

BMCR News

Q1 and Q2, 2023 www.nyc.gov/bmcr



Brooklyn Bridge - Montgomery Coastal Resilience

Welcome to the first BMCR Newsletter! The Brooklyn Bridge - Montgomery Coastal Resilience (BMCR) project is a coastal protection initiative, jointly funded by the City of New York and the federal government, aimed at reducing flood risk due to coastal storms and sea level rise in the Two-Bridges Neighborhood in Lower Manhattan. The BMCR project is part of the Lower Manhattan Coastal Resilience (LMCR) project, which spans the entire Lower Manhattan coast and is the City's plan to protect residents, businesses, and critical infrastructure from flooding.

BMCR extends along the East River waterfront from the Brooklyn Bridge north to Montgomery Street. BMCR includes both flood protection and utility improvements for the Two Bridges neighborhood. Utility improvements and upgrades will take place along South Street, under the Brooklyn Bridge, on a portion of Montgomery Street, and along the East River Greenway and esplanade. The flood protection components and amenities will be constructed within the esplanade area (see map on page 2).

Flood Protection

Coastal flood protection will be provided through a series of deployable barriers and permanent barriers installed along the neighborhood edge of the esplanade, predominantly under the elevated FDR Drive. The deployable barriers will include flip-up gates, roller gates, and swing gates. These are permanent infrastructure, hidden until they are activated in the event of a storm (see renderings of the esplanade at Catherine Slip above). The location of the flood walls and posts have been designed to minimize conflict with subsurface infrastructure and

to maximize integration of public space amenities. New amenities include open air seating, fitness equipment, a basketball half-court, ping pong tables, various playgrounds and a performance space. Inland flood protection will be provided through sewer capacity improvements, including an interceptor gate chamber and accompanying interceptor gate chamber building on Robert F. Wagner Sr. Pl.

Mobilization & Site Preparation

During the first two quarters of 2023, the contractor mobilized crews and equipment, and prepared the worksite for construction. Under this task, the contractor installed temporary construction fencing and signage, while also verifying site conditions. Before most of the construction work can begin, the contractor must make small excavations—called test pits—around the project area to survey subsurface conditions and to locate underground utilities. While the city provides approximate locations for utilities, many were installed 100 years ago or may have been modified during emergency work, and therefore













Map of the BMCR project area showing fenced construction areas and Greenway realignment.

the exact locations must be confirmed. This is particularly important for this project because much of the work involves upgrading utilities as well as sewer expansion.

Water Main Replacement & Service Interruptions

In addition to mobilization and preparation, the contractor has begun replacing the 100-year-old water main along South St. To replace the existing water main, water service must be shut off by closing the valves at either end of a section. Advance notice will be given for all planned interruptions and water service will be restored at the end of each day.

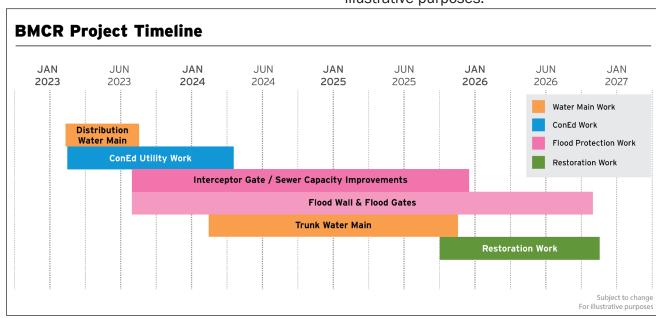
Esplanade Closure and Greenway Alignment Change

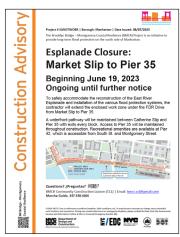
During late June, the contractor installed new construction fencing under the elevated FDR Drive

between Market Slip and Pier 35. Expanding the construction area is necessary for the contractor to continue making progress on the project. The new work will begin removing existing parks equipment to make way for the new flood protection and amenities for the BMCR project. While the space is under construction, access to the waterfront will be maintained with a temporary shared pedestrian-bike path. Additionally, Pier 35 and Pier 42 will remain accessible throughout construction. See map above.

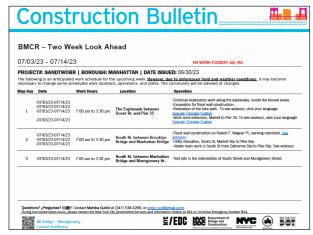
Upcoming Work

In the coming months, the contractor will begin work on utility upgrades and relocation. The contractor will also begin constructing foundations for floodwalls and flood gates. An overview of the project timeline is included at the bottom of this page. We expect the project to reach substantial completion by the end of 2026. Please note that all work is subject to change and that the graphic is for illustrative purposes.









Example Construction Advisories and Construction Bulletin available on our website nyc.gov/bmcr.

Community Impacts

- Vehicular travel lane closures and new traffic patterns will be required, as well as detours.
- Cyclists and pedestrian detours will be required.
- Signage will be posted in advance within the affected areas.
- Traffic enforcement agents and flaggers will be present when necessary to assist vehicles and pedestrians.
- Emergency vehicle and pedestrian access will be maintained at all times.
- Public transportation will be maintained at all times.
- Water main upgrades will require some service interruptions.

Project Communications and Community Engagement

In upcoming newsletters, we hope to share more about the construction techniques and milestones. Our community engagement team presents routine construction updates at the CB3 Parks Committee



Tabling on the East River Esplanade

meetings, where you can learn about the project. We also host tabling events in the Two Bridges neighborhood (see photo below) and present at residents' associations meetings around the project area upon request.

We encourage you to visit the project website, www.nyc.gov/bmcr, to sign up to receive weekly Construction Bulletins and Community Advisories (examples above), as well as to learn more about community meetings and events, BMCR background, design, and construction.

You can also reach out to our Community Construction Liaison (CCL) Marsha Guido via her contact information listed below.



Visit nyc.gov/bmcr for more informaiton!

