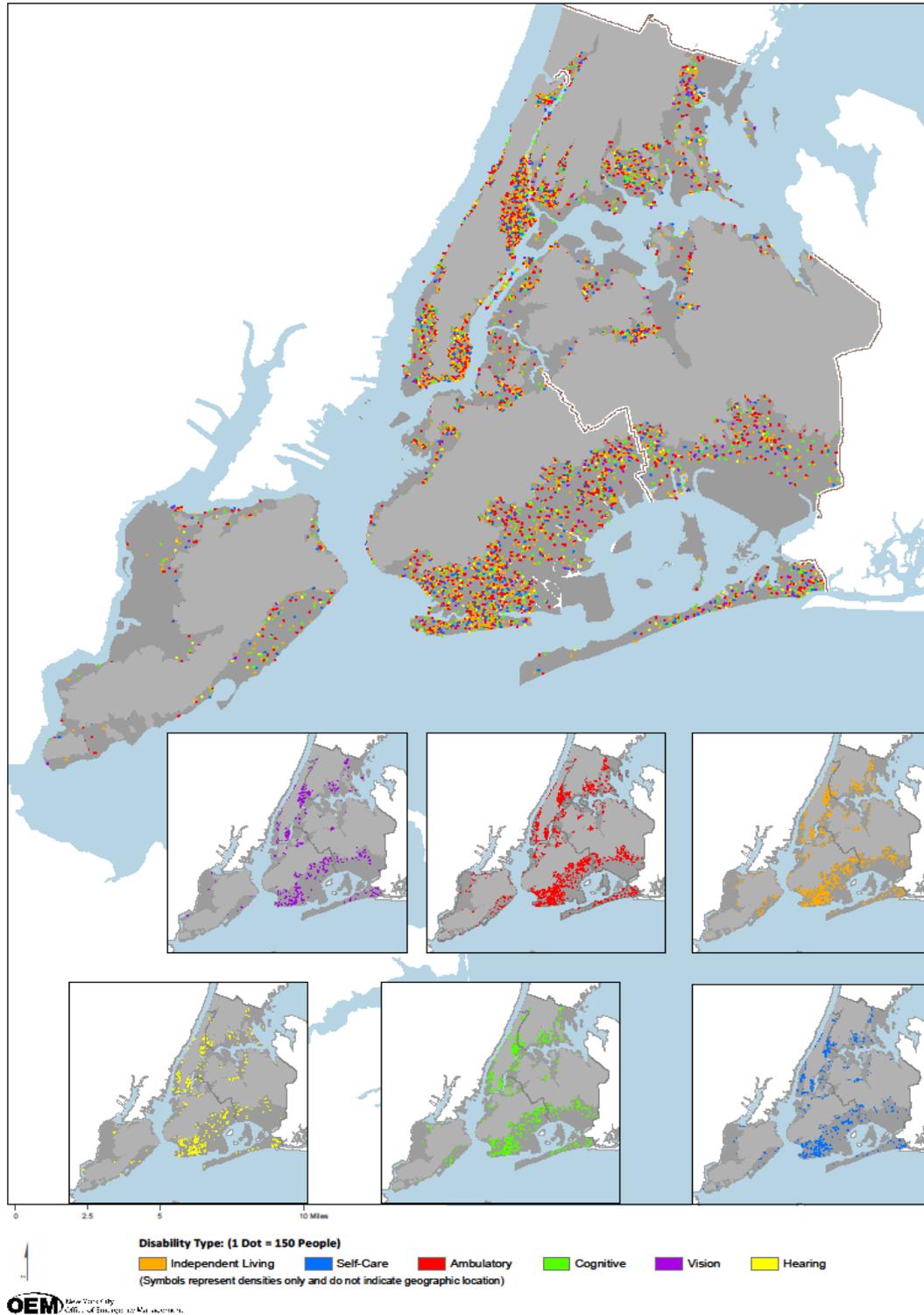
ANNEX D: Persons with Disabilities in Evacuation Zones – Citywide

Persons with Disabilities in Evac Zones - Citywide

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Source: ACS 2008-2012

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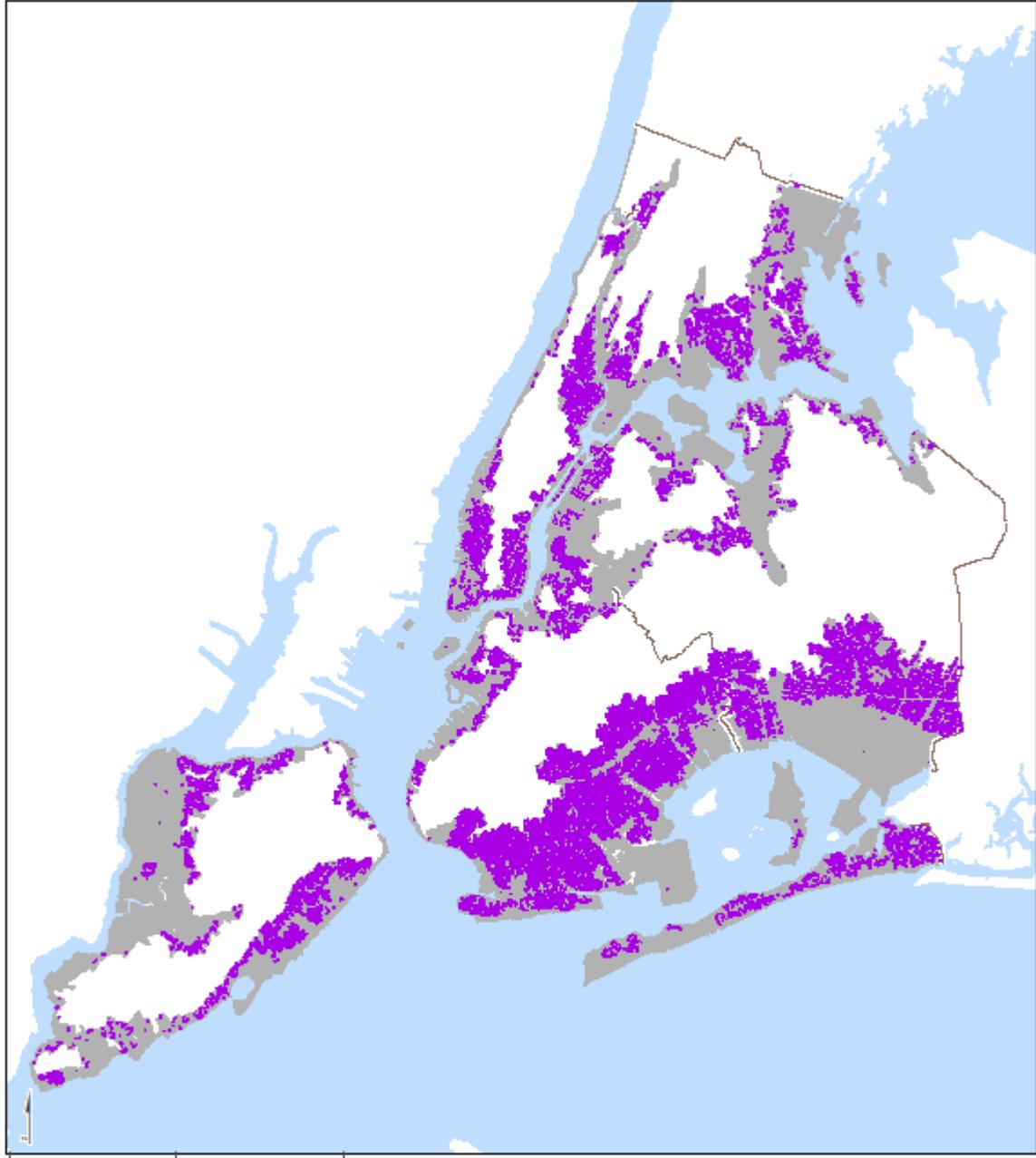


ANNEX E: Citywide Map of Access-A-Ride Registrants

Access-A-Ride Registrants Map - Citywide

Source: OEM GIS & NYC Paratransit

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY
Produced: 11 SEP 2014



1 Dot = 1 Person
- Access-A-Ride Registrants

