Table 1 | AM



Activity 1: Plan Gowanus

Issues identified by participants:

- 4th Avenue is unsafe and needs to be studied for a variety of improve ments, particularly at the intersection of 4th Ave and 3rd St
- The CAN factory is an important space to preserve for artists and small businesses
- The area around NYCHA and the canal lacks stores and other retail
- Warren Street laundry room is badly in need of repairs and should be
- Poor lighting at night along 3rd Avenue and some side streets between 3rd and 4th Ave
- City should be clear about what's happening at the Eastern Effects site

Neighborhood needs & opportunities identified by participants:

- Certain places along the canal should serve as vantage points where people can sit on benches and enjoy the view; these places should also be opportunities for siting public art, such as the head of the canal, the street end between the Salt Lot and Parole Center, and either the Public Place or Abadi sites.
- New buildings along the canal and near NYCHA should have active ground floors and provide local retail and services
- Industrial/commercial buildings with large roofs should be incentivized to install solar panels
- The Verizon truck parking lots should have arts and cultural component, since it's located in between the BRT Powerhouse and Can Factory
- There should be water access for canoeing and kayaking at different points along the Canal



Key Takeaways:

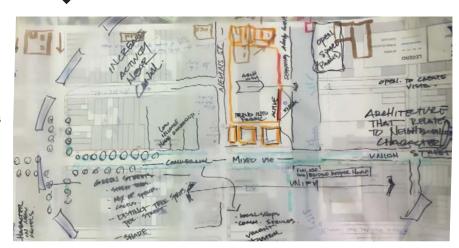
The group identified a range of needs and recommendations. Improvements to 4th Avenue was expressed as a priority, along with strengthening quality of the waterfront esplanade with public art, trees and strategic placement of benches and vantage points. The group also mentioned opportunities for solar panels and green roofs on commercial and industrial buildings.

Sites along the Canal were discussed as potential locations for medium to high density housing, as well as 3rd and 4th Avenue.

Activity 2: Reimagine a Street

Discussion topic and notes:

- High density along 4th Avenue, medium density along 3rd Avenue, and a mix of medium/high density along the canal in a manner that responds to the existing context and set back from canal to not overwhelm the open space
- Create design guideline for neighborhood that recommends the use of historic icons or materials in newly developed
- Work with the Parks Department on increasing the amount of street trees and, but also consider a mix of species and encourage variation on each street
- Hotels should be in character with the neighborhood
- Preserve art spaces on President Street and repurpose vacant industrial buildings with new industrial uses
- Along Bond St, ensure that new buildings relate to the neighborhood character
- Increase pedestrian activity by the canal with waterfront esplanade and active uses



- · There needs to be more commercial uses, retail and other services near the Canal and NYCHA
- Develop a plan for which streets or corridors can accommodate density. There could be a "flow" by which 4th Avenue has the highest and then there's a step down by 3rd Avenue and modest step up along the Canal, but with careful consideration to waterfront access

Table 1 | PM

PI ANNING

Activity 1: Plan Gowanus

Issues identified by participants:

- · NYCHA repairs and improvements
- Public Place site is important opportunity to be exemplary resilient and sustainable design
- · Preserve industrial spaces within the IBZ
- The intersections of 9th Street at 3rd Ave and 4th Ave are good opportunities for public art
- Nevins St is in need of transportation and streetscape improvements
- 4th St Basin is a good location for placemaking
- Former industrial building at the southeast corner of 3rd St and Bond St should be preserved

Neighborhood needs & opportunities identified by participants:

- Promote exhibition and performance spaces, as well as other cultural facilities on sites along the canal
- 3rd Avenue should be a medium density corridor with active ground floor uses, such as stores and community facilities
- There should be water access at certain points along the canal and a new pedestrian bridge should be considered at Degraw Street
- · Densities along the canal should be medium density
- Industrial businesses within the Industrial Business Zone (IBZ) should take advantage of large roofs by installing solar panels and green roofs
- Install benches and seating along northern portion of the canal with a waterfront esplanade
- · Proposed zoning districts should be responsive to neighborhood character
- Portions of the canal and 4th Ave may be considered for higher density
- Bioswales and energy efficiency should be built into all new mixed use development



Key Takeaways:

The group discussed the canal as a focal point for potential improvement and medium to high density that responds to the built context with water access, open spaces with more trees and seating, and a mix of uses, particularly arts and cultural uses. The group identified the IBZ as an area to preserve industrial and seek opportunities to install solar panels and green roofs, while looking at 3rd Avenue for a mix of uses that allows medium density residential with active ground floor uses, such as stores and community facilities.



Activity 2: Reimagine a Street

Discussion topic and notes:

- Development should be reflective of neighborhood character the built context
- Sites along the canal may be higher density, but should not be too much taller than nearby rowhouses and must incorporate setbacks and continuous street wall
- Some corners can be chamfered or include pocket parks along edges that invite people to a future waterfront esplanade
- Ground floors of canal sites should have active ground floors and possibly destination retail
- Along 3rd Ave, encourage a minimal sidewalk widening while maintaining street wall continuity



- Union St and 3rd Ave were discussed as commercial corridors that can provide neighborhood amenities
- Canal sites should have a range of heights and densities that respond to the built context
- Waterfront sites by Union St should have active ground floor uses and edges that encourage people to use public access areas
- Certain blocks or areas should be considered "preservation corridors"

Table 2 | AM

PLANNING

Activity 1: Plan Gowanus

Issues identified by participants:

- Artists are being priced out of the neighborhood
- Canal needs to be cleaned up and accessible
- Union & 3rd street pedestrian and car conflicts
- Enhance the public relam of 4th Avenue
- Canal as main activation space and corridor
- St. Mary's playground needs to be fixed, fenced off by chained link fences
- New Construction has created undesirable ground floors with parking
- Enhance connectivity to the surrounding communities
- Pedestrian improvements along Carroll & Union Streets
- Allow for 2nd floor artist space in IBZ
- Affordable housing should be subsidized by market rate.
- Allow for density along the canal and on Union Street

Neighborhood needs & opportunities identified by participants:

- Allow 2nd floor artist space in IBZ.
- Side streets should be activated with ground floor art space, such as fine arts and workshops.
- Why do two bridges go in the same direction? Make Union Street Bridge two ways.
- Reduce parking requirements in the flood zone, artist don't need parking.
- Activate the canal, place artist studios and cafes along the canal.
- Expand definition of community facility to include maker/artist space.
- Support local businesses by limiting the development of chain stores.
- Schools should be integrated into the community, currently there is no high school in the area.
- Contextual zoning on side streets with commercial overlays.
- Enhance public transportation, with Union Street bus service an improving pedestrian and bike connectivity throughout the neighborhood.
- Program in a more intentional way with the community by developing innovative public spaces.



Key Takeaways:

This group was interested in encouraging a variety of uses to be integrated within the same buildings and by activating the canal with dense buildings containing artist uses, maker spaces, and cafes with residential above.

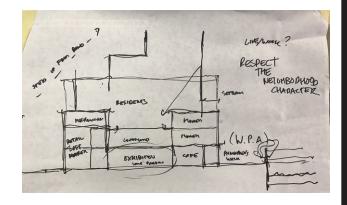
There was a strong desire to see better connectivity in the neighborhood, by making Union Street Bridge two ways, constructing pedestrian bridges and integrating Gowanus with the surrounding neighborhoods.



Activity 2: Reimagine a Street

Discussion topic and notes:

- Union Street Bridge should be widened with friendlier pedestrian space.
- Pedestrian experiences need to be enhanced along 3rd Avenue (Crossing issues/ Like 4th Avenue now)
- To enhance cross-canal connectivity pedestrian bridges should be constructed.
- Allow for multi-modal paths along the canal, develop a mechanism to slow down bicyclists along canal (Winding bike path/elevation changes between pedestrians
- Residential development should be required to have ground floor commercial or manufacturing to activate street front. (4th Avenue currently has a lack of retail).
- Mix of open space, cafes, maker space, and public art along canal esplanade.
- Activate the canal by allowing water taxi's and barges.
- More shared uses on same floors (Maker space/resident, Co-habitat)
- Support industrial business growth within the IBZ.
- Provisions for more height for residential development. Should step up much like 365 Bond.
- Allow for 120' building heights along 4th Avenue but allow a lower minimum base height of 30' to allow for a mix of building typologies to avoid feeling cavernous.



- · Activating the canal edge with shared spaces such as cafes, maker spaces, walking, biking, and place-making is
- Enhanced pedestrian experiences along 3rd Avenue and the Union Street Bridge, as well as pedestrian bridges crossing the canal.
- Allow for the co-habitation of shared uses within buildings such as maker-spaces and residents.

Table 2 | PM

PLANNING

Activity 1: Plan Gowanus

Issues identified by participants:

- Consider supporting industrial uses along the canal retaining it as a working waterfront with cultural uses.
- Preserve the character of the neighborhood by combining uses within existing warehouses, creating artist spaces, workforce training and flex space.
- Affordable housing should be built along the Avenues.
- · Provide opportunities to access the waterfront.
- Resolve pedestrian, bike, loading issues at 3rd and 3rd intersection.
- Infrastructure and resiliency improvements are needed, how will those efforts impact existing buildings?
- Better connectivity through and enhance transportation network.

Neighborhood needs & opportunities identified by participants:

- Make Union Street two ways.
- Protected bike lanes continued to Prospect Park, Union Street is too narrow in some locations. Place bike lanes down the median on 4th Avenue.
- Retail on Union Street with commercial and offices.
- Sustainable and resilient designs strategies to address air quality issues.
- 5th street turning basin should be brought back into the public realm.
- What will the relationship be between the proposed CSO tank and Thomas Greene Park
- What's happening at the Public Place Site?
- · Zoning should allow ground floor space for artist.
- · Require industrial and artist studios along Nevins
- Preserve the industrial and artist mix of the neighborhood.
- Higher densities along 3rd and 4th Avenues, even higher than 12 stories along 4th Avenue which is close to transit.
- · Place medium density along Bond and Nevins Streets.
- 365 Bond design works well with the neighborhood context.



Key Takeaways:

This group focused on where to retain the Gowanus character while focusing on key infrastructure improvements to the transportation network.

There was a strong desire to preserve the industrial, and artist mix that currently exists in the eastern portion of the neighborhood, while placing higher residential development along the avenues.

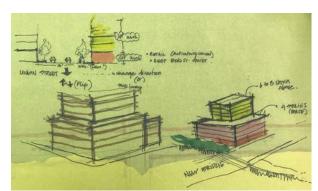


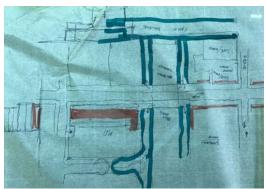
Activity 2: Reimagine a Street

Discussion topic and notes:

- · Cars turn off Union Street on to Nevins to avoid traffic
- Medium density of 6-8 stories on Union and Bond Streets
- · Food and retail should be along the canal
- Expand recreation space along President street
- Extend R8A zoning and higher density along 4th Avenue, slope down as you go west.
- Bike lane down median of 4th Avenue
- · Repair Nevins street to make safer and flood resilient.
- · Bike network is confusing on Union Street
- · Desire to make Union Street two ways or reversing the direction
- Want operable bridge on Union Street
- Fix urban design of hotels (No vehicles in front, etc.) and limit number of hotels
- Concern over whether there will be population to support new businesses due to several sites in area that constantly change businesses.
- Non-conforming buildings are rebuilding in less than appealing ways.

- Infrastructure improvements including transportation and resiliency efforts must be addressed.
- Retain the eastern section of the study area for a mix of uses including, industrial, artist spaces, and local retail.
- Allow for greater residential density along Avenues, specifically 4th Avenue.





Gowanus Neighborhood Planning Study - Public Workshop #1 Table 3 | PM



Activity 1: Plan Gowanus

Issues identified by participants:

- · Unsafe intersection at 3rd Ave and 3rd Street
- · Traffic congestion on 4th Ave, no greenspaces
- · Conflicts between pedestrians and cyclists on Hoyt/Dean St
- Potholes/Sinking streets on 3rd Ave/Caroll
- · Sense of isolation at Thomas Greene, Degraw, Nevins, uninviting frontages
- · Bond St is desolate at night
- Traffic congestion Union/Smith St
- · Bioswales are not maintained, lack of messaging

Neighborhood needs & opportunities identified by participants:

- Maintenance of greenspaces, using green projects as workforce development
- · More waterfront access/green spaces along canal
- Improved street lighting on Degraw
- · Solar panels on industrial sites
- · More street trees along Sackett, Union
- Improved bicycle infrastructure along 3rd Avenue
- · Workforce development on industrial sites
- Open space, community facilities, improved accessibility at Public Place
- · New office and high density development on 4th Avenue
- · Arts and Culture facilities at head of canal, public art at NYCHA



Key Takeaways:

The group was concerned about pedestrian safety along more industrial feeling streets and traffic congestion along the main thoroughfares in the study area.

The group also wanted to see more bike and green spaces in the study area, particularly along the canal.

Activity 2: Reimagine a Street

Discussion topic and notes:

- · Improved bioswales maintenance along Union
- Developments should step down to water to maintain views of canal
- More street trees
- Smaller scale retail along Union
- Preserving "Union Street Mix"
- Gowanus design standards
- Improved signage as part of public art
- Mix of different types of open space (space for children, seniors, etc)
- · Improved public safety as part of workforce development

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- Maintenance of existing open spaces/bioswales, and pedestrian safety along the more industrial streets
- Mix of different types of retail along Union St should be preserved



Table 4 | AM

PLANNING

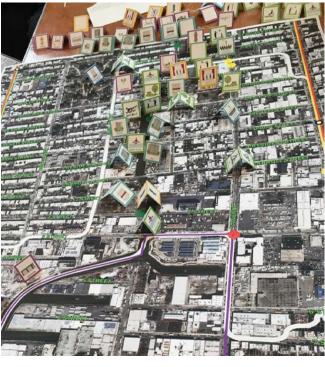
Activity 1: Plan Gowanus

Issues identified by participants:

- · Unsafe intersection at 3rd Ave and 3rd Street
- · Ongoing construction on 3rd Ave
- A need for additional access to the Canal
- · Too much traffic on 3rd Ave
- No grocery store on Wyckoff Gardens
- Tree on 266 Wyckoff Street had routes coming out of the sidewalk
- · 365 Bond is out of context

Neighborhood needs & opportunities identified by participants:

- Street improvement on Nevins and Baltic Streets
- Parking lot should be provided on Public Place
- · More senior housing
- More housing along the canal
- · More lighting on 2nd street and Smith
- Art along the Canal
- There should be a pool on the Con Ed site
- The Canal should have active recreation along its waterfront
- The waterfront should be designed as a boardwalk
- · Housing along the Canal should be Medium density
- · A request for a dog run on the waterfront
- · More adult training and education
- · More restaurant and retail along the Canal
- · Baltic and Butler is unsafe
- · A bus shelter along 3rd Ave



Key Takeaways:

The group was mainly concerned with the lack of services in the Gowanus areas and worked hard to identify needs to serve the existing but also future residents and workers.

The group expressed a need for more housing and was open for these types of uses along the Canal as long they provide additional benefits such as a lively and active waterfront with restaurants and public art.



Activity 2: Reimagine a Street

Discussion topic and notes:

- · Keep the Green Building
- Waterfront access should be provided on waterfront blocks with buildings up to 10 stories
- A senior center should be fronting the waterfront
- Street end between Bond and President should be pedestrian only, on the eastern side of the Canal President street should continue to the Canal and should accommodate a street fair/market
- Bond street should have local retail (laundromat, small grocery store)
- · Parking should not be visible from street
- Bioswales should be upland from canal along streets
- On the eastern side there should be restaurants fronting the waterfront and an open air small theatre
- Nevins should be a "green street" with bioswales, street trees and traffic calming measures

- Plans for the neighborhood should consider how to preserve existing buildings and neighborhood assets
- Access to the canal through pedestrian only streets was desired
- Activating the canal edge and providing a variety of experiences is important

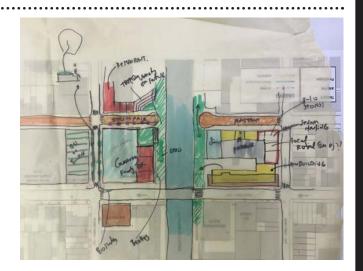


Table 4 | PM



Activity 1: Plan Gowanus

Issues identified by participants:

- · 3rd Avenue and 3rd Street Intersection is unsafe
- · Pool improvements at Thomas Greene Park
- · Redo the recent improvements at Thomas Greene
- · Union St and 4th Avenue-Improve subway stair
- Union St and the Canal Need trash collection
- St. Mary's Playground Vacant, needs activation
- · Public Place Redevelopment and IBZ streets
- Support small businesses on Smith St and Court St
- 4th Avenue Bike lanes, sidewalks, streetscape

Neighborhood needs & opportunities identified by participants:

- Workforce development for green jobs should be near the schools
- Keep industrial growth in the IBZ
- · South of 3rd Street develop new offices
- Higher-density housing is fine as long as it is accompanied with mixed uses such as offices, stores, studios, and/or maker spaces.
- The most appropriate location for the high density developments are: 4th Avenue, along the Canal, along 3rd Street, the Public Place Site and the NYCHA campuses
- North of 3rd Street More active, recreational public spaces along the Canal including waterfront access, bike infrastructure and dog parks
- Along the Public Place Site Passive open space with lawns and park-like space with seating
- Expand studio space and cultural facilities within the IBZ and create an arts street/district between 6th St and 9th St
- Create exhibition space on Superblocks
- Include bioswales on 4th Avenue



Key Takeaways:

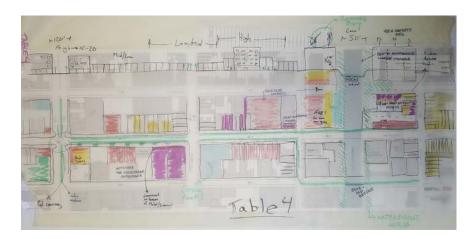
The group was concerned about increasing amenities for the growing residential population and decided the best way to achieve this was through allowing more high-density mixed-use projects (12-25 stories) along the major corridors, the Canal and the large public sites that could include 2-4 stories of commercial and/or community facility uses. They also expressed interest in safer streets and recreational space along the Canal.



Activity 2: Reimagine a Street

Discussion topic and notes:

- Need a wider median and sidewalk at the Union and 4th Avenue
- Redevelop gas station on 4th and Union into a highdensity mixed use development
- Buildings at 3rd and Union need green roofs
- High-density mixed use (industrial, retail and/or comm facility) on 4th Ave and along the Canal
- · Decrease parking requirments on 4th Ave
- The Edge in Williamsburg is a great waterfront space
- · The Green building is a good asset to keep
- Include wind turbines on the roofs of the canal front buildings
- Step-up bulk from Bond to Canal, like 365 Bond
- Union Street between 3rd and 4th Ave needs streetscape improvements and a way to activate the street in front of the industrial sites



- · Two-way bike lanes on Union St and reroute lanes at the bridge
- High density, mixed-use housing along the Canal with creative industries and artist studios with a wider waterfront public access area to accomodate larger crowds
- · Mid-block density: 7-8 stories

PI ANNING

Activity 1: Plan Gowanus

Table 6 | AM

Issues identified by participants:

- · Pedestrian safety crossing 4th Avenue
- · Need for safe bike lanes on 4th Avenue
- · Lack of access points to the canal
- Problems with street ends (e.g. drainage, maintenance)
- Need for music and arts spaces
- · Green infrastructure needs along 3rd Avenue
- · Transitions needed between residential and industrial
- Double D pool needs an upgrade
- 3rd Avenue pedestrian environment needs improvement

Neighborhood needs & opportunities identified by participants:

- Street improvement needed, especially along 3rd and 4th Avenues
- Broadband is unavailable (and needed) in areas between Nevins Street and the Canal
- Artist studios, public space, and/or private development near/on top of the CSO tank
- A cultural hub at the vacuum bag company (3rd Ave between 12th and 13th streets)
- Additional school seats needed
- · Industrial preservation in the IBZ
- · Strengthen main corridors for businesses (north-south and east-west)
- No "high-rises" 6 stories is ideal and maintaining sun/sky is an important for quality of life
- · Waterfront access along the canal is needed
- · Active recreation opportunities needed
- Stores/art/greenway/skatepark at Under the Tracks
- Flood resiliency needs
- Blue LED lights are unappealing and unhealthy
- Subway pass at 4th Avenue and 9th Street R train: needs paint, lighting, but no billboards
- 1st Street turning basin should be attractive and potentially accessible



Key Takeaways:

The group had a strong interest in improving the state of primary corridors in the neighborhood, both north-south, east-west, and including the Canal itself.

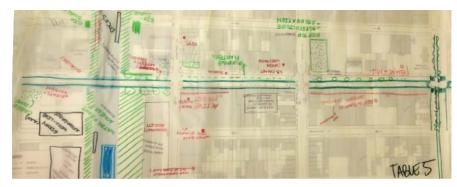
A focus on maximizing the city-owned land (e.g. CSO tanks, public parks) was discussed.



Activity 2: Reimagine a Street

Discussion topic and notes:

- Street continuity is important (the Holiday Inn is bad)
- A bike line in both directions is needed on Union
- Green infrastructure can improve functionality and aesthetics of 4th Avenue
- Preserve existing industrial on Union Street, seek out incentives or ways to support this
- The gas station should go
- The west side of a the bridge is a destination
- Floating swimming pool in the Canal
- 6-story mixed-use building with affordable housing along the canal ideal (may be tough)
- Push the bulk away from the Canal on waterfront sights to maximize light/air
- Diversity of building heights is key (not homogenous)
- Market rate commercial/retail uses to subsidize affordable maker space
- Incentives for green roofs, solar panels, agriculture, or other active uses on rooftops
- · A potential upzoning may threaten existing buildings
- No housing in the flood zone unless it can meet floodprotection standards



- The group thought the area around the Union Street bridge could serve as a community hub – the nexus for waterfront access, community facilities, artist studios, galleries, event space, and perhaps even a floating pool!
- $\bullet\,$ There was a strong interest in green infrastructur (street planters, bioswales, green roofs) along Union Street

Table 6 | PM



Activity 1: Plan Gowanus

Issues identified by participants:

- · Lack of access to canal
- Lack of connectivity between Carroll Gardens and Park Slope
- Lack of connectivity to NYCHA housing in the neighborhood
- · Loss of historically affordable housing
- Concern about the scale of new buildings
- · Water quality/health concerns
- Conflicts between different modes of transit; cars on sidewalks on mixeduse streets like Nevins
- Crowded sidewalks near train stations on 4th Ave

Neighborhood needs & opportunities identified by participants:

- Some existing parking lots may be good places for new development, especially community facilities
- Offices or other non-residential uses should be closer to train lines to serve as buffer from soot, noise
- Concern about displacement of manufacturing; M-zoned properties increasingly functioning as commercial
- · Could use more retail, commercial, and light industrial near Whole Foods
- South of 3rd Ave Could this be an opportunity for higher-density housing above offices?
- · Interest in developing housing through adaptive reuse of buildings
- Public art should be incorporated and preserved in warehouse buildings and in parks
- Old Stone House could be developed as an exhibition space or cultural facility
- Public space should be available for people without kids; barbeque and picnic spaces would be nice
- Nevins + Union, Carroll + Bond intersections are dangerous, could use better signage or "bump out" design
- 3rd Ave from President to Sackett needs maintenance
- · 3rd Ave needs more trees
- · Accessibility needs to be considered when redesigning



Key Takeaways:

The group had great interest in supporting and enhancing the "Gowanus mix" of industrial, arts, and housing all together in one neighborhood.

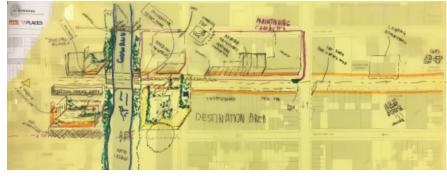
Discussion about Mandatory Inclusionary Housing and how affordable housing can be provided when market-rate development takes places. This included a discussion about building bulk and height trade-offs that may be necessary to provide substantial affordable housing in the neighborhood.



Activity 2: Reimagine a Street

Discussion topic and notes:

- Redevelopment of the Green Building block parking lot
 Uses should match with those of the Green building:
 community space, art space, cultural activity, light
 industrial ground floor
- Is there potential to provide access to water via "mapped" extension of President Street?
- Both sides of Union Street create a "social block"
- Might like to see commercial/retail/restaurant activity on the streets, with only residential along the canal
- Some interest in restaurants facing the canal, but concern about noise
- · Street ends require planning for access and safety
- Building heights to "step down" from Bond Street/Nevins Street (~ 8 stories) to the canal (~ 4 stories)
- Widen sidewalks
- Does it need to be moveable, or could it be high enough for boat passage?
- Maybe an additional bridge built one block north could serve pedestrians and cyclists
- Midblock residential character should match existing between Nevins and 3rd Ave



- The group was interested in finding ways to enhance existing and emerging destination nodes, referring to the east and west sides of Union Street along the canal as a "social block" and a "cultural block" supported by businesses like the Green Building, Ample Hills Creamery, and Royal Palms Shuffleboard.
- There was interest in potentially increasing residential capacity above commercial street fronts, with a design preference for the lowest portions of buildings to be facing the canal with heights stepping up from there.

Gowanus Neighborhood Planning Study - Public Workshop #1 Table 7 | AM

PI ANNING

Activity 1: Plan Gowanus

Issues identified by participants:

- Affordability for industrial and other (esp. small) business owners (most mentioned issue)
- · Affordability for residents
- Climate change and flooding events affecting current occupants of the flood plain, will new development make things worse?
- Canal needs to be cleaned up and made more accessible
- Construction noise during inappropriate times
- Disjointed development along the canal

Neighborhood needs & opportunities identified by participants:

- · Broadband in the IBZ and beyond
- · Neighborhood Micro grid
- · ADA and stroller accessibility is needed for Subway stations
- Removing barriers to increased industrial development in areas to remain industrial (esp. IBZ)
- Foster synergy between artists & manufacturers by creating mechanisms for artists to remain in IBZ and incorporating locally made and designed public art or design elements into the public realm (including 'Under the Tracks' park and waterfront public spaces, street ends)
- Workforce training programs should be located close to the NYCHA properties, at the new CSO tank site (along with art studies and industrial businesses)
- Schools should be integrated into the buildings with other uses (Kushner/SL Green site at 3rd and 3rd) including community facilities and open spaces
- Flood resiliency measures should be implemented for new buildings along the canal and incorporated into public spaces (streets, parks, etc.)
- More public trash cans
- Better street lighting for pedestrians along 3rd Ave
- More active recreation should be along the canal including a bike path (and improved neighborhood bike network)
- Medium density buildings along the canal, low density in the middle of the neighborhood and high density along 4th Ave near the subway stations



Key Takeaways:

This group worked hard to identify how to thoughtfully balance and locate a variety of needs in the built environment.

They were thoughtful about maximizing publicly owned spaces (like streets, CSO tank site, parks, etc.) for the public benefit and achieving multiple neighborhood goals.

There was a strong sentiment that private housing development must include other uses to help achieve neighborhood goals and provide the open space, jobs, business opportunities, and services existing (and future) residents need.

Affordability was a top concern for existing residents and businesses.



Activity 2: Reimagine a Street

Discussion topic and notes:

- Union Street Bridge should remain moveable for boat passage and to ensure ongoing EPA maintenance of Canal remedy
- A bike lane should go over this bridge or a pedestrian and bike (only no cars) bridge be built (potentially at Sackett Street)
- · Bioswales should be upland from canal along streets
- On the Canal blocks the building heights should step up/vary to prevent Bond Street from feeling cavernous or dark
- For residential developments, commercial or manufacturing should be on the ground floor with appropriate uses like restaurants opening onto the esplanade
- Place-making and greening should occur at Union and 4th Avenue ("This is the first place you see" when coming to Gowanus via the subway on 4th).

- Plans for the neighborhood should carefully consider views and approach to the canal.
- Cross-canal access is desirable for multiple modes (vehicles, bikes, pedestrians, boats) and there is currently very constrained bridge and other access.
- Activating the canal edge and providing a variety of experiences is important and should relate to the different uses and users along the canal.

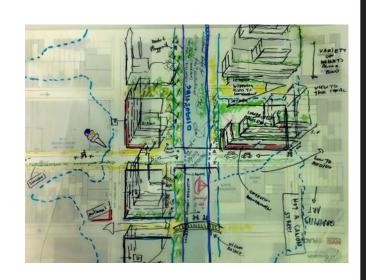


Table 9 | AM



Activity 1: Plan Gowanus

Issues identified by participants:

- Unsafe intersection at 3rd Ave and 3rd Street
- Lack of proper lighting on 9th Street underneath elevated
- · A need for additional access to the Canal
- · Poor lighting and lack of pedestrian activity on Degraw Street
- Too much traffic on 3rd Ave
- 365 Bond, concerns about neighboring sites being development with similar bulk
- · Union/3rd unsafe for pedestrians

Neighborhood needs & opportunities identified by participants:

- Public Art at Degraw/3rd
- Traffic flow modifications to Union/3rd
- Cultural facility on Degraw street to promote pedestrian activity
- Improved sewers on 3rd/Carroll
- Public Art/Perfomance Space/Artist Studios in areas immediately surrounding Whole Foods site
- Workforce development/new office on Degraw St and 5th Ave/2nd Street
- Bike infrastructure along 3rd Avenue and possibly along canal
- Solar panels on NYCHA and industrial buildings
- · Canal esplanade with seating, waterfront activities, ADA accessibility
- · More retail along 4th avenue
- Improved lighting around industrial areas south of Whole Foods



Key Takeaways:

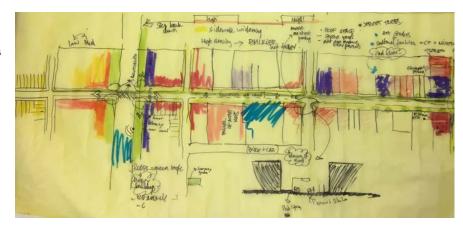
The group was mainly concerned about pedestrian safety along more industrial feeling streets; the potential impact new development could have on the current community services, train capacity; and wanted to see green infrastructure incorporated in industrial buildings and NYCHA campuses



Activity 2: Reimagine a Street

Discussion topic and notes:

- Greenspaces along Union Street Bridge
- Developments should step down to water to maintain views of canal
- More street trees
- Subway entrance improvements for Union Street Station (street widening, bulb out)
- Midblock should be small/medium development with more small scale retail
- · Larger buildings should incorporate green roofs
- · Union Street and be part of a larger improved bike network
- · Community gardens/green space along the canal



- Plans for the neighborhood should consider how to preserve existing buildings and neighborhood assets
- · Access to the canal through pedestrian only streets was desired
- · Activating the canal edge and providing a variety of experiences is important