

PLACES: Gowanus Neighborhood Study

What is PLACES?

- PLACES is a people-centered planning approach in which the Department of City Planning (DCP) and other agencies work collaboratively with communities, stakeholders, and elected officials to actively shape their neighborhoods.
- In addition to land use and zoning, PLACES studies take a broader look at community needs to identify strategies and investments that support diverse, livable neighborhoods. DCP's enhanced role in the City's capital budgeting process is central to these integrated planning efforts.



Process and Approach

Bridging Gowanus

This community-driven planning process resulted in a set of core values and recommendations.

Listen and Learn

- City agencies, residents, community organizations, and elected officials work together and share their perspectives on neighborhood opportunities and challenges.
- While many of you may have participated in prior planning initiatives (including Bridging Gowanus), which are key inputs to this phase, we want to make sure new voices and inputs are also incorporated.

Develop a Planning Framework

A planning framework will be developed by city agencies in collaboration with community stakeholders. This will include identified needs and opportunities, and preliminary strategies for Resiliency & Sustainability, Land Use & Zoning, Housing, Economic Development, Transportation, Environmental Remediation, and Community Resources (e.g. Education, Arts & Culture, Parks & Open Space).

Draft a Neighborhood Plan

A draft neighborhood plan will be developed based on feedback to the planning framework. This will include zoning proposals and strategies from city agencies.

Public Review & Implementation

Strategies outlined in the draft neighborhood plan will be vetted with the community.

- Land Use Actions (zoning proposals) will enter the formal public review process (aka ULURP), which includes the Community Board, Borough President, City Planning Commission, and the City Council.
- Other initiatives will be advanced by their respective lead agencies before, during, and after ULURP.