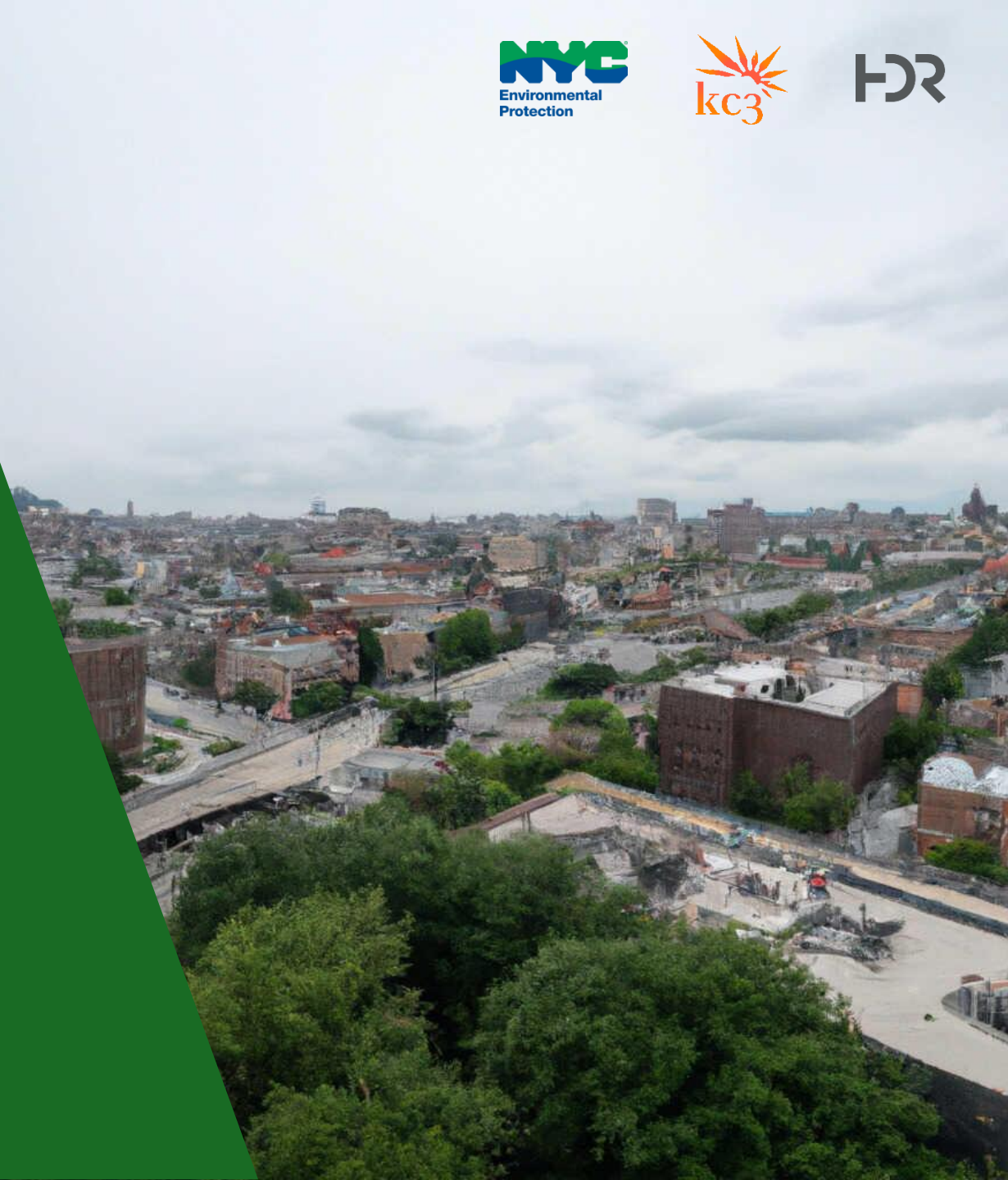


# Opportunities for Engagement on the East New York (Hendrix/Linden) Cloudburst Hub

Prepared for: Cypress Hills Local  
Development Corporation

*May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024*



# Welcome & Introductions

Thank you for joining us today!



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Kinetic Communities Consulting



NYC Parks



# What We'll Cover

- 1 What is Cloudburst and Why does it Matter?
- 2 Overview of East New York Hub
- 3 Community-Centered Design
- 4 Project Timeline & Engagement Opportunities
- 5 Next Steps
- 6 Q&A

The background of the slide is a photograph of a bright blue sky filled with numerous white, puffy cumulus clouds. The clouds are scattered across the frame, with some appearing larger and more detailed than others. The overall lighting is bright and even, suggesting a clear, sunny day.

# **What is Cloudburst & Why Does it Matter?**



# Flooding & Our Changing Climate

- As storms become the new normal, climate change is causing more localized flooding across NYC
- Sudden, powerful storms are bringing more intense rainfall
  - In 2023, NYC experienced rain every 3 days
  - NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) has reclassified NYC as a “humid subtropical” climate
- Sewer systems are the first line of defense against flooding and protect against 98% of rain events
  - Systems can get overwhelmed when the volume of water produced by a storm is greater than the sewer pipe capacity



Credit: Fatih Aktas/Anadolu Agency



# What is a Cloudburst?

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

- Cloudbursts can cause flooding, damage property, disrupt critical infrastructure, pollute New York's waterways, and in extreme cases even cause loss of life.

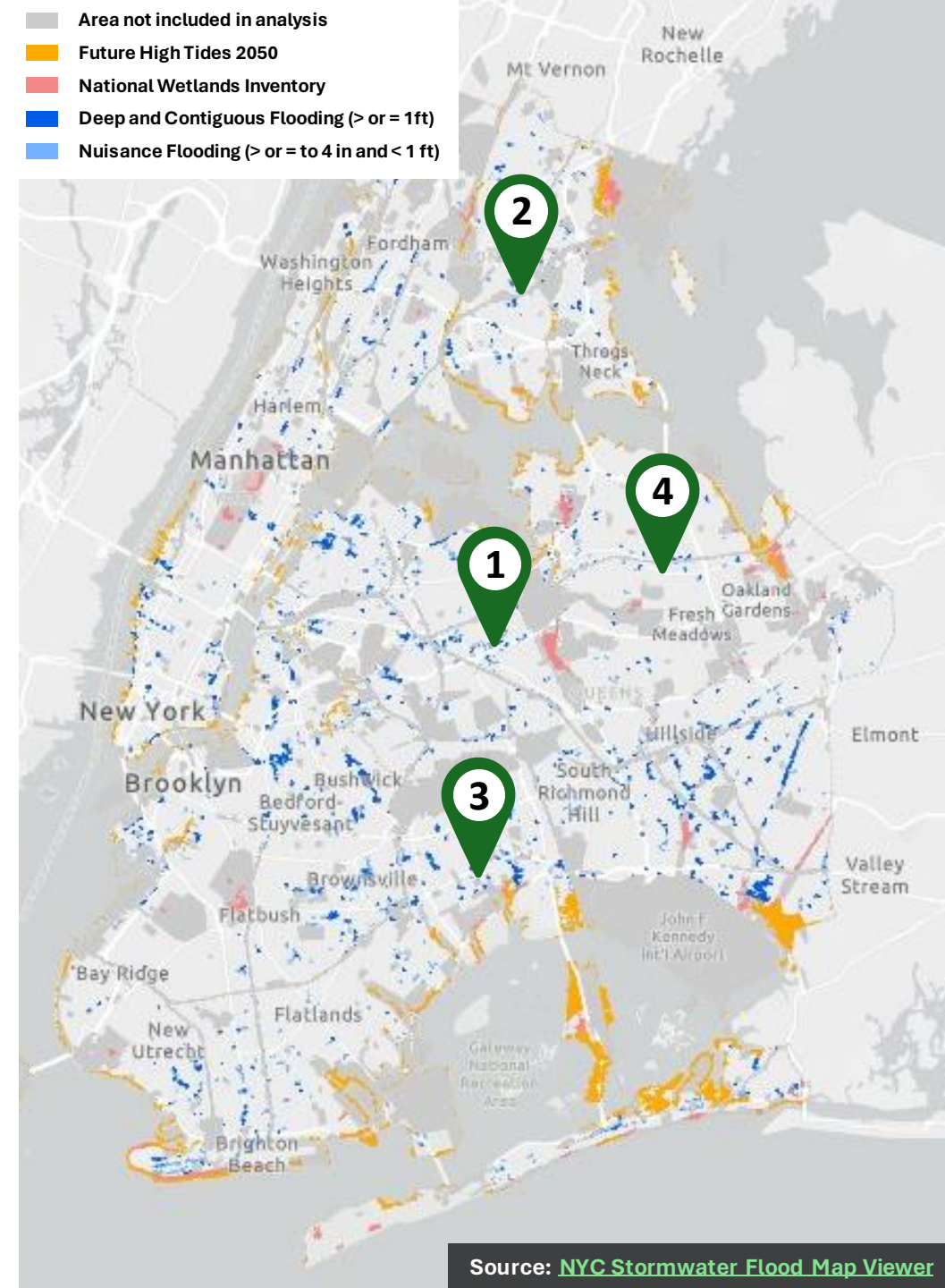


Credit: REUTERS/Mike Segar

# DEP Cloudburst Program

Hotspots were identified and clustered into Cloudburst Hubs based on flooding, opportunities for stormwater management techniques, and potential intervention benefits

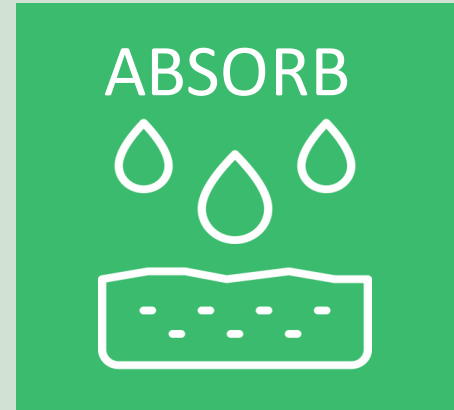
1. **Corona - Queens**
2. **Parkchester/Morris Park - Bronx**
3. **East New York (Hendrix/Linden) - Brooklyn**
4. **Kissena - Queens**





# What is Cloudburst Management?

- It is a way of absorbing, storing, and transferring stormwater to minimize flooding from heavy rain events
- Primarily suited to address flooding when rainwater flows downhill and collects in low-lying areas
- Techniques can include:
  - Drainage pipes
  - Underground tanks & other storage systems
  - Rain gardens
  - Porous pavement
  - Catch basins





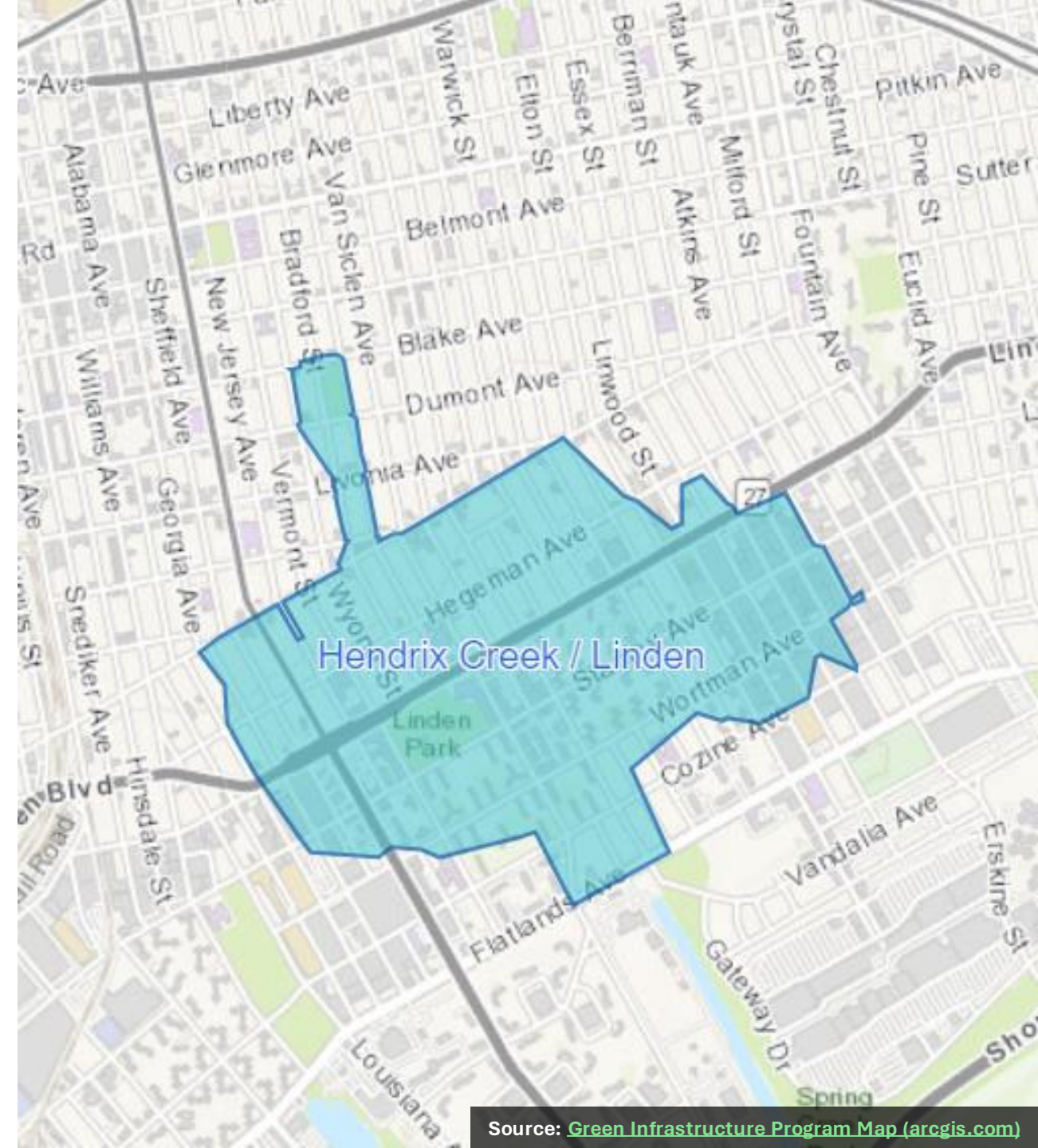
# Overview of East New York Hub





# Where is the East New York Hub?

- 370-acre area located in the south-east of the Brownsville neighborhood in Brooklyn
- Hub is bounded by Atkins Avenue to the East, Flatlands Avenue to the South, Alabama Avenue to the West, and New Lots Avenue and Blake Avenue to the North
- Project design will review:
  - Drainage infrastructure
  - Local topography
  - Model projected flood hotspots
  - Capital improvements





# Why East New York?

This area was selected as a hub based on:

- Analysis of historical and recent flooding hotspots
- Predicted modeled flood conditions using stormwater flood maps
- Considering agency feasibility for implementation based on current or planned projects
- Socioeconomic vulnerability to stormwater flooding that will impact ability to prepare
- Understanding immediate opportunities for improvements based on flooding prone locations



Credit: NYC Parks



Credit: NYC Planning



Credit: NYC Parks

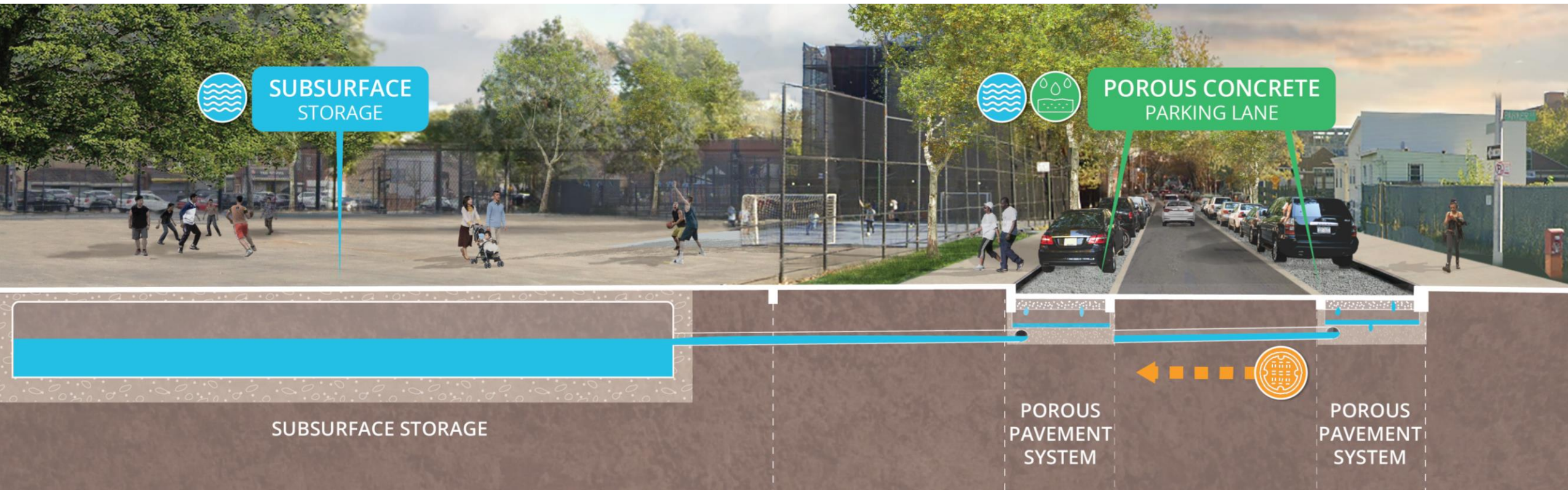


Credit: City Parks Foundation



# Management Techniques Being Explored

- Leverage existing topography to divert stormwater from flood spots and other low points
- Subsurface storage
- Porous concrete parking lanes and asphalt bike lanes
- Sidewalk storage as needed
- Other potential practices to be explored





A photograph of a community-centered design workshop. Several people's hands are visible, working on a large table. They are using circular image cutouts and blue dot stickers to create a landscape design. The table also has various supplies like scissors, markers, and a plate of fruit. The background is slightly blurred, focusing attention on the hands and the design process.

# Community-Centered Design



# We Want to Hear from You!

## Feedback we are hoping for today:

- Cloudburst impacts that community members are most concerned about
- Recommendations on local organizations and key individuals to engage
- Recommendations on upcoming events to share information on this project

## At future events:

- Comments on design options
- Placemaking opportunities for education and storytelling







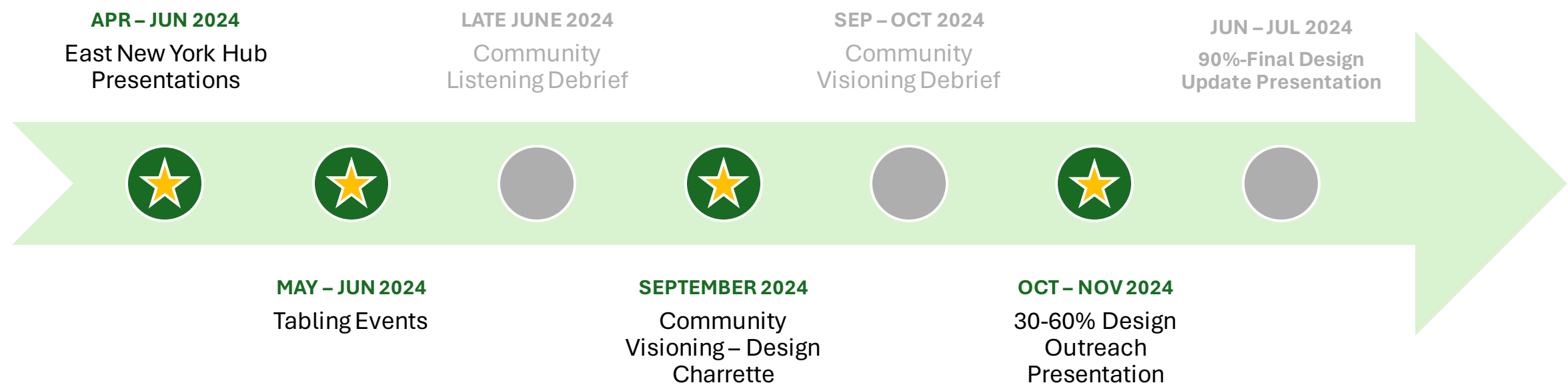
# **Project Timeline & Engagement Opportunities**




# Anticipated Design and Construction Timeline



# When Can We Share Feedback?



 = Key Points for Community Insights





# Next Steps

# Share Your Feedback With Us!

## How to get involved:

- Fill out a brief survey to provide insights on:
  - Placemaking opportunities for education and storytelling
  - Flooding concerns
  - Recommendations on key groups/participants for engagement
  - Complete the survey [HERE](#)
- Sign up for the DEP Newsletter:
  - Visit [nyc.gov/dep/newsletters](https://nyc.gov/dep/newsletters)
  - Select “DEP Cloudburst East New York”



LEARN MORE

Receive newsletter updates here



[nyc.gov/dep/newsletters](https://nyc.gov/dep/newsletters)

A screenshot of the 'NYC Environmental Protection' website's newsletter sign-up page. The page has a blue header with navigation links like 'Pay My Bills', 'About', 'Water', 'Environment', 'Recreation', and 'What's New'. Below the header is a blue bar with buttons for 'Mission & Leadership', 'Working With Us', 'Publications', and 'Contact'. The main content area is titled 'Newsletters' and includes a brief description. It features a 'Topics' section with a grid of checkboxes for various newsletters, including 'DEP Press Releases', 'DEP Weekly Pipeline', 'DEP Procurement Opportunities', 'DEP Gomanus Construction Updates', 'DEP Stormwater', 'DEP Cloudburst Kissena', 'DEP Cloudburst East New York', and 'DEP Cloudburst Parkchester'. A sidebar on the left lists other documents like 'Drinking Water Supply & Quality Report' and 'Filtration Avoidance Determination'. At the bottom, there are social media icons and a 'Print' button.



# What's Next?

## May – June 2024

- Additional presentations to local East New York groups
- Tabling events to gather public feedback

## September 2024

- Community Visioning - Design Charrette

## East New York Outreach Materials Coming Soon!

- To get updates on outreach materials and opportunities for engagement, sign up for the DEP Cloudburst East New York Newsletter

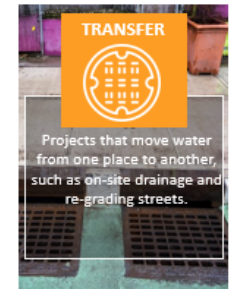
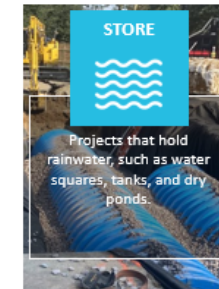
## Cloudburst Planning in NYC

### What is a cloudburst?

A cloudburst is a sudden, heavy downpour where a lot of rain falls in a short amount of time. Cloudbursts can cause flooding, damage property, disrupt critical infrastructure, and pollute New York's rivers and Harbor.

### 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, and green infrastructure, like trees and rain gardens. During heavy rain events, Cloudburst Management can minimize damage to property and infrastructure by reducing pressure on the sewer system.



### Cloudburst Planning

In January 2023, the Mayor announced an expansion of the city's cloudburst program to four new sites as part of ongoing resiliency efforts to better prepare for intense rain events. Supported with nearly \$400 million in capital funds, these specially designed, built, and engineered infrastructure projects will protect residents and property in Corona and Kissena Park in Queens, Parkchester/Morris Park in the Bronx, and East New York in Brooklyn from future extreme weather brought about by climate change.

### Learn more about Cloudburst!

To learn more about the planning process and ways to get involved, go to our website by scanning the QR code or contact us at the email below.



Email [communityaffairs@dep.nyc.gov](mailto:communityaffairs@dep.nyc.gov)

Website [nyc.gov/dep/cloudburst](http://nyc.gov/dep/cloudburst)

Report flooding related issues by calling 311



# Thank You!

## Questions?



### Additional Resources:

- [Cloudburst Management - NYC DEP](#)
- [New York City Stormwater Resiliency Plan](#)
- [Rainfall Ready NYC Action Plan](#)
- [New York City Stormwater Flood Maps](#)
- [DEP Green Infrastructure Resources](#)
- [Resilient NYC Partners](#)

## NEW YORK CITY STORMWATER RESILIENCY PLAN

Helping New Yorkers understand  
and manage vulnerabilities from  
extreme rain

MAY 2021



Cover photo by Jean Schwarzwald, New York City Department of Environmental Protection