



# Sustainable Communities

## East New York Community Outreach

### October 21, 2013:

After holding visioning events and conducting outreach to residents and local business owners over the past year, the Sustainable Communities East New York project team drafted a Planning Framework for Broadway Junction and the Industrial Business Area. The Framework lays out a vision for short- and long-term economic development in East New York to bring more jobs, services, housing and new facilities to the neighborhood and builds on the existing excellent local and regional transit access, as well as existing business activity in the area.

The team has shared the draft framework with the Land Use Committees of Community Boards 16 and 5, the project's Community Advisory Committee and Technical Advisory Committee, as well as other community groups for feedback.


The framework for Broadway Junction and the Industrial Business Area fits within the broader planning framework established through this study for the East New York and Cypress Hills neighborhoods, which is based on the goals and vision expressed by area residents to provide more affordable housing, better access to jobs and retail services, and improved streetscapes in their neighborhoods, particularly along major commercial corridors.

If you have any comments please contact us using the link at the bottom of the page.



The Sustainable Communities East New York Community Advisory Committee shares their feedback with City Planning staff.



 [View the presentation](#)

### March 29, 2013:

The Sustainable Communities East New York project team has developed a draft Land Use Planning Framework, which is currently being shared with community groups for review and feedback. Department of City Planning (DCP) staff have shared the Planning Framework with the project's Community Advisory Committee and Technical Advisory Committee respectively, the Land Use Committees of Community Boards 5 and 16, and at a Public Meeting of Community Board 16. DCP will present the Planning Framework at the Public Meeting of Community Board 5 on April 24.

The Planning Framework is based on surveys and analyses performed by DCP staff as well as community input received over the past year. The framework proposes a vision for the future development of housing, including affordable housing, and additional retail through increased density along major transit and commercial corridors, as well as the preservation of intact residential neighborhood streets. The Planning Framework will serve as a guideline for a Zoning Framework that DCP will share with the community before the summer, and for a final report to be completed by the end of this year.

If you have any comments, or if you are interested in attending future community events, please contact us using the link at the bottom of the page.



City Planning staff meet with the Community Board 16 Land Use Committee.



**Update May 10, 2012:**

After the successful participation in the Cypress Hills Verde Summit and the Broadway Junction Community Visioning event, the Department of City Planning Sustainable Communities East New York team held a visioning session at Community Board 5 for residents living in the Sustainable Communities East New York study area east of Pennsylvania Avenue between Pitkin Avenue, Conduit Avenue and Fulton Street. The event on May 10, 2012 was attended by more than 30 community residents and other stakeholders. After a virtual tour of the area, two workshop groups identified “good” and “bad” places in the area and helped the DCP project team identify issues and opportunities in the area.



Planners and Urban Designers from the New York Department of City Planning discuss issues and opportunities with community residents and stakeholders.

We would like to thank everyone who attended for making this event such a great success!

If you have any comments, or want to become or stay involved, please contact us with the link at the bottom of the page. We look forward to hearing from you.

### **Update March 3, 2012:**

On Saturday, March 3, 2012, the Sustainable Communities East New York study team held a public Visioning Forum for residents and stakeholders who live or work near the Broadway Junction area. Many community members attended to give valuable insights into the area and make recommendations for neighborhood improvements to the project team, which consisted of planners and urban designers from the Department of City Planning. We thank the event's hosts at Aspirations High School, Principal Shermila Bharat and Assistant Principal Martin Coren, and the many graduate planning students from NYU, Hunter, and Pratt who helped with event coordination, note-taking and technical expertise.



DCP Brooklyn Office Deputy Director Winston Von Engel welcomes participants to the Broadway Junction Community Visioning Forum on Saturday, March 3, 2012.

The event started with walking tours of the Broadway Junction area. This allowed residents and facilitators from the NYC Department of City Planning to explore the neighborhood together to identify issues and opportunities. Following a quick snack, the event participants joined a series of break-out groups to discuss ideas for improving the area and to prioritize recommendations.



Residents tour the neighborhood with DCP facilitators and volunteers from local graduate planning schools during the first part of the event.



DCP Urban Designer Claudia Herasme facilitates a group of participants during one of the day's break-out sessions.

To wrap up the long day, participants volunteered to explain and discuss their break-out groups' impressions of, and recommendations for, the Broadway Junction neighborhood with their fellow participants. Major issues noted by residents included a bleak streetscape, a lack of pedestrian activity, and a need for more retail and services in the area. Recommendations ranged from improving the lighting under the elevated trains and enhancing sidewalks, tree plantings and building facades, to cultural and small business development program creation and growth of retail services and affordable housing. DCP will use the ideas supplied by participants to inform the study and any future recommendations.

We thank all of the attendees from the Brownsville and East New York communities for making the Broadway Junction Visioning Forum a huge success!



An area resident presents his group's recommendations for the Broadway Junction neighborhood to the rest of the event participants.

If you have any comments, or if you are interested in attending future community events, please contact us with the link at the bottom of the page. There will be a number of ways to get involved over the next year, so we look forward to hearing from you.



Another area resident explains her break-out group's issues and recommendations at the end of the Visioning Forum.

## Update February 9, 2012:

The City Planning Commissioner addressed the first Sustainable Communities Town Hall which was held on February 9, 2012 at the Cypress Hills Community School in East New York.



More than 70 people participated in the Sustainable Communities Town Hall in East New York, Brooklyn on February 9, 2012.

The event, organized by the Regional Plan Association and the New York City Department of City Planning highlighted Brooklyn's and East New York's role in the region, and how these connections can further the ongoing planning initiatives led by the Department of City Planning and the [New York-Connecticut Sustainable Communities Consortium](#). Presentations were given by:

- Amanda M. Burden, FAICP, Commissioner, NYC Department of City Planning, stressed the importance of community involvement in the many rezonings done by her Department and the city-wide sustainability initiatives, including encouraging transit-oriented development.
- Jennifer Cribbs, Sustainability Coordinator, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, discussed the importance of connecting the Sustainable Communities studies with local initiatives in order to build a series of strong, grassroots-led sustainability initiatives.
- Christopher Jones, Vice President of Research, Regional Plan Association and Larry McAuliffe, Sustainability Manager, New York Metropolitan Transportation Council, discussed the inter-connectivity of our region, and how the ongoing Sustainable Communities studies are capitalizing on our unique regional strengths and community-level assets.
- Purnima Kapur, Director, NYC Department of City Planning Brooklyn Office, highlighted a series of successful initiatives that her Department has undertaken

which could act as precedents for the Sustainable Communities East New York initiative and other regional projects.

- Richard Manson, Program Vice President, Local Initiatives Support Corporation, presented how his organization helps to implement community projects and potentially the recommendations from the Sustainable Communities studies throughout the region.
- Sean Sallie, Senior Planner, Nassau County, highlighted some of the proposed concepts for the Nassau Hub, a growing center of jobs and housing connected to the region through the Long Island Rail Road.



City Planning Commissioner Amanda Burden listens as community residents ask follow-up questions to the evening's panel discussion.

Following the presentations and panel discussion, more than 70 participants explored East New York's regional connections with facilitated break-out sessions. Residents explored ways to build on the neighborhood's existing strengths and how to expand job access, provide opportunities for new mixed-use and affordable housing developments, and improve community safety.



Regional Plan Association's Christopher Jones helps facilitate one of the many break-out group discussions at the Cypress Hills Community School, PS 89.



**Update January 31, 2012:**



Members of the first Sustainable Communities East New York Community Advisory Committee discuss the community vision and how the study should begin to take shape.

The first East New York Community Advisory Committee meeting was held on January 31st at Brooklyn's Community Board 5 office. Thirty residents, stakeholders and representatives from local elected officials brainstormed on how to guide the Sustainable Communities East New York study and how the initiative should take shape.

We will continue to hold Community Advisory Committee meetings on a regular basis and encourage interested residents to contact us to receive more information on upcoming meeting dates.

**Update November 23, 2011:**

City Planners from the DCP Brooklyn Office presented the East New York Sustainable Community Initiative (SCI) to Brooklyn's Community Board 16 on November 22, 2011. Residents and elected officials were very interested in the study and its results and were eager to participate in the project and its Community Advisory Council, which will help guide recommendations and outcomes. The East New York SCI will be holding a community visioning forum focusing on the Broadway Junction area in early 2012 to receive public input in the plan. If you are interested in participating or staying up-to-date on the project, please complete the feedback form or [subscribe to the newsletter](#).



DCP Brooklyn Planner Ralph Blessing introduces the Sustainable Communities Initiative to CB 16.

**Update October 21, 2011:**

City Planning Commissioner Amanda Burden was one of the keynote speakers to open the [Cypress Hills Local Development Corporation's](#) Verde Summit on October 21, 2011. The Verde Summit was a two-day community visioning workshop for residents to plan for the future of their neighborhood. Commissioner Burden presented the Department of City Planning's [Sustainable East New York](#) study, which is funded by a HUD Sustainable Communities Initiative grant. She highlighted the importance of community planning and the synergies between DCP's Sustainable East New York Study and the Verde Summit.

The Sustainable East New York Study will serve as a model for coordinated neighborhood planning and sustainable community development for New York City and the region, identifying opportunities for land use changes, improvements to transportation access and the promotion and implementation of sustainable practices.

Staff from DCP's Brooklyn and Zoning Divisions - including Claudia Herasme, Aline Fader, Ralph Blessing, Alex Sommer and Winston Von Engel - also helped facilitating the Summit's community visioning workshops on Saturday, October 22.

 View the [photo slideshow](#) of the event.

For more information on the Sustainable East New York study, contact the Brooklyn Office of the Department of City Planning at 718.780.8280 or email us at [meastnewyork@planning.nyc.gov](mailto:meastnewyork@planning.nyc.gov).