

Outreach and Public Process

Planning Process: 2014-2019

The Bushwick Neighborhood Plan Update builds on a large body of work undertaken by DCP and many other City agencies with community residents, stakeholders, and City Council Members Antonio Reynoso and Rafael Espinal. The collaboration was conducted as part of the Bushwick Community Plan (BCP) process, initiated in 2014 by the Council Members, Community Board 4, and a group of residents and community-based organizations who raised concerns about out-of-character development and tenant displacement, and expressed a need to protect and create affordable housing. This community-led process included the formation of an Executive Committee, a Steering Committee, and specialized Sub-committees focusing on neighborhood-specific topics. Between 2014 and 2018, DCP and other City agencies helped support the BCP, participating in a broad neighborhood process of over 150 meetings, including town halls, community events, and Sub-committee topical meetings.



- In 2014, the planning process began with a diverse set of stakeholders convening for Town Halls to discuss key issues such as out-of-context development and the need for affordable housing;
- A Steering Committee of local stakeholders, including interested residents and representatives from local community groups, was formed in 2014 to oversee and guide the process;
- DCP joined the process at the outset in 2014 to provide technical assistance on land use planning and zoning, and support the Steering Committee in their outreach efforts;



Planning framework activity



Open House, June 2016

- In 2016, Hester Street Collaborative was selected by the City Council as an
 outside facilitator for the planning process and relevant City agencies joined the
 effort as technical advisors;
- In 2016, Sub-committees made up of local residents and stakeholders, Steering Committee and Community Board members, and City agency representatives, formed to gather input and develop recommendations around six focus areas:
 - o Housing;
 - o Open Space;
 - o Economic Development;
 - o Community Health and Resources.
 - o Transportation and Infrastructure;
 - Land Use and Zoning;
- The Steering Committee and Sub-committees led a robust series of community engagement activities. The City, led by DCP, Council Members Reynoso and Espinal, Hester Street Collaborative, and local organizations jointly planned over 150 public meetings and community events from August 2014 through the release of the BCP in September 2018, including:
 - o Monthly Steering Committee meetings;
 - 12 Townhalls/Zoning Workshops/Topic-Specific Meetings;
 - o Monthly or twice monthly Sub-committee meetings for 5 Sub-committees;
 - o 8 Zoning working sessions;
 - o 5 large public events.
- The Sub-committees met regularly, with assistance and coordination by Hester Street Collaborative and DCP, throughout 2016-2017 to develop



Bushwick Community Plan report

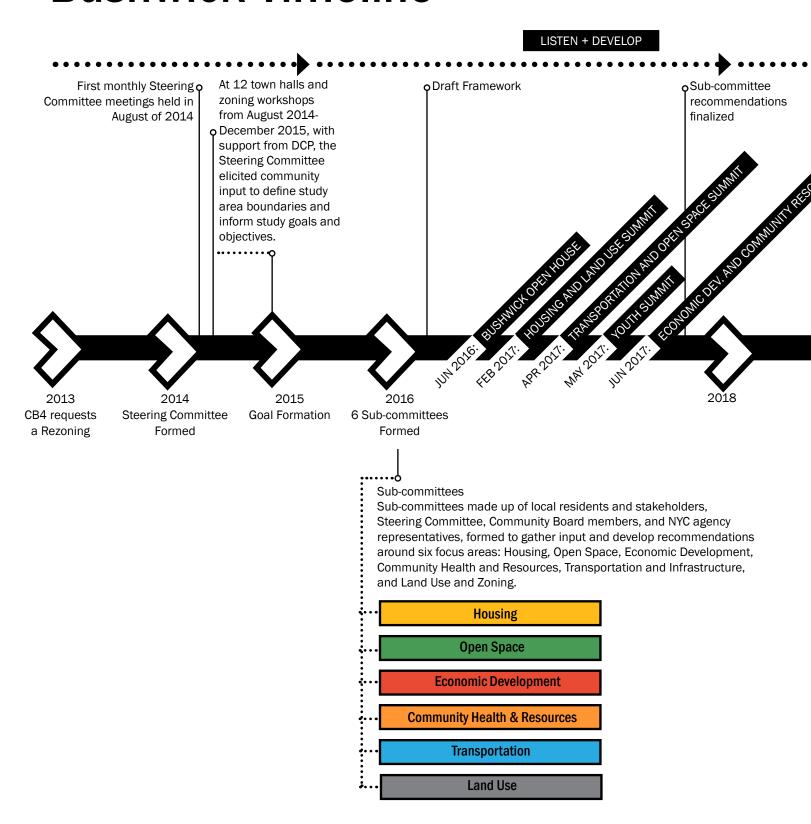
- recommendations, which the Steering Committee voted on in the summer and fall of 2017, and worked to compile into a plan during 2018;
- In September 2018, the BCP Steering Committee released a report to help advance the following goals:
 - Be proactive and intentional about how and where development happens;
 - Create affordable housing;
 - Develop new tools to preserve existing affordable housing;
 - Increase opportunities for small businesses to grow and locate in Bushwick;
 - Work closely with City agencies to direct resources to the community for open space, infrastructure, transportation, and other neighborhood needs.

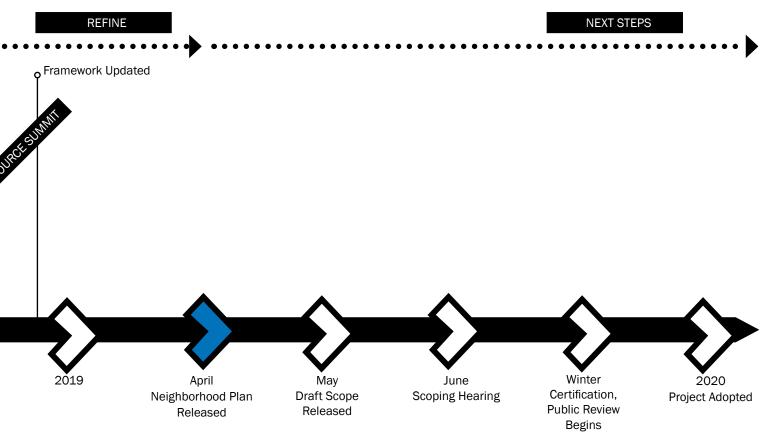
The Bushwick Neighborhood Plan Update reflects the community outreach conducted during this multi-year planning process and builds on the objectives and strategies put forward in the BCP Steering Committee's September 2018 report. The BCP and Bushwick Neighborhood Plan Update share a vision for a thriving, inclusive Bushwick and aim to achieve this through a number of overlapping and complementary strategies. While the BCP and Bushwick Neighborhood Plan Update have many shared goals and mutual alignments, they also differ on certain policy objectives. In this document, City agencies worked to prioritize the BCP strategies that could have the greatest lasting impact in the community, as well as advance new strategies to promote shared goals. The City looks forward to ongoing dialogue with community stakeholders as the planning process advances.



Land Use group at the Housing and Land Use Summit, February 2017

Bushwick Timeline





This timeline reflects the current schedule and is tentative and subject to change