

FLUSHING CREEK MEETING AGENDA

7:00 – 7:10 PM: Sign-in and welcome

7:10 – 7:30 PM: NYC DCP presentation on the *Flushing Creek Plan*

7:30 – 7:40 PM: Q&A on the *Flushing Creek Plan*

7:40 – 8:00 PM: NYC DEP presentation on existing initiatives in Flushing Creek

8:00 – 8:30 PM: Q&A

THE FLUSHING CREEK PLAN

NYC Department of City Planning

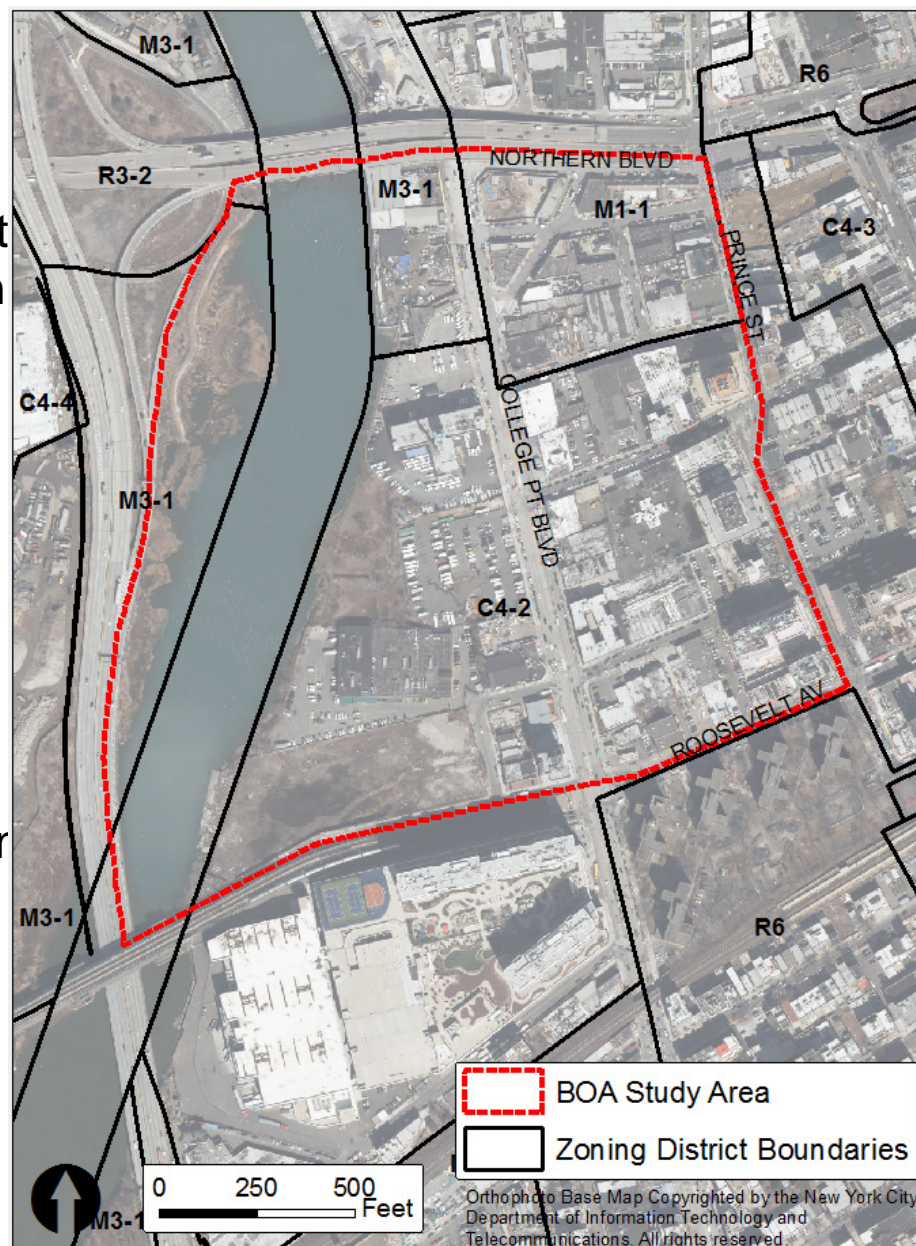
April 2, 2019

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Study Context

- The Flushing Creek Plan is an outgrowth of a NYS Brownfield Opportunity Area (BOA) Program Nomination Study
- Sponsored by the Flushing Willets Point Corona Local Development Corporation (FWCLDC)
 - Designated a BOA in 2018
- The BOA nomination will help facilitate redevelopment of brownfield sites
 - Mixed-use development with waterfront public access
 - Improved circulation between Downtown Flushing and Flushing Creek
- The BOA study also identified a need to “support the long-term improvement of water quality in Flushing Creek”



- Funded by NYS Department of State Grant
- Focus on long-term barriers to improving the ecology of the creek, such as the Federal Navigation Channel
- Preliminary recommendations available by August 2019

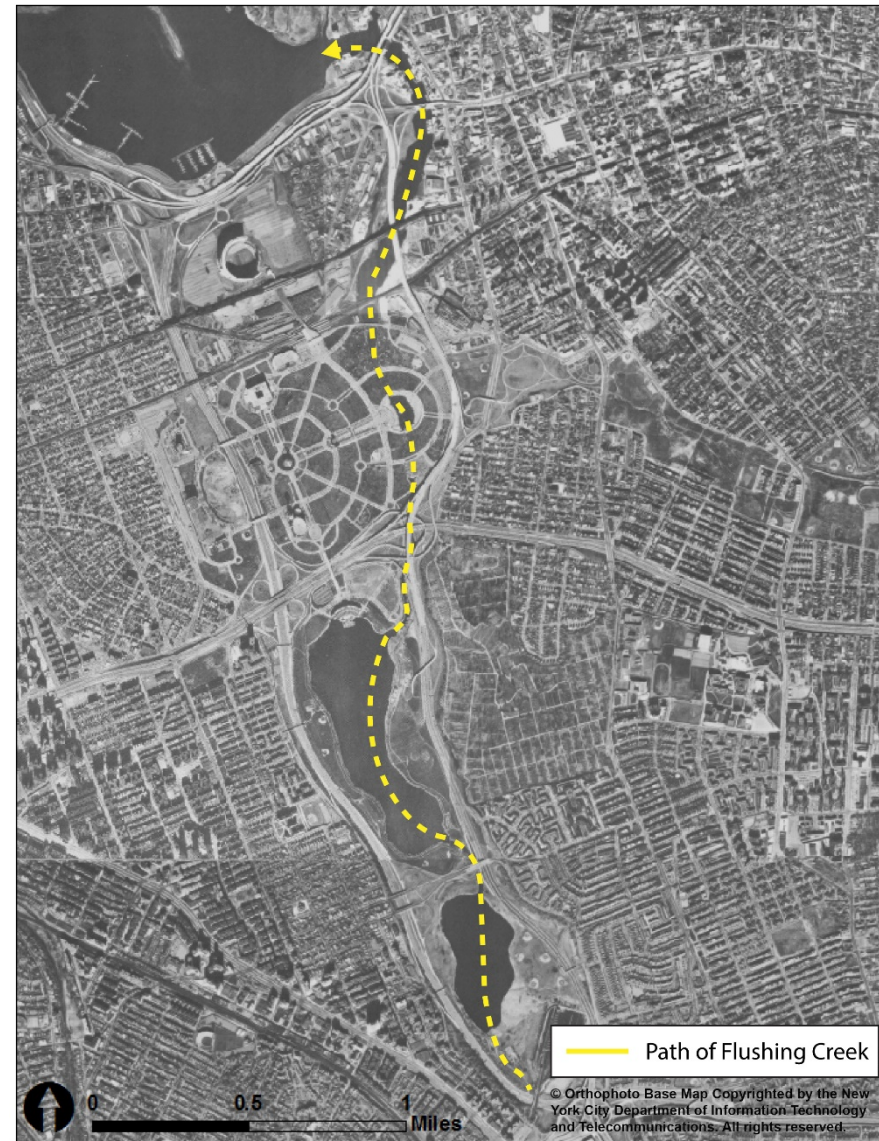




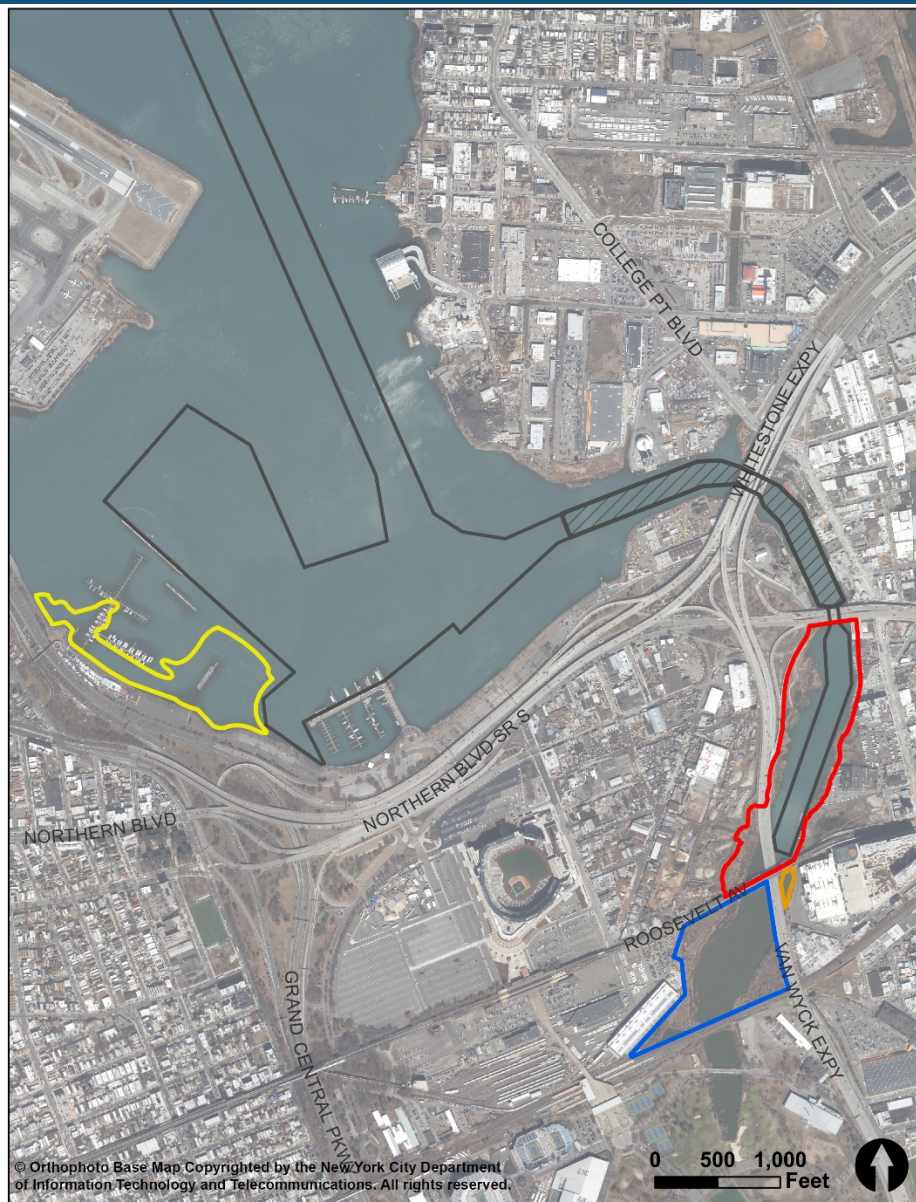
1924



1966



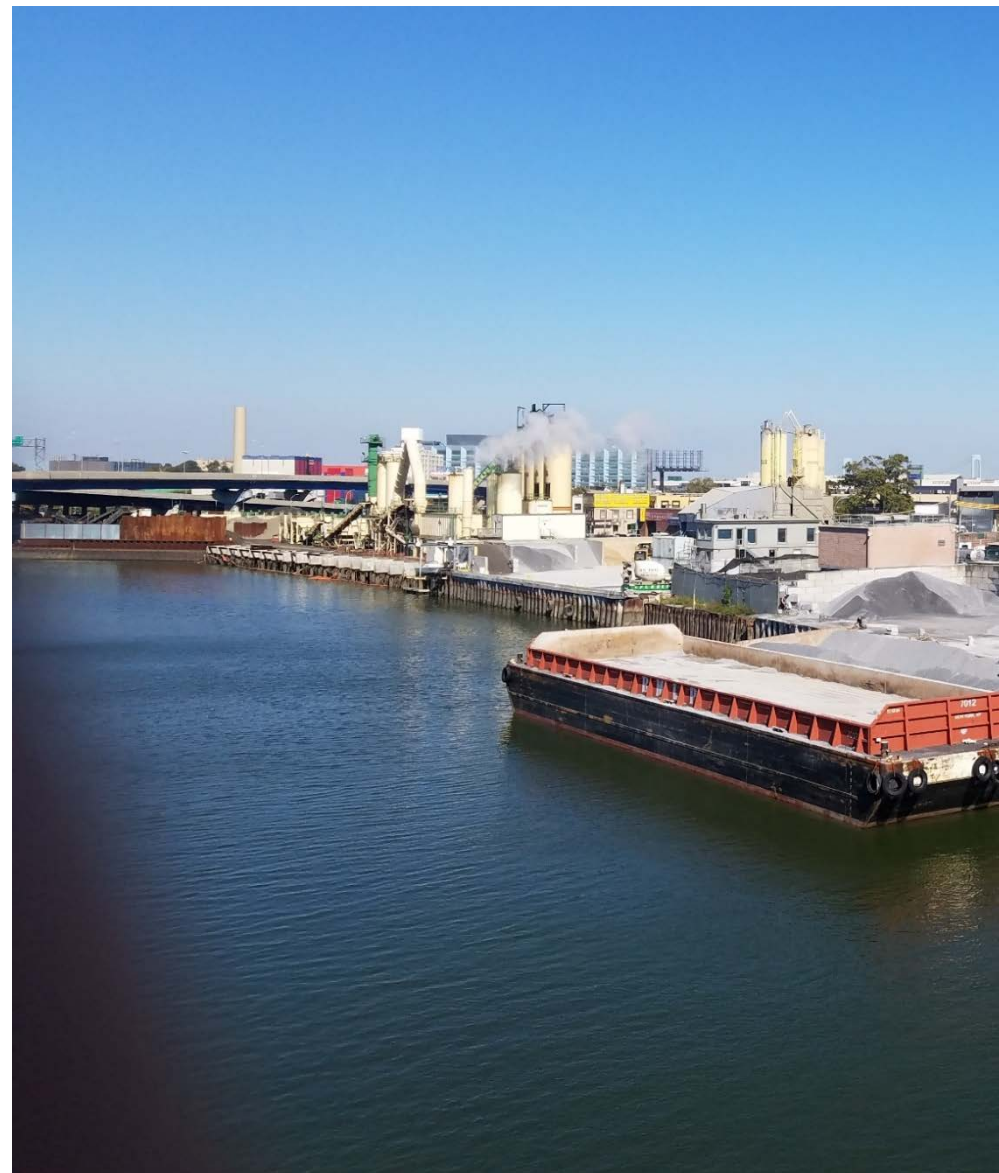
Activities in Flushing Bay and Flushing Creek



- NYC DCP Study Area
- Authorized Federal Navigation Channel
- U.S. Army Corps 2015 Dredging Project
- Con Edison 2018 Remediation Site
- HRE Ecosystem Restoration Feasibility Study
- NYC DEP 2018 Environmental Dredging Site

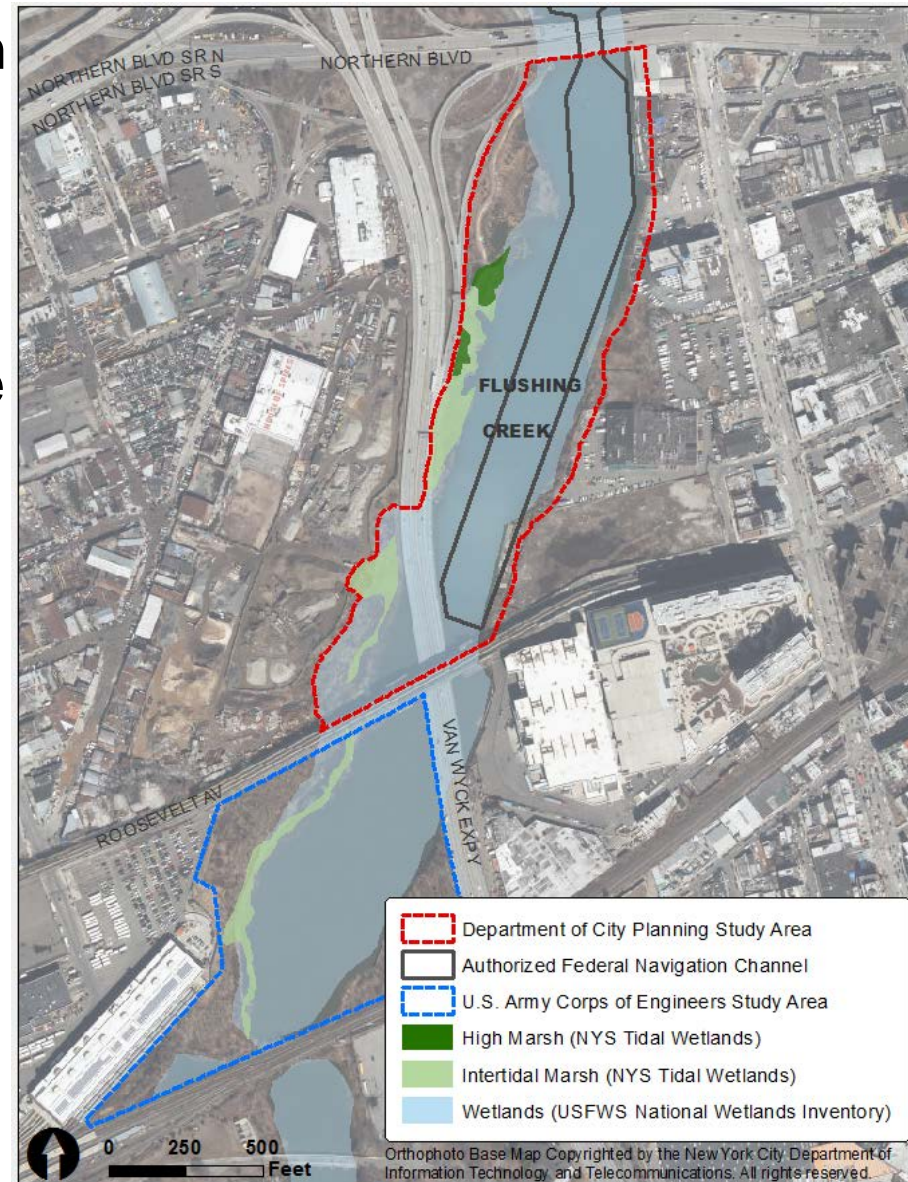
- NYC DEP Environmental Dredging & Restoration (2018)
- HRE Ecosystem Restoration Feasibility Study (ongoing)
- Con Edison Environmental Remediation (2018)
- U.S. Army Corps Dredging for Navigation (2015 & ongoing)

Active Industrial Use north of Northern Blvd



Study Area

- Examining the Federal Navigation Channel **south** of Northern Boulevard
- Army Corps will only maintain the Federal Navigation Channel at the authorized depth of 15 feet
- Army Corps will only dredge when the use of the waterfront requires clear navigation channels
- Federal, state, or city agencies cannot conduct ecological restoration projects in or near the channel





- Undertake a study on Present and Predicted Future Uses
- Requires U.S. Congressional legislation
- Introduce language in the next Water Resources Development Act (WRDA)
- WRDA bills typically pass Congress every ~2 years



- Long history of industrial use left toxic contaminants in the Lower Passaic River's sediments
- EPA superfund project to cleanup 8 miles of the river
- Deauthorized portion of Federal Navigation Channel to enable environmental dredging and capping

Deauthorization Example: Burnham Canal, Milwaukee, WI



- Burnham Canal was a Federal Navigation Channel used for industrial purposes as early as the 1870s
- Canal eventually fell into disuse and a highway was constructed, blocking navigation
- City proposed wetlands restoration as part of a superfund cleanup project
- Required deauthorizing the navigation channel

Step 1: Continue to collaborate with community stakeholders on the issue of the Federal Navigation Channel and process for deauthorization

Step 2: Undertake analysis of future projects and funding sources

Step 3: Hold public meeting to discuss preliminary findings and possible recommendations