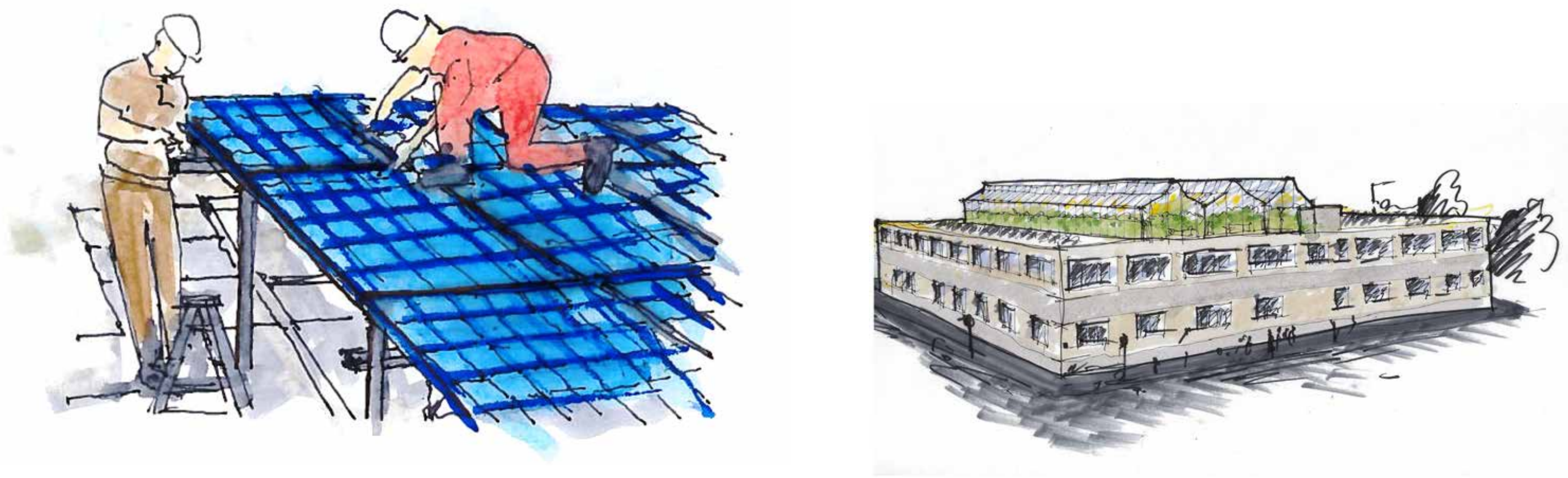


Sustainability and Resiliency

Support existing and future sustainability efforts to make Gowanus a model green neighborhood, and encourage flood-resilient buildings and community preparedness

Foster building efficiency and alternative energy

- Solarize NYC, an initiative of Sustainable CUNY, NYC Economic Development Corporation (EDC), and the Mayor's Office of Sustainability (MOS), provides grants and technical assistance for communities to run solar group purchasing campaigns. A new Solarize NYC-supported campaign led by Neighbors Helping Neighbors will take place in 2019 to assist residents and businesses in Gowanus, Red Hook, and Sunset Park understand options for installing rooftop solar panels and purchasing solar power together at competitive group pricing.



- Following up on the 2012 Zone Green text amendment, which provided relief from height restrictions for rooftop solar arrays citywide, MOS and DCP are working together to explore opportunities to further incentivize and facilitate solar installation in Gowanus through zoning.
- MOS offers energy-efficiency assistance programs including Retrofit Accelerator, a program to help existing buildings with energy- and cost-saving upgrades. In 2019, they are expanding the program to accelerate energy efficiency best practices in new buildings and prepare the development and construction markets for substantial improvements in the Energy Code.
- MOS, Mayor's Office of Resiliency (MOR), and DCP are working together to examine opportunities to incentivize and facilitate installation of resilient community energy facilities and infrastructure as redevelopment occurs in and around Gowanus and citywide.



Rain garden



Improve capacity of infrastructure to meet increased demand

- Construction on the first phase of high-level storm sewer installation has been completed along 3rd Avenue. The additional capacity in the neighborhood's drainage system is already helping to reduce roadway flooding and the amount of pollution that may be discharged into the canal during heavy rainstorms. Work on Phase II is now under way and will be completed in 2021.

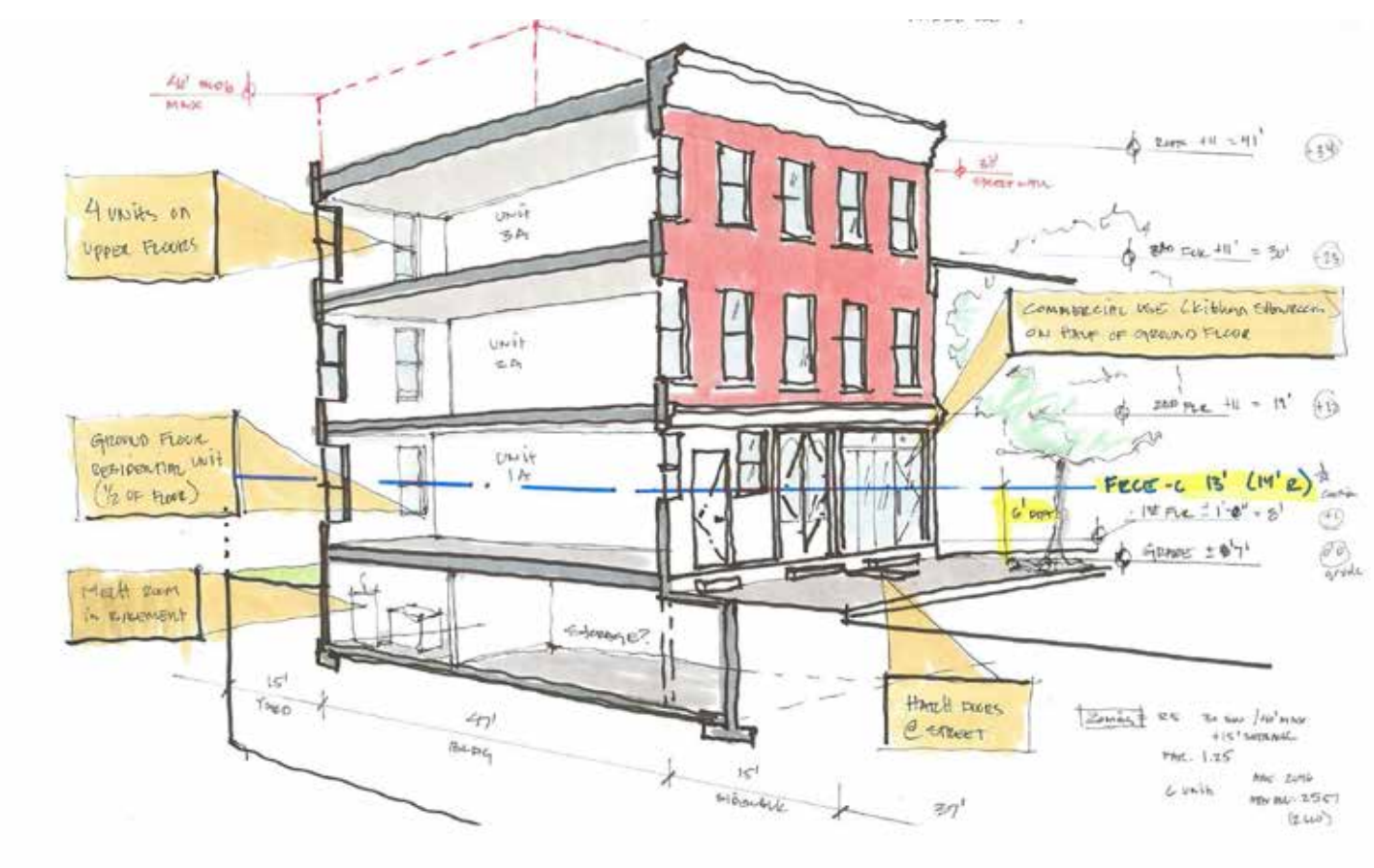


High-level storm sewer installation

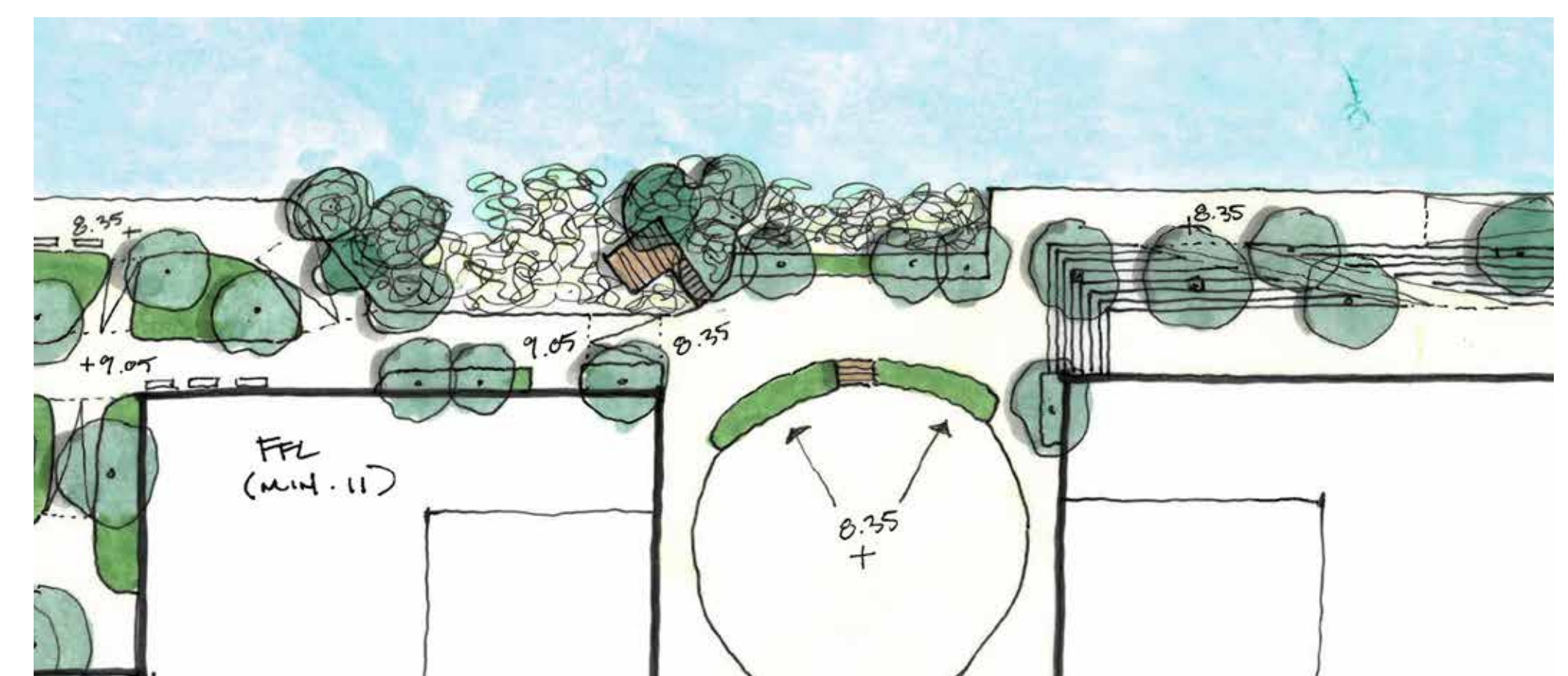


Update regulations to reduce risk of damage to homes and businesses in floodplain

- With input from over two years of public outreach, including a workshop with the Gowanus Sustainability and Resiliency Working Group in April 2017, DCP is preparing a comprehensive Flood Resilience Zoning Text Update. This update is proposed to improve and make permanent standards and allowances for resilient construction in the current and future floodplain. The proposal responds to issues raised in Gowanus, including the challenges faced by non-conforming homes in M-zoned districts, which are proposed to be allowed to be rebuilt or renovated to meet resilient construction standards. More information is available at www.nyc.gov/floodtextupdate.



- As part of the zoning proposal, the Gowanus Waterfront Access Plan (WAP) would establish elevations along canal waterfront blocks to protect against long-term daily tidal flooding, while allowing for flexibility with waterfront public access area design to ensure a variety of experiences along the future esplanade.
- To support this measure, the WAP would modify certain requirement such as grading and planting to promote a resilient waterfront. This adjustment of average elevation, in combination with additional resiliency measures in the public realm and flood-resilient construction of new and renovated buildings, would reduce harm to properties and the neighborhood during daily high tides and storm events.



Illustrative vision of waterfront public access areas

Engage community members and organizations in a community emergency response planning process

- In spring 2018, the Columbia University Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation partnered with NYC Emergency Management to develop community strategies for hazard mitigation in Gowanus and neighborhood-specific recommendations for emergency preparedness and building resilience. They worked with community organizations including Fifth Avenue Committee, Turning the Tide (T3), Gowanus Canal Conservancy, SBIDC, Councilmember Brad Lander, and Gowanus Studio Space to understand and address the local needs, resources, and risks in Gowanus.
- NYC Emergency Management completed a draft update to the City's Hazard Mitigation Plan, now available in an interactive online format at www.nychazardmitigation.com. The plan includes data on past events, projections of the effects of climate change, and strategies the City is taking to mitigate specific hazards. In response to Gowanus's Sustainability and Resiliency Working Group and others across the city, NYC Emergency Management provides information on financial resources to support community emergency response planning.

