Brownsville South Resiliency

April 9, 2026

NYC DDC Department of Design and Construction

NYC Environmental Protection

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Introductions

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2. Brownsville South Cloudburst Hub
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About Climate Strong Communities

Climate Strong Communities (CSC) allows the city to focus resources on projects that can protect against climate threats while also improving community spaces.

CSC will implement infrastructure projects like street cooling features, solar energy, raised shorelines, and resilience hubs, which address critical climate impacts.

CSC works with community members in neighborhoods that are most at risk for extreme weather that have historically been left out of the climate conversation.

Brownsville was selected as one of the six Year 1 neighborhoods. Engagement ran from 2023 to 2024.

Source: https://www.nyc.gov/content/climate/pages/initiatives/climate-strong-communities

Cloudburst Management

Cloudburst Management is a way of absorbing, storing, and transferring stormwater to minimize flooding from heavy rain events

Cloudburst Management uses a **combination** of:

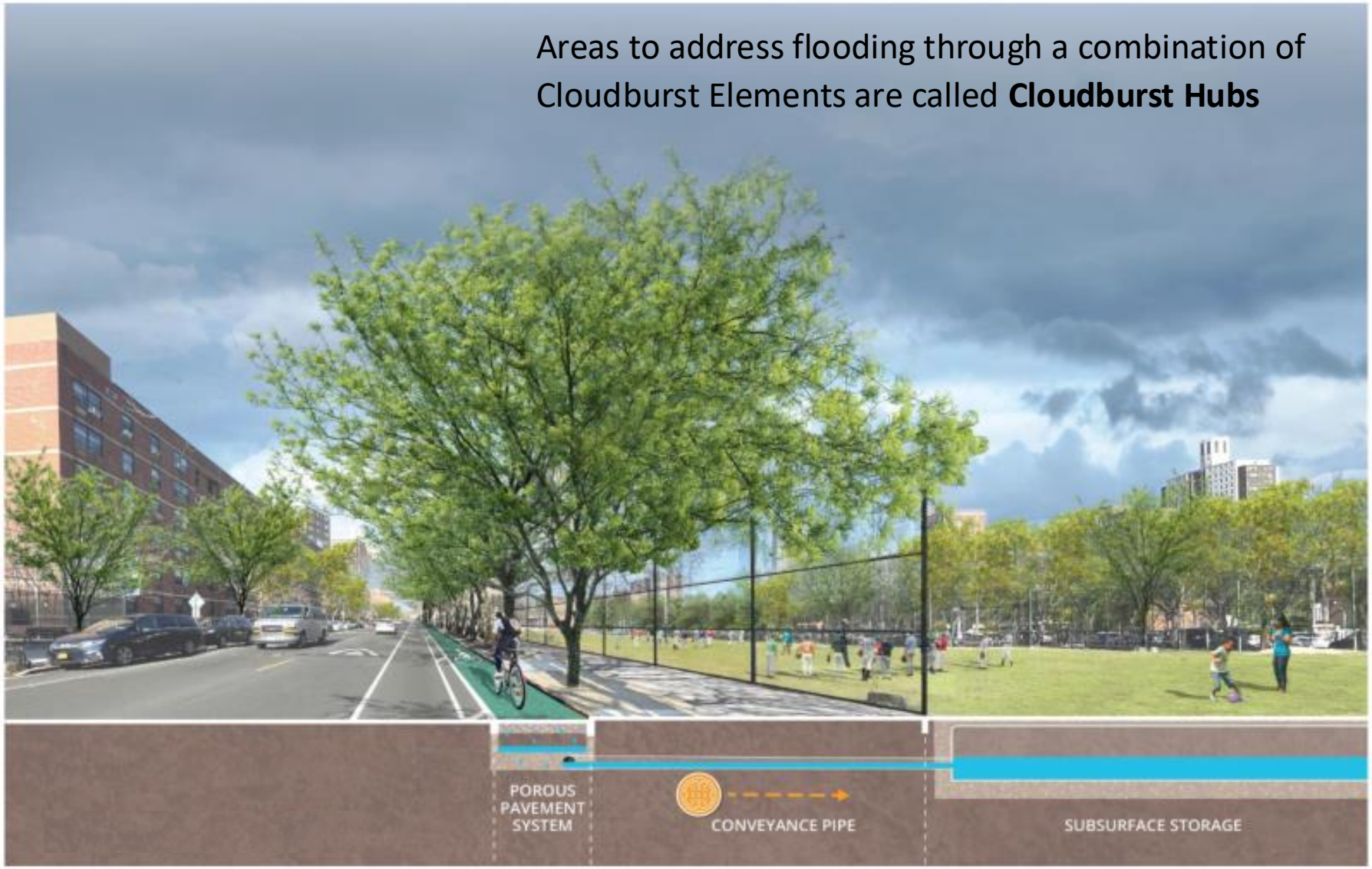
- ✓ Grey infrastructure, like drainage pipes and underground tanks
- ✓ Green infrastructure, like trees and rain gardens.

These projects are designed to help manage street flooding during heavy events.

Cloudburst Management can minimize damage to property and infrastructure by reducing pressure on the sewer system.

Elements of Cloudburst Management

What is a Cloudburst Hub?



Brownsville South Cloudburst Hub

Brownsville South Cloudburst Hub

- Objective:
  - Reduce flooding through cloudburst management practices that absorb, transfer, and store stormwater
  - Enhance community amenities and open spaces

- Hub boundary is based on how stormwater naturally drains in the area. Management of stormwater outside of this boundary will be addressed through other DEP projects.

- A combination of Cloudburst elements will be used to manage larger storm events. Most improvements will be made in streets within the hub. Some public sites have been identified for potentially larger scale improvements.
  - ❶ Floyd Patterson Ballfields
  - ❷ Osborn Playground
  - ❸ Newport Playground

Brownsville South Cloudburst Hub

Cloudburst Management Strategies:

- Precast Porous Concrete Panels (PPCP)
- On-site stormwater storage
  - Floyd Patterson Ballfields
  - Osborn Playground
  - Newport Playground

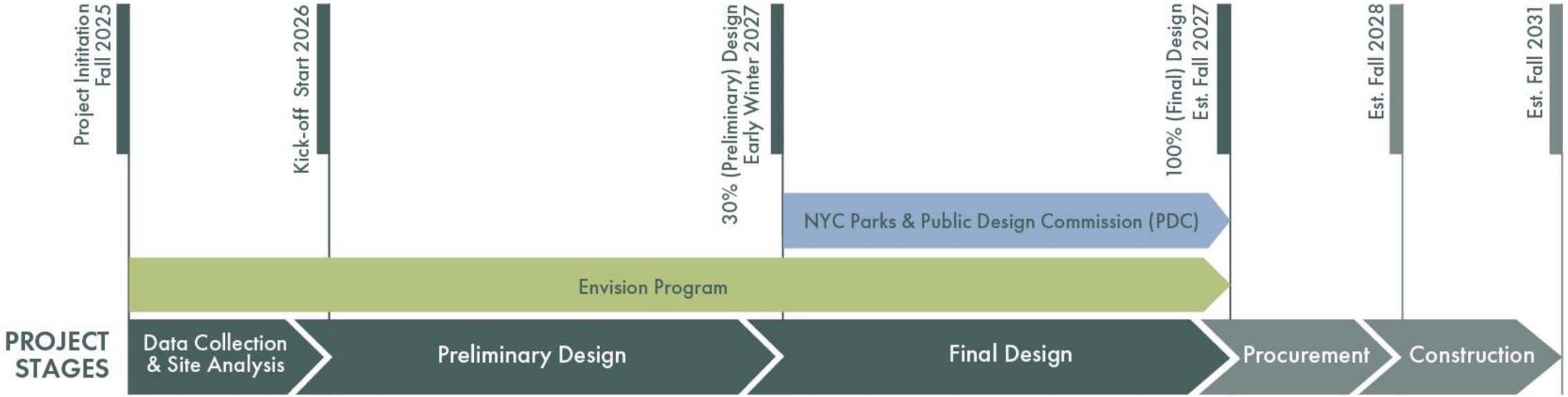
Status:
Currently in Preliminary Design with 30% Design Submission planned for Late Fall 2026 - Early Winter 2027

Design and construction of the project will keep sustainability, climate resiliency, and social equity at the forefront to ensure a holistic and inclusive approach to these improvements.

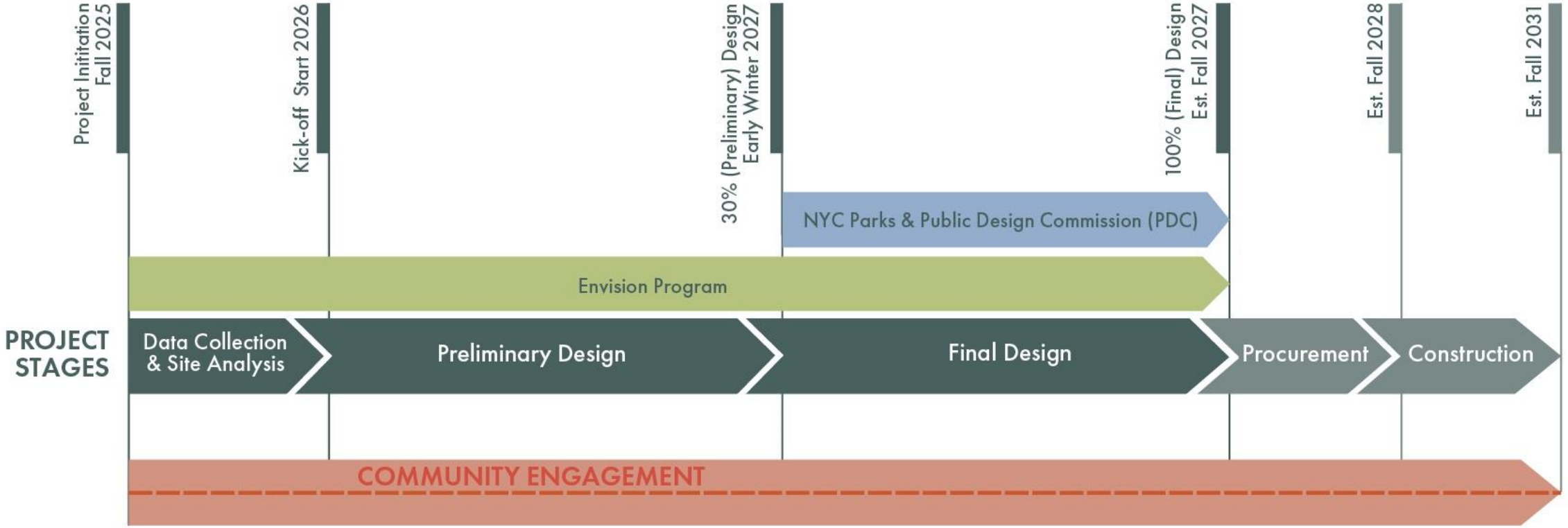
Constructed PPCP in Brooklyn

Example subsurface storage detention system

Anticipated Design and Construction Timeline



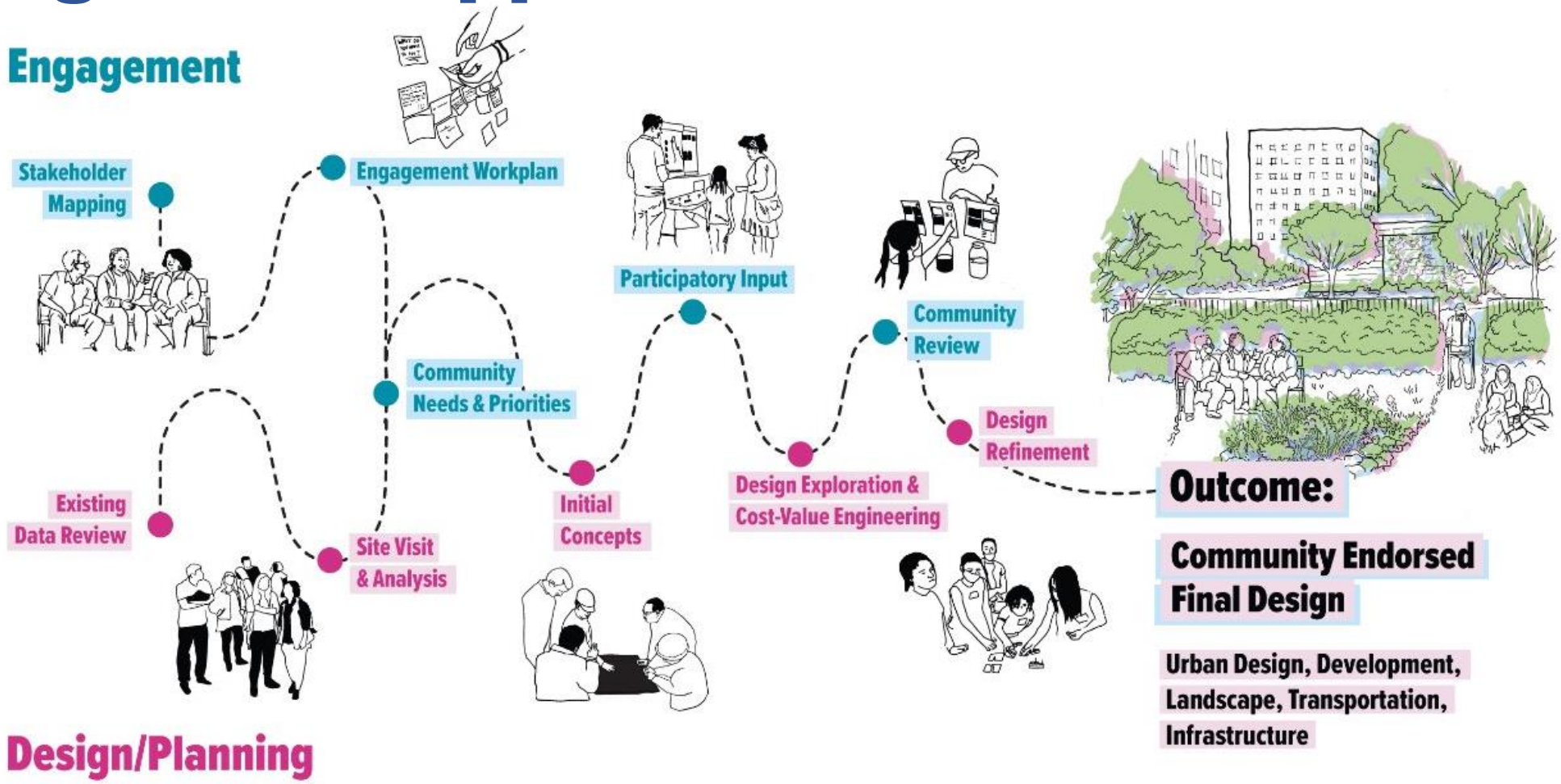
Gathering Input During Design Phase



Engagement formats will balance quick, accessible participation with in-depth engagement. They might include:

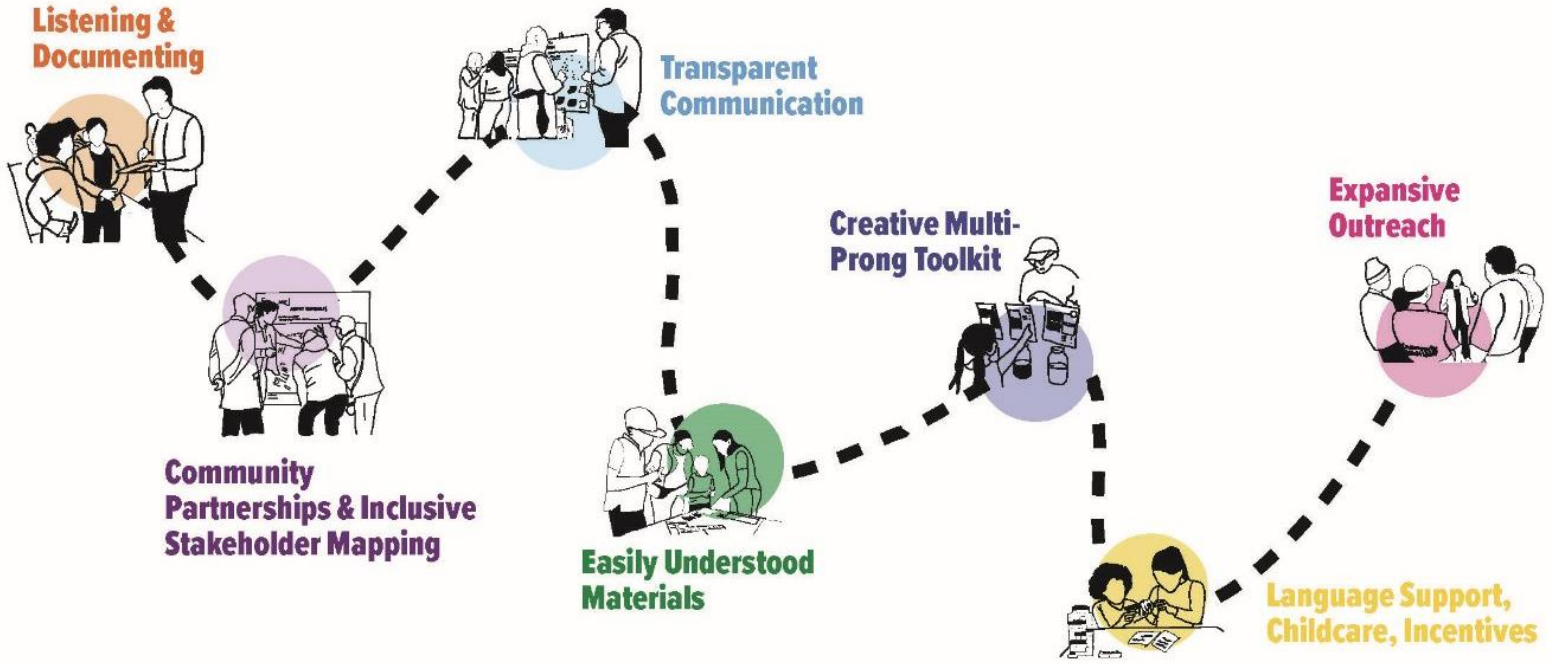
- Large-group touchpoints tied to project milestones: In-person or virtual
- Community board presentations, Surveys, Virtual engagement opportunities
- Collaboration with community-based organizations
- Targeted engagement with user groups impacted most by sites receiving interventions
- Coordination with other projects and continuation of past community conversations on resiliency and cloudburst

Engagement Approach



Engagement will run in parallel with the design and technical process. Community input informs design phases, allowing the project to evolve towards a final outcome that is inclusive of community needs and priorities.

Engagement Approach



Successful community engagement is transparent, inclusive, iterative and proactive, allowing stakeholders to be equipped with the information they need most to engage and shape the future of their communities.

Engagement toolkit will include a variety of materials to share project info, communicate concepts and strategies, and creative means to solicit feedback.

Early Engagement

We have initiated early outreach to key stakeholders in the community through one-on-one meetings and introductory emails. This engagement helps us understand local priorities and begin building relationships.

United for Brownsville

Climate Strong Communities/ MOCEJ

Central Brooklyn EDC

Pitkin Avenue BID

Next Steps

DESIGN

- Identify Locations for Improvements to Reduce Flooding
- Advance Design of Improvements

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Build Community Connections
- Continue Early Engagement and Outreach

Brownsville South | Resiliency

NYC DDC Department of Design and Construction

Project Overview

The Brownsville South Resiliency is a neighborhood-scale climate resiliency project designed to reduce flooding during heavy rainstorms in Brownsville South.

The project focuses on planning and designing stormwater solutions that help streets, parks, and public spaces better manage rainfall, reduce flood risk, and strengthen neighborhood resilience. The design process will follow NYC guidelines and incorporate community input throughout the project.

Project Team

The project is led by the New York City Department of Design and Construction (NYCDDC), with input from the New York City Department of Environmental Protection (NYCDEP), the New York City Department of Transportation (NYCDOT), NYC Parks, and the Mayor's Office of Climate and Environmental Justice (MOCEJ). The City has hired a consultant team led by AKRF, with experts in civil engineering and transportation, geotechnical engineering, water resources, landscape architecture, and environmental sustainability, and with Grain Collective leading public space design and community engagement.

Timeline

Data and Site Analysis: Spring 2026

Preliminary Design: Early Winter 2027

Final Design: Fall 2027

Construction Starts: Fall 2028

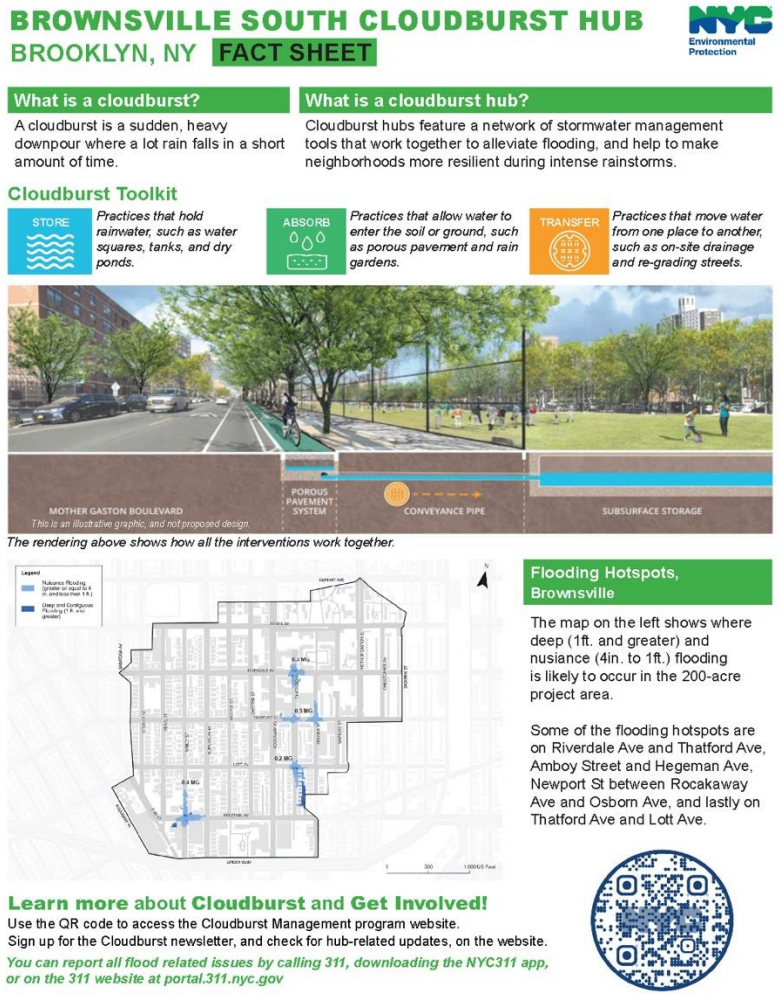
Following final design, construction will proceed with a coordinated, community-focused approach to minimize neighborhood disruption.

Get Involved

Community engagement is a core component of this project and will take place throughout the design process. Join a community meeting or participate in an event to share your ideas!

For more information please email us at brownsvilleresiliency@graincollective.com or scan the QR code below to visit the project website.

Project Overview Handout



BROWNSVILLE SOUTH CLOUDBURST HUB

BROOKLYN, NY FACT SHEET

NYC Environmental Protection

What is a cloudburst?

A cloudburst is a sudden, heavy downpour where a lot rain falls in a short amount of time.

What is a cloudburst hub?

Cloudburst hubs feature a network of stormwater management tools that work together to alleviate flooding, and help to make neighborhoods more resilient during intense rainstorms.

Cloudburst Toolkit

STORE — *Practices that hold rainwater, such as water squares, tanks, and dry ponds.*

ABSORB — *Practices that allow water to enter the soil or ground, such as porous pavement and rain gardens.*

TRANSFER — *Practices that move water from one place to another, such as on-site drainage and re-grading streets.*

MOTHER GASTON BOULEVARD — POROUS PAVEMENT SYSTEM — CONVEYANCE PIPE — SUBSURFACE STORAGE

This is an illustrative graphic, and not proposed design

The rendering above shows how all the interventions work together.

Flooding Hotspots, Brownsville

The map on the left shows where deep (1ft. and greater) and nusiance (4in. to 1ft.) flooding is likely to occur in the 200-acre project area.

Some of the flooding hotspots are on Riverdale Ave and Thatford Ave, Amboy Street and Hegeman Ave, Newport St between Rockaway Ave and Osborn Ave, and lastly on Thatford Ave and Lott Ave.

Learn more about Cloudburst and Get Involved!

Use the QR code to access the Cloudburst Management program website.

Sign up for the Cloudburst newsletter, and check for hub-related updates, on the website.

You can report all flood related issues by calling 311, downloading the NYC311 app, or on the 311 website at portal.311.nyc.gov

NYC DEP Brownsville Cloudburst Fact Sheet

Questions & Answers

Thank you

For more information or questions:

- *Please visit the project website at nyc.gov/dep/cloudburst*
- *Email us at brownsvilleresiliency@graincollective.com*