



Long Island Sound Coastal Resilience Forum

Hauppauge, NY

Tuesday, October 27, 2026 9:00 AM – 3:30 PM



Long Island Sound Coastal Resilience Forum and Field Trip Tour October 27 & 28, 2026



Join us for two days of learning and networking!

The goal is to bring together Long Island Sound decision-makers and practitioners working to address shoreline erosion, flooding, and other coastal issues to share information on best practices, discuss challenges, identify opportunities to increase resilience, and enhance coordination across communities.

Resilience Forum

October 27, 2026, 9:30 am - 3:30 pm

**Hyatt Regency Long Island
Hauppauge, NY**

- Hear updates and insights from NYS agency partners
- Learn about innovative adaptation strategies
- Explore resilience tools and resources
- Engage in a fun and interactive adaptation scenario planning session

Resilience Field Trip Tour

October 28, 2026

Join us to get a guided tour of projects and learn from experts along the way!

- Patchogue Shorefront Park Living Shoreline
- Cedarmere Preserve Invasive Species Management & Green Infrastructure Project
- Sands Point Preserve Bluff Restoration

Choose a bus departure location:

*Eisenhower Park (East Meadow) @ 8:00 am or
the Hyatt Regency LI (Hauppauge) @ 8:30 am
Buses will return to locations around 3 pm.*

LEARN MORE & REGISTER:
lisresilience.org/coastal-resilience-month/



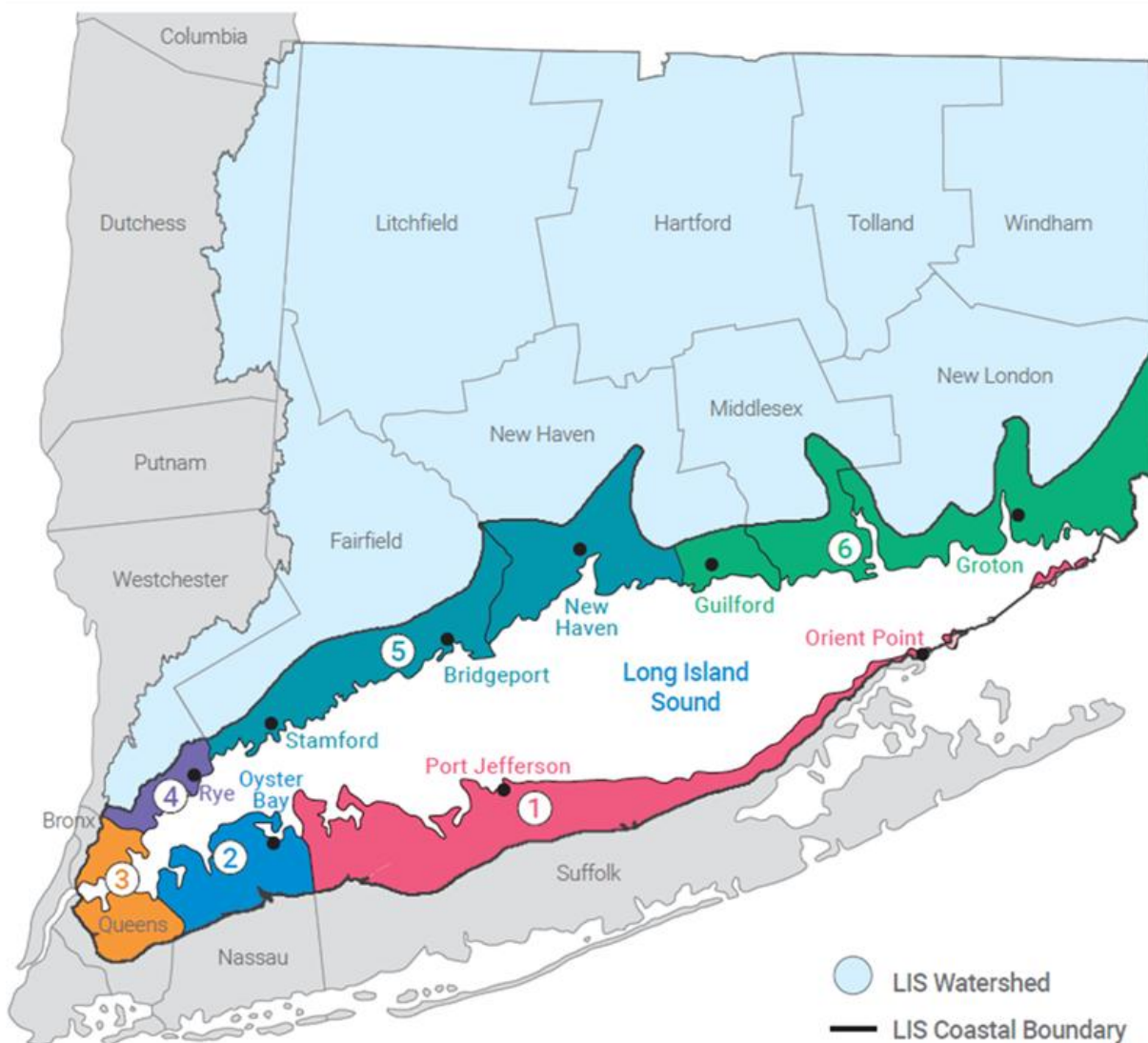
9:30 AM	Welcome & Introductions
10:00 AM	Keynote: The Future of Long Island's Coasts
10:30 AM	New York State Agency Updates
11:45 AM	Buyouts & Conservation Easements
12:30 PM	Lunch & Tools Cafe
1:45 PM	Local Resilience Initiatives: Successes & Challenges
2:10 PM	Interactive Adaptation Scenario Planning Session
3:20 PM	Wrap Up & Closing Remarks



WHO WE ARE

The Long Island Sound Partnership is a group of organizations, agencies, scientists, and community members working together to protect and restore Long Island Sound. We support clean waters, healthy habitats, thriving wildlife, resilient coasts, and an engaged public.

The SRC Extension Professionals Team



- 1 Suffolk County
Elizabeth Hornstein
- 2 Nassau County
Sarah Schaefer-Brown
- 3 NYC - Bronx & Queens
Ben Goldberg
- 4 Westchester County
Sara Powell
- 5 Western CT
Deb Visco Abibou
- 6 Eastern CT
Sarah Schechter



LONG ISLAND SOUND
PARTNERSHIP

**Sustainable & Resilient
Communities Goal:**
Empower Long Island Sound
communities to plan for and
respond to environmental
challenges in ways that
prioritize well-being for all.



**Informed
Decision-Makers**

Grow the number of municipal, nonprofit, and community leaders receiving training and support to increase capacity for adaptation to environmental challenges.



**Community-Driven
Resilience Planning**

Increase the number of municipalities that identify key resilience priorities through local and/or regional community-driven planning processes.



**Resilience Initiative
Implementation**

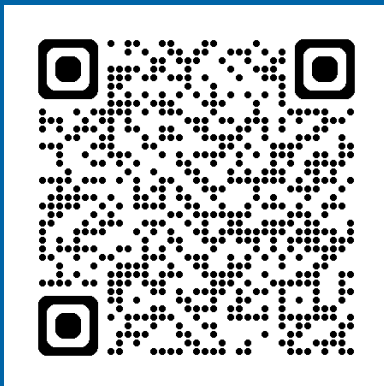
Implement initiatives to improve community resilience to flooding and other environmental challenges.



LONG ISLAND SOUND
PARTNERSHIP

Long Island Sound Resilience Resource Hub

www.lisresilience.org



**Finding climate
resources just
got easier**

**Your hub for Long
Island Sound Resilience
Resources is here!**

LISRESILIENCE.ORG

Funding Database

Filters

Select one or more of the filters below to find relevant tools and resources for your needs

Status

Select a Status

Planning Phase

Select a Planning Phase

Location

New York State

Topic

Select a Topic

Eligibility

Select an Applicant Type

Reset Filters

Apply Filters

Need help deciding where to start?

Learn how to identify, prioritize, and implement high-impact projects

[View Resilience Planning Guide](#)

Case Studies

See how other communities are building climate resilience

[View Case Studies](#)

Funding

Open: Due on Nov 4, 2026

8 days

remaining to apply

\$300,000 – \$3 million

NYSDEC Community Reforestation (CoRe) Grants

\$20 million is available for Round 2 of Community Reforestation (CoRe) grant. The goal of CoRe is to support tree planting projects that will create or restore forested natural areas in urban communities across the state. Projects...

New York State

Habitat

Land Use

Nature-based Solutions

Funding/Grants

[View Details](#)

Funding

Open: Due on Nov 6, 2026

10 days

remaining to apply

up to 65-75% of fair market value

Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition Grant Program

The Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition (OSWA) Grant Program provides financial assistance to municipalities and nonprofit land conservation organizations to acquire land for open space, and to water...

Connecticut State

Habitat

Land Use

Water Quality

Recreation & Access

Wetlands

[View Details](#)

Funding

Open: Due on Nov 16, 2026

20 days

remaining to apply

Federal Highway Administration's Wildlife Crossings Pilot Program

The Wildlife Crossings Pilot Program is a competitive grant program with the goal of reducing Wildlife Vehicle Collisions (WVCs) while improving habitat connectivity for terrestrial and aquatic species. Funding was appropriated...

New York State

Connecticut State

Habitat

Aquatic Resources

Infrastructure

Recreation & Access

[View Details](#)

Funding

Open: Due on Nov 20, 2026

24 days

remaining to apply

\$75K-\$115K

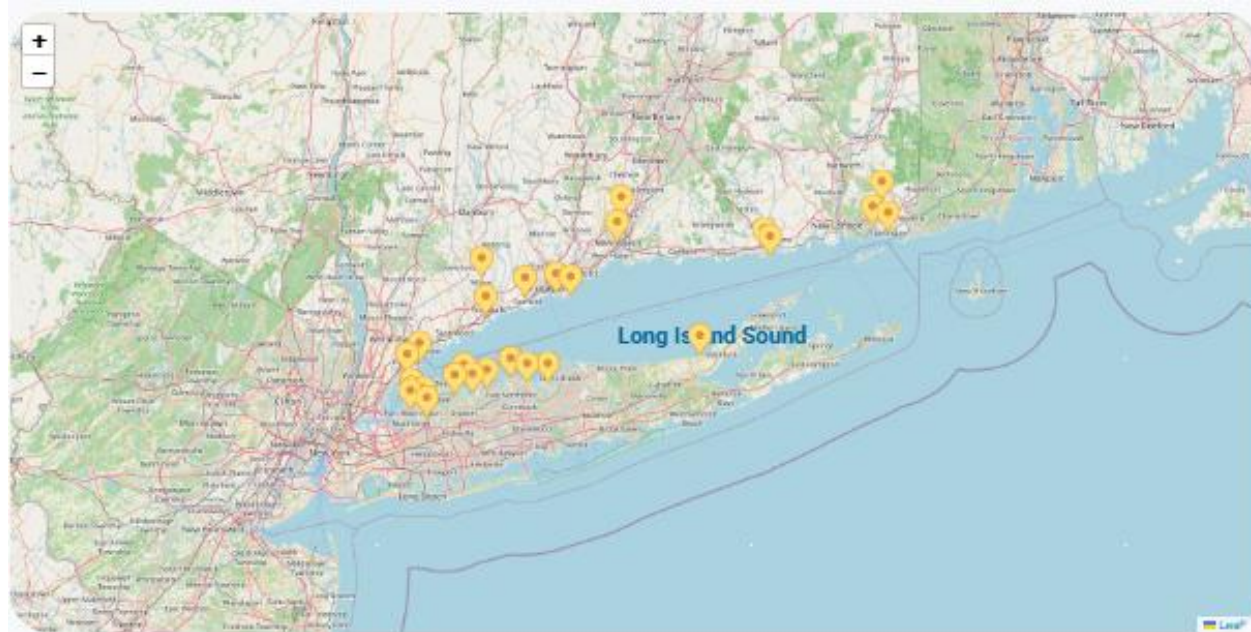
Climate Smart Communities Initiative

The Climate Smart Communities Initiative (CSCI) provides funding and technical assistance to advance community-based climate resilience in U.S. communities that are highly vulnerable to climate change. Funding...



LONG ISLAND SOUND
PARTNERSHIP

Case Studies



Filters

Select one or more of the filters below to find relevant tools and resources for your needs

Location

Select a Location

Topic

Select a Topic

Reset Filters

Apply Filters

Need help deciding where to start?

Learn how to identify, prioritize, and implement high-impact projects

Case Study

Sands Point, NY

Sands Point Preserve Invasive Species Management & Stream Daylighting Project

In Spring 2026, a buried pipe that conveyed pond overflow directly to the coast was daylighted to establish a naturalized stream and freshwater wetland environment. Nassau County Soil and Water Conservation District...

New York State

View Details

Case Study

Roslyn Harbor, NY

Cedarmere Preserve Invasive Species Management & Green Infrastructure Projects

Bioswale & Native Plantings at North Parking Lot
In Spring 2026 Nassau County Soil and Water Conservation District (NCSWCD) Part C Funding supported the design and construction of two...

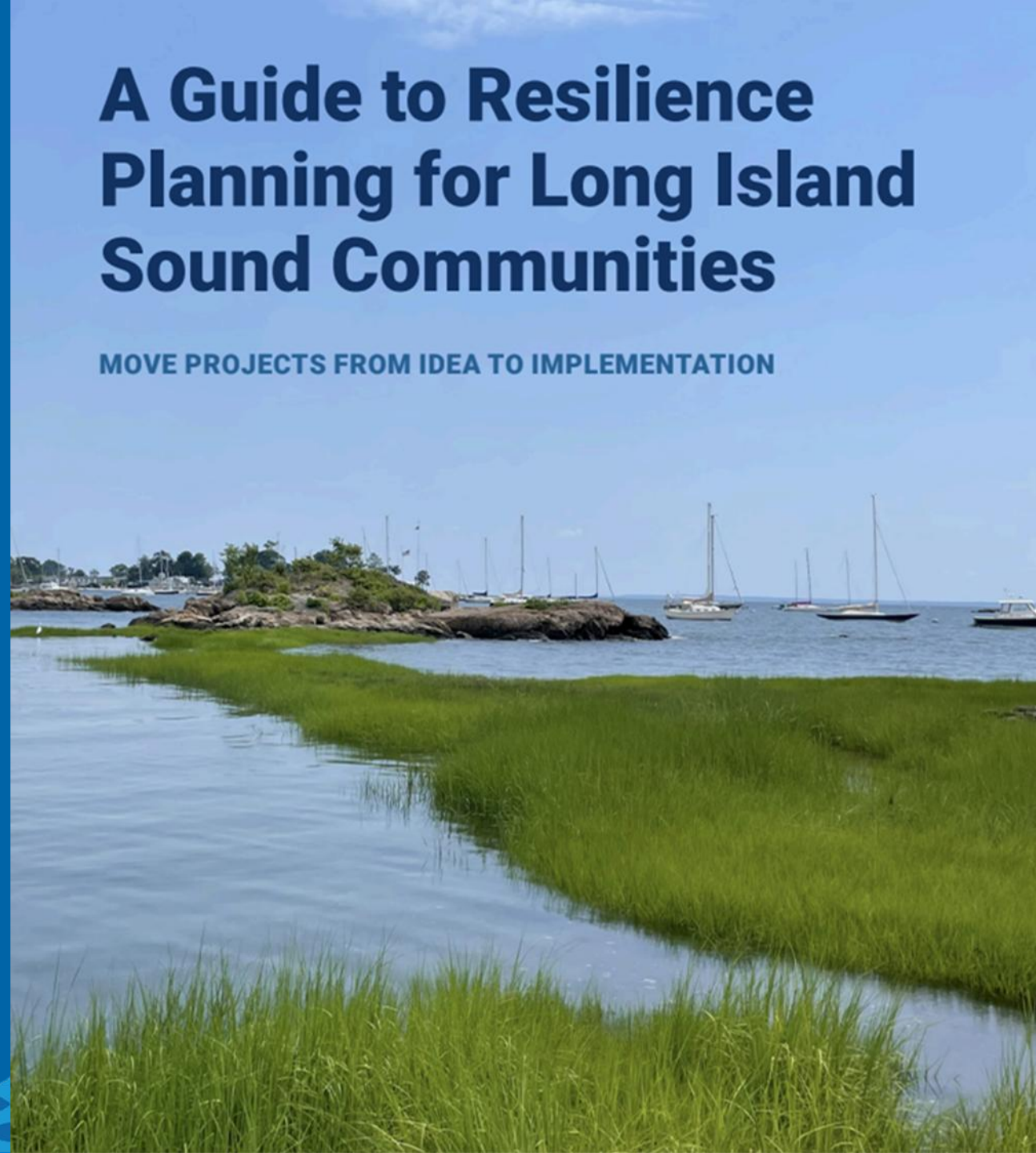


LONG ISLAND SOUND
PARTNERSHIP

Resilience Planning Guide

A Guide to Resilience Planning for Long Island Sound Communities

MOVE PROJECTS FROM IDEA TO IMPLEMENTATION



A Guide to Resilience Planning

Use the PERSISTS criteria below to help identify, prioritize, and implement high-impact projects

PERSISTS Framework adapted and adopted from Connecticut Institute for Resilience and Climate Adaptation. (2020). Resilient Connecticut Planning Framework.

P

Permittable

E

Engaged

R

Realistic

S

Safe

I

Innovative

S

Scientific

T

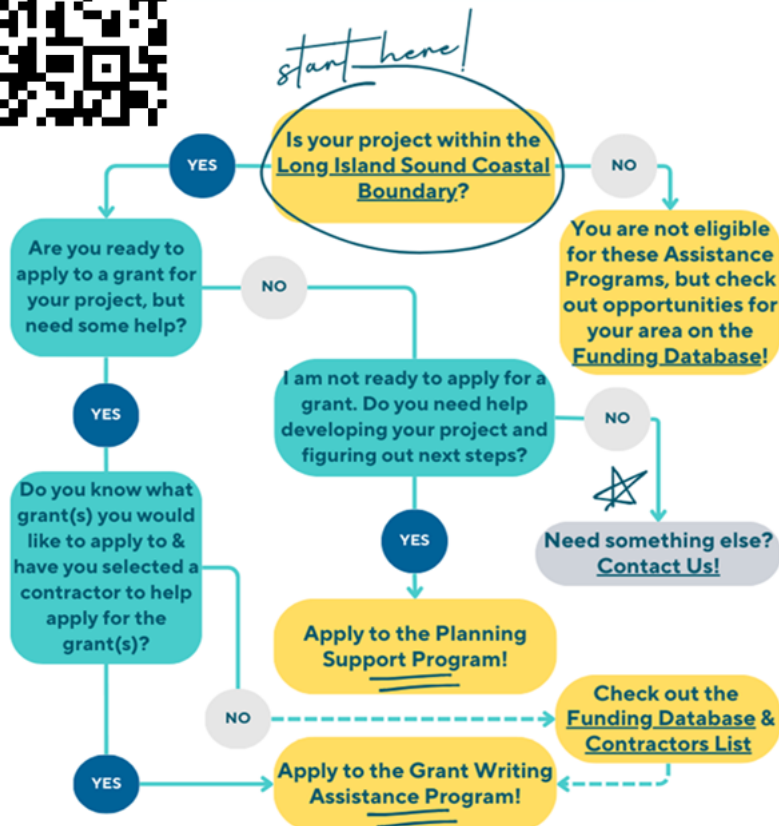
Transferable

S

Sustainable

What Assistance Program is right for me?

Click on the image to interact



LIS Resilience Grant Writing Assistance Program

Focus: Grant Preparation and Writing

No Match!

Eligible Applicants:
Municipalities, Nonprofits,
Community Organizations

Rolling: Open until all available funding has been allocated

LIS Resilience Planning Support Program

Focus: Planning, Preliminary Design, and Project Scoping

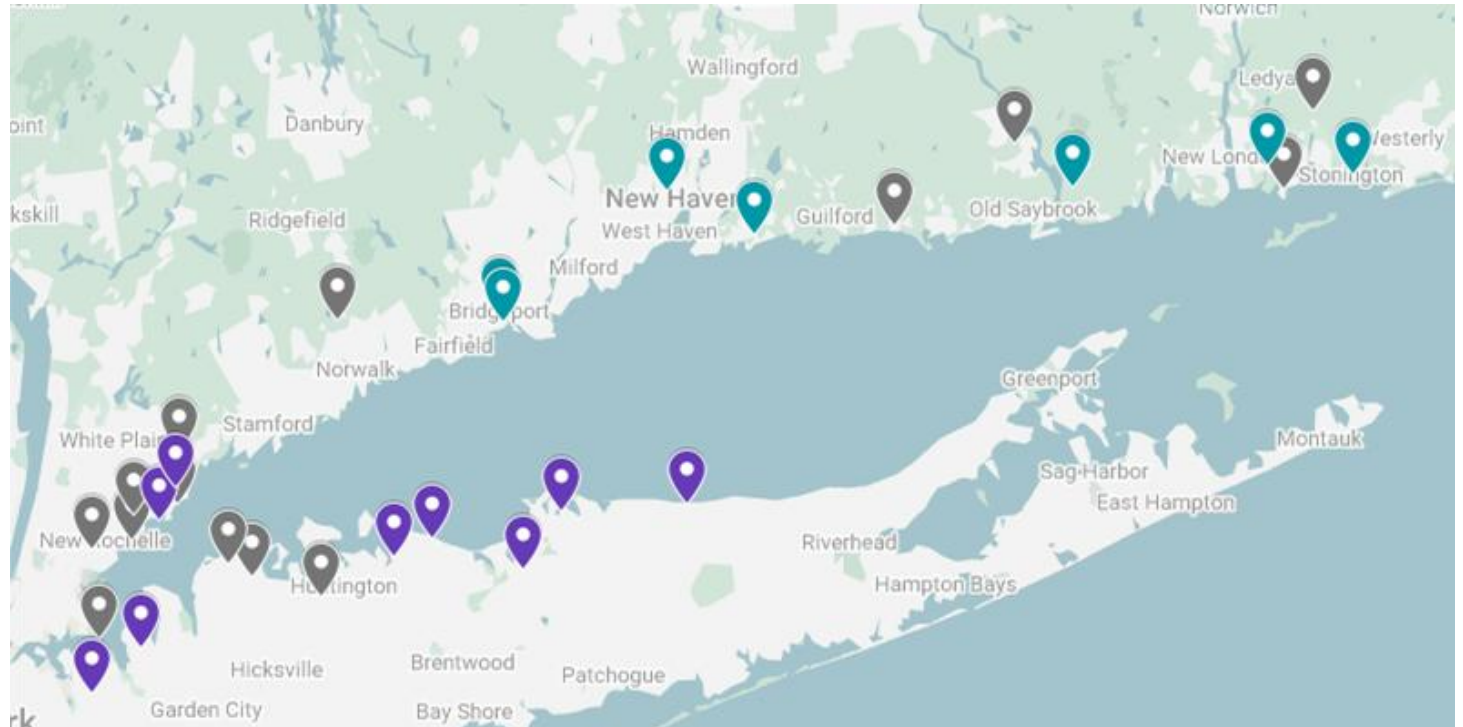
No Match!

Eligible Applicants:
Municipalities, Nonprofits,
Community Organizations

Next round will be released February 2027!

Round 1 & 2 project types include:

- **10** Vulnerability Assessments/Resilience Plans
- **3** Flood studies
- **2** Watershed Plans
- **3** Natural Resource Inventories
- **3** Community Engagement/Strategic Plans
- **10** Conceptual Design Plans for stormwater management, green infrastructure, shoreline adaptation, public access, and stream restoration projects



Round 1 - Gray
***Awarded ~\$1.1 Million
to 15 Communities***
5 in CT and 10 in NY

Round 2 - Purple & Teal
***Awarded ~\$1 Million to 16
Communities***
7 in CT and 9 in NY

Round 3 project types include:

- **3** Vulnerability Assessments/Resilience Plans
- **1** Flood study
- **1** Watershed Plan
- **1** Street Tree Inventory & Community Forest Management Plan
- **9** Feasibility Studies/Conceptual Design Plans for stormwater management, green infrastructure, shoreline adaptation, wetland restoration, and public waterfront access projects

Round 3

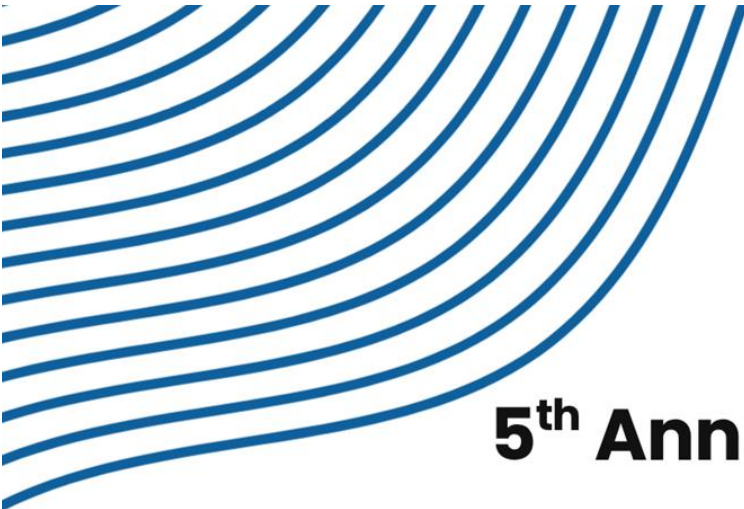
Contracts with selected contractors for 15 projects (totaling ~\$1.4 Million) are being established.

Work will begin later in the Fall!

4 in CT and 11 in NY

Round 4

Application period will open February 2027
Up to \$1.5 Million available



11.18.2026

Registration is now open!

5th Annual Sustainable & Resilient Communities Workshop

In person at Housatonic Community College in Bridgeport, CT

Celebrate 5 years with us!

For all the details, scan the QR code or visit

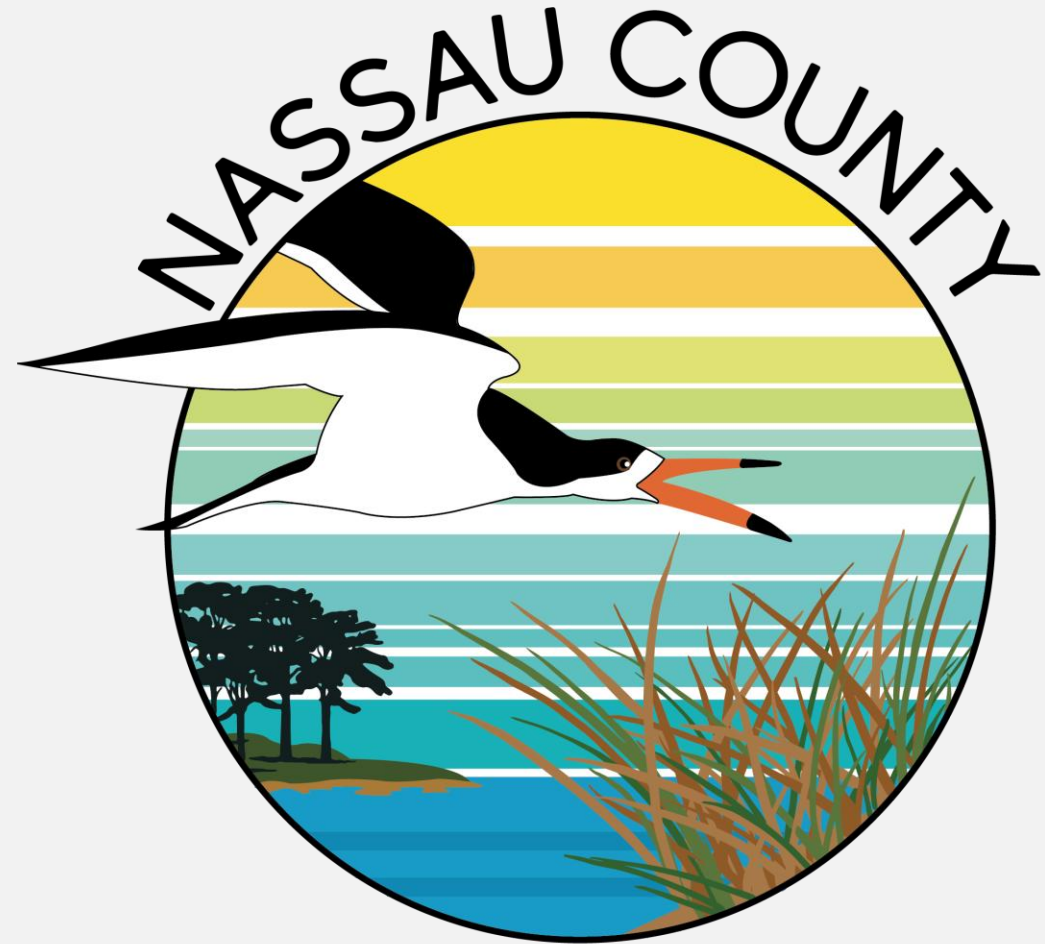
lisresilience.org/annual-workshop



**LONG ISLAND SOUND
PARTNERSHIP**



Long Island Sound
2026 Coastal
Resilience Forum



SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Agenda

1

District Overview

2

Nassau County S.E.P.T.I.C.
Program

3

Funding Opportunities

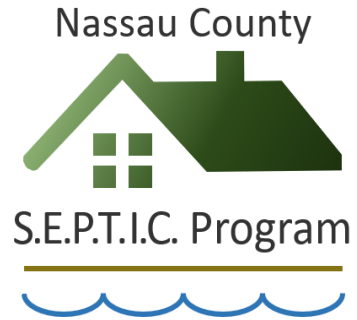


Nassau County Soil & Water Conservation District

- Soil and Water Conservation districts are local units of government that develop, manage, and direct natural resource programs at the community level. The Nassau County Soil and Water Conservation District has been in existence since 1977, serving the community for almost 50 years.
- Our purpose is to protect, preserve, restore, and enhance natural resources through education and technical assistance, and provide programs and technical services to all Nassau County residents and municipalities.



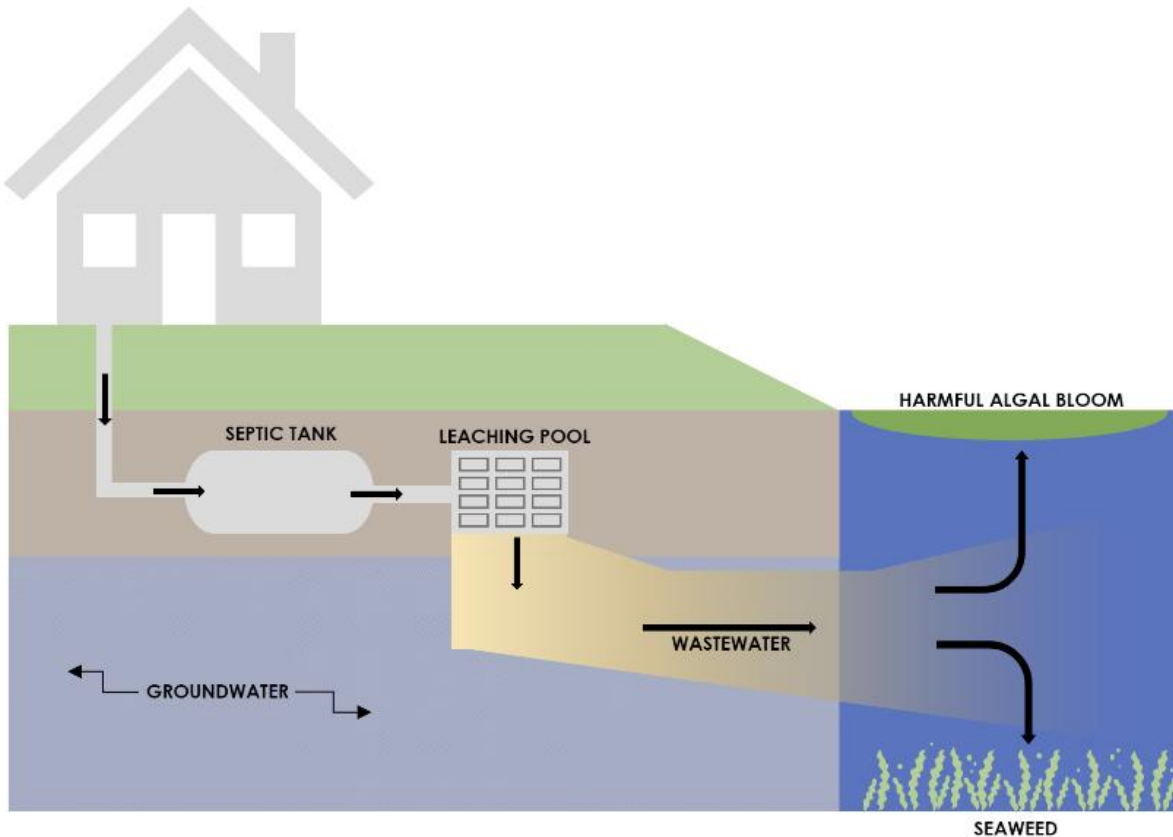
Nassau's S.E.P.T.I.C. Program



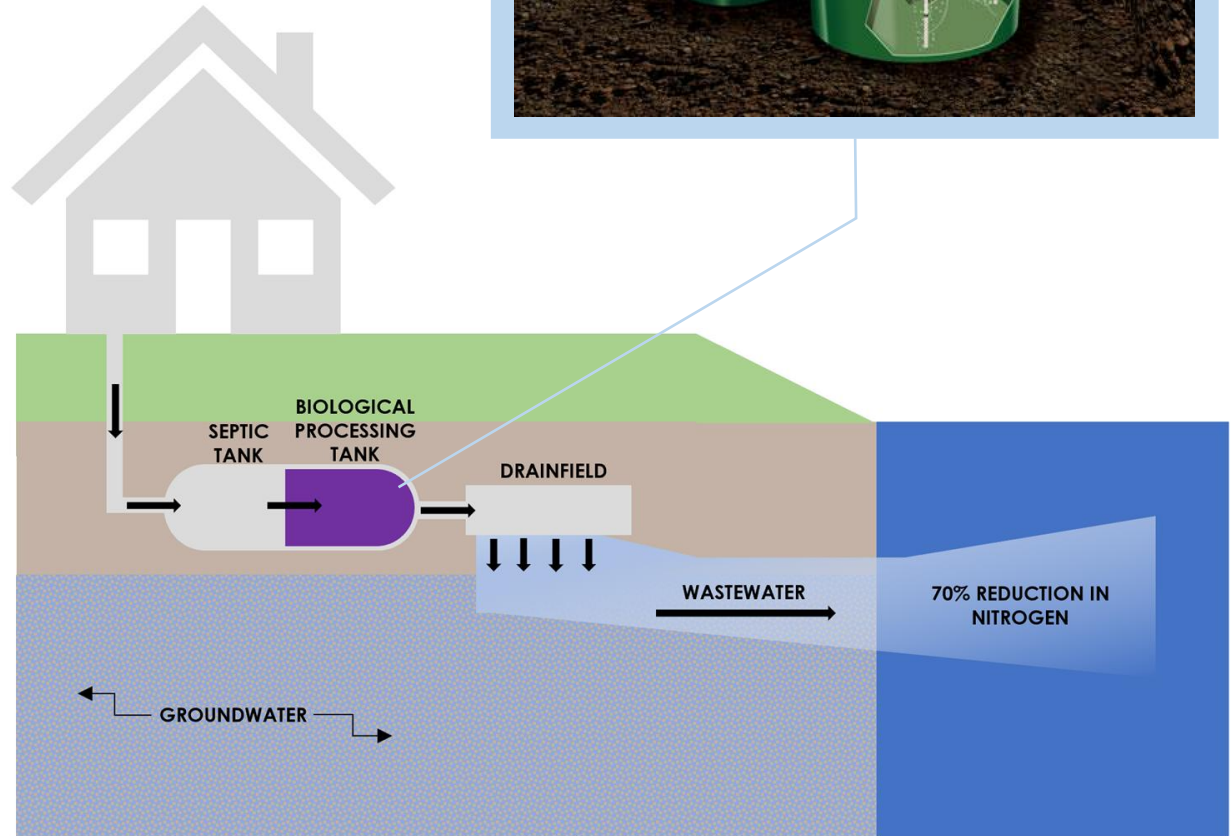
- Administered by the District on behalf of Nassau County
- Provides State and County financial incentives of up to \$35,000 to applicants looking to replace existing septic systems and cesspools with **nitrogen-reducing technologies**



“Innovative Advanced (I/A) On-Site Wastewater Systems (OWTS)” can reduce nitrogen outputs into groundwater by up to 70%.

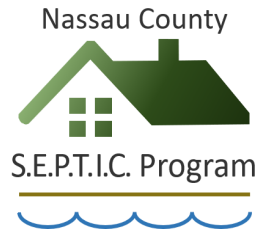


CONVENTIONAL SEPTIC TANK



NITROGEN-REDUCING I/A SEPTIC TANK

S.E.P.T.I.C. Installation Costs



Average Cost - \$31,212.80

NOTE:

- This reflects only eligible reimbursable costs
- Grants are meant to offset and incentivize I/A systems over conventional systems and cesspools
- Applicant should expect out-of-pocket expenses



NCSWCD – Part C Grant Program



- Projects must meet one or more of the following criteria in Nassau County:
 - Conserve or improve soils
 - Improve water quality of our groundwater and/or surface water
 - Control and prevent soil erosion and/or prevent floodwater and sediment damages
 - Conservation, development, utilization, and disposal of water
 - Preserve, increase, or improve natural resources including trees and plants
 - Control or eliminate invasive plants or wildlife
 - Control and abate NPS water pollution
 - Preserve wildlife



NCSWCD – Part C Grant Program



Partners

- School Districts
- Local Community Organizations, Non-Profits
- Local Municipalities

Award Amounts

- Between \$2K and \$15K per project, depending on the year
- Awards are distributed on a reimbursement basis

Timeline

- Request for Proposals (RFP) released in April; awards announced in late May
- Successful Projects have one calendar year for completion
- Quarterly and Final Reports Required





2023 Hydroseeding at Cedarmere Preserve

This Project covered a total area of 20,000 ft sq. of invasive species removal, including hundreds of trees such as Norway maple, Tree of Heaven, and Japanese maple.

Hydroseeding with native grasses and flowers was used to help control invasive ground cover plants such as English ivy.

WETLAND BOUNDARIES FROM GEI PLAN



LEGEND:

- △ APPROXIMATE LOCATION OF CULVERT
- 10FT CONTOUR LINE
- APPROXIMATE LOCATION OF FRESHWATER WETLAND BOUNDARY DELINEATED BY GEI, 10/3/2024
- - - APPROXIMATE LOCATION OF FRESHWATER STREAM LINE DELINEATED BY GEI, 10/3/2024
- APPROXIMATE LOCATION OF TIDAL WETLAND BOUNDARY DELINEATED BY GEI, 10/3/2024
- APPROXIMATE LOCATION OF TIDAL WETLAND ADJACENT AREA

2026 Part C Project Bioswale at Cedarmere Preserve

This project involved the creation of 2 bioswales next to the north parking lot of Cedarmere Preserve. This area slopes down to Hempstead Harbor and receives heavy runoff.

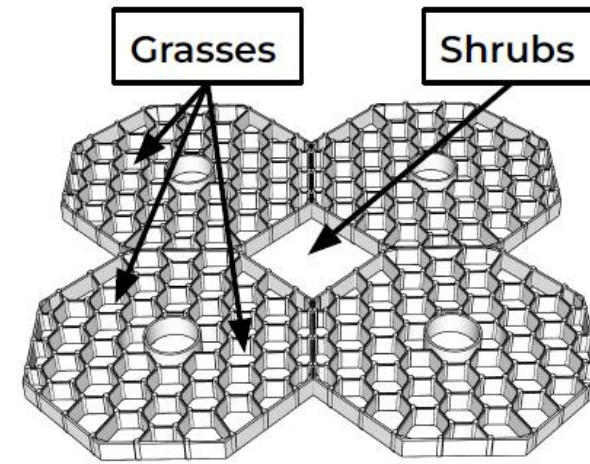
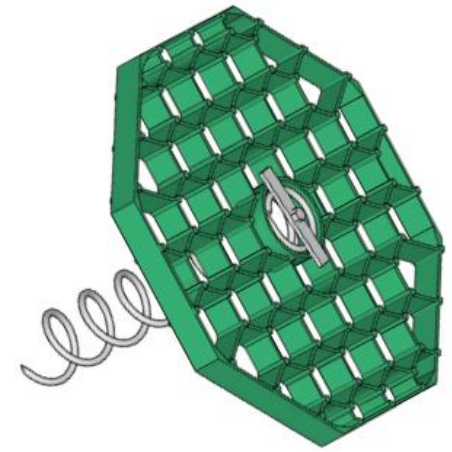
Proposed plant List

- Black Chokeberry
- Shamrock Inkberry
- Red Osier Dogwood
- Meadowsweet
- Groundsel Bush
- Switchgrass
- Swamp Milkweed

Sands Point Preserve Conservancy Bluff Stabilization

This 2025 Part C project involved the stabilization of 3,600 square feet of North Shore bluffs utilizing “Cliff Stabilizers” – an innovative technology from Coastal Technologies Corp. (CTC) that enables vegetation to establish strong root systems.

District funding covered the costs of Cliff Stabilizers, native plant installation, and periodic bluff monitoring.



Sands Point Preserve Conservancy Bluff Stabilization

Cliff Stabilizers can be removed without adversely affecting the vegetation. 140 devices were installed in July 2025 and were removed in August 2026.

The same devices were redeployed in another area of the bluff, continuing to prevent the erosion of the slope.



Sands Point Preserve Conservancy Stream Corridor Buffer

This 2026 project optimized the benefits of a previously daylighted stream by removing invasive plants along the stream buffer and replanting diverse native flora. The buffer serves to filter runoff, prevent erosion, and provide habitat connectivity.

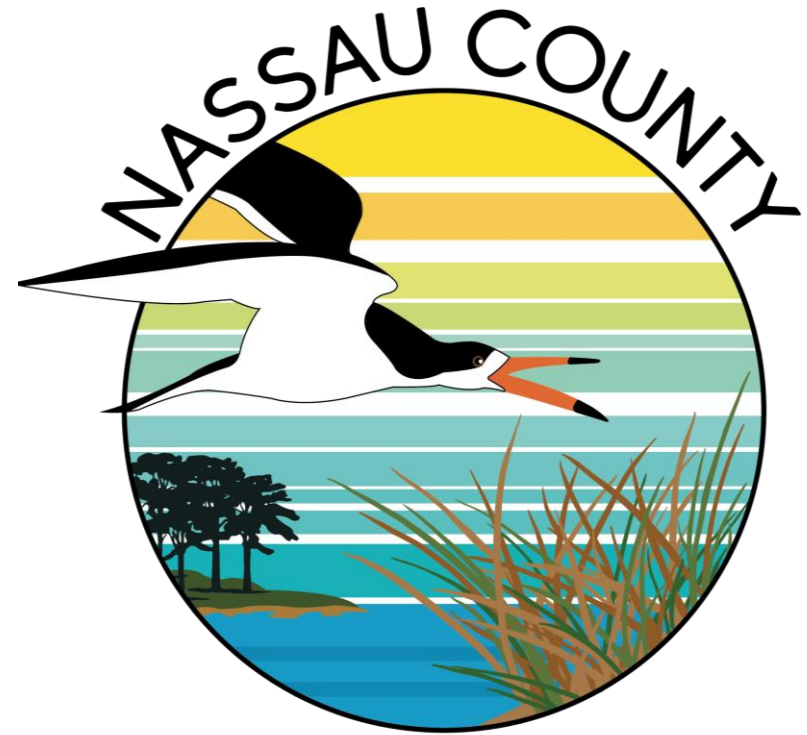


Contact us:

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Sean Rooney, srooney@nassauswcd.org

516.364.5860



SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT



The Future of Long Island's Coasts

Steven Englebright, Suffolk County Legislator





New York State Agency Updates



AVOID

MINIMIZE

MITIGATE

Division of Water

Better Site Design

April 2008

New York State
Department of Environmental Conservation



**Department of
Environmental
Conservation**

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT DESIGN MANUAL

July 31, 2024



Commissioner's Policy

Coastal storms

Drought

Earthquakes

Erosion

Extreme heat

Flooding

Ice storms and blizzards

Landslides

Sea-level rise

Severe convective storms (e.g.,
tornadoes, extreme hail, high winds)

Wildfires

INTERNAL DRAFT

CP-##/ Commissioner Policy on Adaptation and Resilience	
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation DEC Policy	
Issuing Authority:	
Date Issued:	Latest Date Revised:

I. Summary

This policy advances the Department of Environmental Conservation's (DEC) mission and policy of New York State to "conserve, improve, and protect its natural resources and environment" and to effectively "enhance the health, safety, and welfare of the people of the state and their overall economic and social wellbeing."¹ To continuously achieve the fundamental objectives of this vast mission, DEC recognizes the importance of reinforcing the principles codified in the Community Risk and Resiliency Act (CRRRA)² and the foundational goals of the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA),³ coupled with DEC's environmental justice requirements. The [principles](#) ensure adaptation and resilience are integrated into DEC actions in a consistent and unified manner within existing regulatory frameworks. DEC will apply these principles in the implementation of the Adaptation and Resilience Hierarchy (Hierarchy), as described in Section II, to guide decision making, planning, and investments efforts across the agency.

The Hierarchy directs DEC Programs to pursue more resilient approaches that proactively avoid, minimize, or mitigate risks to the state's natural resources and strengthens alignment between agency decisions and DEC's mission and vision.

Purpose

As New York faces increasingly severe and frequent climate-related impacts—from flooding and extreme heat to coastal storms and wildfires— DEC must lead by example and reinforce its commitment to proactively address environmental risks from climate change while advancing environmental justice, public health, and ecological sustainability. The policy introduces the Hierarchy to ensure DEC decisions and initiatives contribute to a more resilient, equitable, and healthy future, including

¹ See Environmental Conservation Law § 1-0101 (1); and generally, § 3-0301.

² See, L 2014, [ch 355](#), § 17-a, as added by L 2019, [ch 106](#), § 9.

³ L 2019, [ch 206](#), § 9.

Begin with Level 1 (**Avoid** Risk) to determine whether the risk can be avoided altogether through siting, relocation, or protections of natural systems;

Proceed to Level 2 (**Minimize** Risk) by adapting to current and future risk, only when avoidance is not feasible, to identify measures that reduce vulnerability while maintaining natural system functions; and

Consider Level 3 (**Mitigate**/Defend) only when avoidance and adaptation measures are not feasible or sufficient to address identified risk.

NYS Adaptation and Resilience Plan



NYSARP
Website:



Department of
Environmental
Conservation



NYSERDA



Department
of State



Homeland Security
and Emergency Services

Collaboration on NYSARP

Engagement with Core Agency Partners

A Core Agency Working Group provided state agency perspective on current adaptation and resilience efforts and future direction.

Engagement with Local Government and Community Partners

Local Partners: Local government representatives, regional planning organizations, and non-profits focused

Climate Equity Partners: Local community groups and non-profits who represent disadvantaged and frontline communities across New York.

Engagement with New Yorkers

NYS invites feedback and input on actions the state can take to strengthen adaptation and resilience at the state level and advance the implementation of local adaptation and resilience strategies.

Final Adaptation and Resilience Vision for NYS

New York State is resilient and adaptable to climate change. Through inclusive planning and partnerships, coordinated and proactive action, and strategic investment, New York protects lives, strengthens infrastructure, and values nature now and in the future.

Final Adaptation and Resilience Principles

- Proactively protect lives and livelihoods.
- Pursue robust, sustainable solutions that consider long term effects to future generations.
- Apply the best available climate science in decision making.
- Preserve critical ecosystems and advance nature-based solutions wherever feasible.
- Recognize regional and local challenges and strengths and embrace partnerships.
- Coordinate across governments to accelerate action together.
- Prioritize equity, transparency, and inclusivity.
- Foster flexibility, practice continual learning, and encourage innovation.

Next Steps

- Deep Dive into New York State Resources
- Identify Gaps and Streamlining Opportunities
- Deliver tools to State and Local partners



NYSARP
Website:





Department of Environmental Conservation



Department of
Environmental
Conservation

UPDATES FROM THE OFFICE OF CLIMATE CHANGE

October 27, 2026

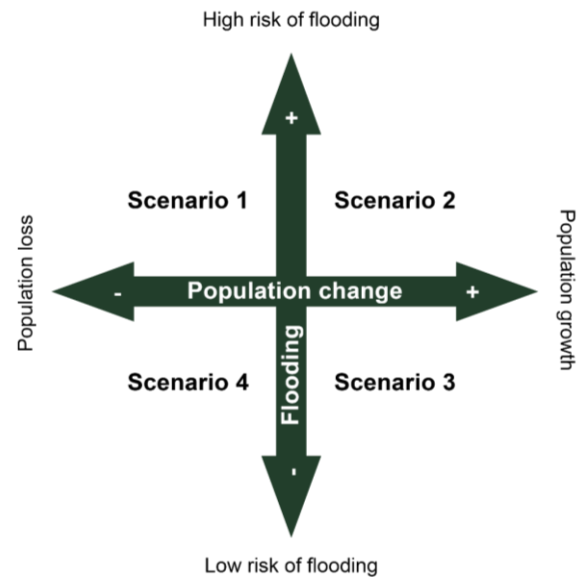
DEC Office of Climate Change



NEWLY ANNOUNCED

EXPLORATORY SCENARIO PLANNING FOR CLIMATE ADAPTATION

Exploratory Scenario Planning (XSP) navigates climate-related uncertainties and supports a community-driven approach to climate adaptation and resilience planning.

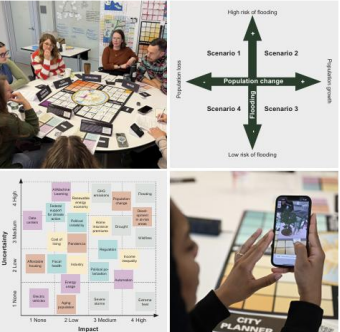


XSP Train-the-Trainer at UAlbany



XSP Resources Coming Soon...

Online Toolkit Training Workbook and Video Best Practices Guidebook Drivers and Debates Print and Play Materials



**EXPLORATORY SCENARIO PLANNING
FOR CLIMATE ADAPTATION AND
RESILIENCE IN NEW YORK STATE**
TRAIN-THE-TRAINER WORKBOOK

 **Department of
Environmental
Conservation**
October 2026



**EXPLORATORY SCENARIO PLANNING
FOR CLIMATE ADAPTATION AND
RESILIENCE IN NEW YORK STATE**
GUIDEBOOK AND BEST PRACTICES

 **Department of
Environmental
Conservation**
August 2026



Scenario 1: When the Levee Breaks
High Climate Risk + Population Loss

Anytown Times
VOL. 1, No. 1
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2050
\$6.50

**FLOOD DESTROYS DOWNTOWN:
POPULATION IN PERIL**

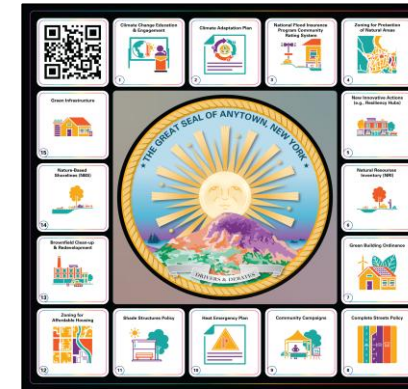
Anytown faces increased risk from flooding and extreme heat while simultaneously managing population loss.

Flooding follows record-shattering September temperatures.

A year has passed since a record-breaking river flood that destroyed homes and displaced residents in low-lying areas. In the same year, the community experienced multiple heat waves where air temperatures exceeded 90°F.

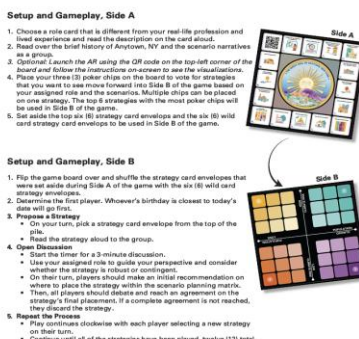
The social impacts of floods and heat waves are not evenly distributed. Floods disproportionately affect low-income residents who live in low-lying areas. Meanwhile, older residents and those without air conditioning are most vulnerable to extreme heat. Non-white residents who live in formerly redlined neighborhoods are also vulnerable to extreme heat due to historical disinvestment.

Some residents and businesses are leaving Anytown due to higher home insurance premiums and utility costs. With a declining population, Anytown has fewer resources to prepare residents for worsening climate hazards. As the tax base erodes, the community struggles to maintain infrastructure and services.



Climate Adaptation Plan

Climate adaptation planning assesses vulnerabilities and identifies strategies to improve community resilience to climate change based on physical, economic, and social aspects. Working with communities to create these plans can help account for changing conditions and future resource protection.



Setup and Gameplay, Side A

1. Choose a role card that is different from your real life profession and lived experience and read the description on the card aloud.
2. Read over the brief history of Anytown, NY and the scenario narratives as a group.
3. Optional: Launch the AR using the QR code on the right-hand corner of the board and follow the instructions on-screen to see the visualizations.
4. Place your three (3) poker chips on the board to vote for strategies that you want to see move forward into Side B of the game based on your assigned role and the scenario. Multiple chips can be placed on one strategy. The top 6 strategies with the most poker chips will be used in Side B of the game.
5. Set aside the top six (6) strategy card envelopes and the six (6) wild card strategy card envelopes to be used in Side B of the game.

Setup and Gameplay, Side B

1. Flip the game board over and shuffle the strategy card envelopes that were set aside during Side A of the game with the six (6) wild card strategy envelopes.
2. Determine the first player. Whoever's birthday is closest to today's date will go first.
3. Propose a Strategy
 - On your turn, pick a strategy card envelope from the top of the pile.
 - Read the strategy aloud to the group.
4. Open Discussion
 - Start the timer for a 3-minute discussion.
 - Use your assigned role to guide your perspective and consider whether the strategy is robust or overreaching.
 - On their turn, players should make an initial recommendation on where to place the strategy within the scenario planning matrix.
 - Then, all players should debate and reach an agreement on the strategy's final placement. If a complete agreement is not reached, they discard the strategy.
5. Repeat the Process.
 - Play continues clockwise with each player selecting a new strategy on their turn.
 - Continue until all of the strategies have been played, twelve (12) total.



COMMUNITY MEMBER

My name is _____ a Community Member in Anytown.

New York, My work is dedicated to ensuring that the voices of residents are heard in every location the city makes a focus on strategies work for the people who live here. From organizing neighborhood meetings to advocating for inclusive policies, my role is to bring the lived experiences of residents into the conversation so Anytown's future is fair, safe, and resilient.

As the Community Member, you will be responsible for the following:

- Social
- Economic
- Environmental

Role Alignment

DRIVERS & DEBATES: AN EXPLORATORY SCENARIO PLANNING GAME

Facilitator Rulebook
Game Duration: 60-75 minutes | Players: 4-6

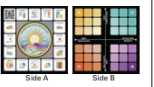
Game Overview

Drivers and Debates is a board game that uses Augmented Reality (AR) to teach people about the Exploratory Scenario Planning (XSP) process. In addition to introducing XSP to players, the goal of gameplay is to learn how to prioritize climate adaptation strategies in New York State communities based on potential future scenarios. During the game, players assume the role of various community leaders and step into the imaginary world of Anytown, NY.

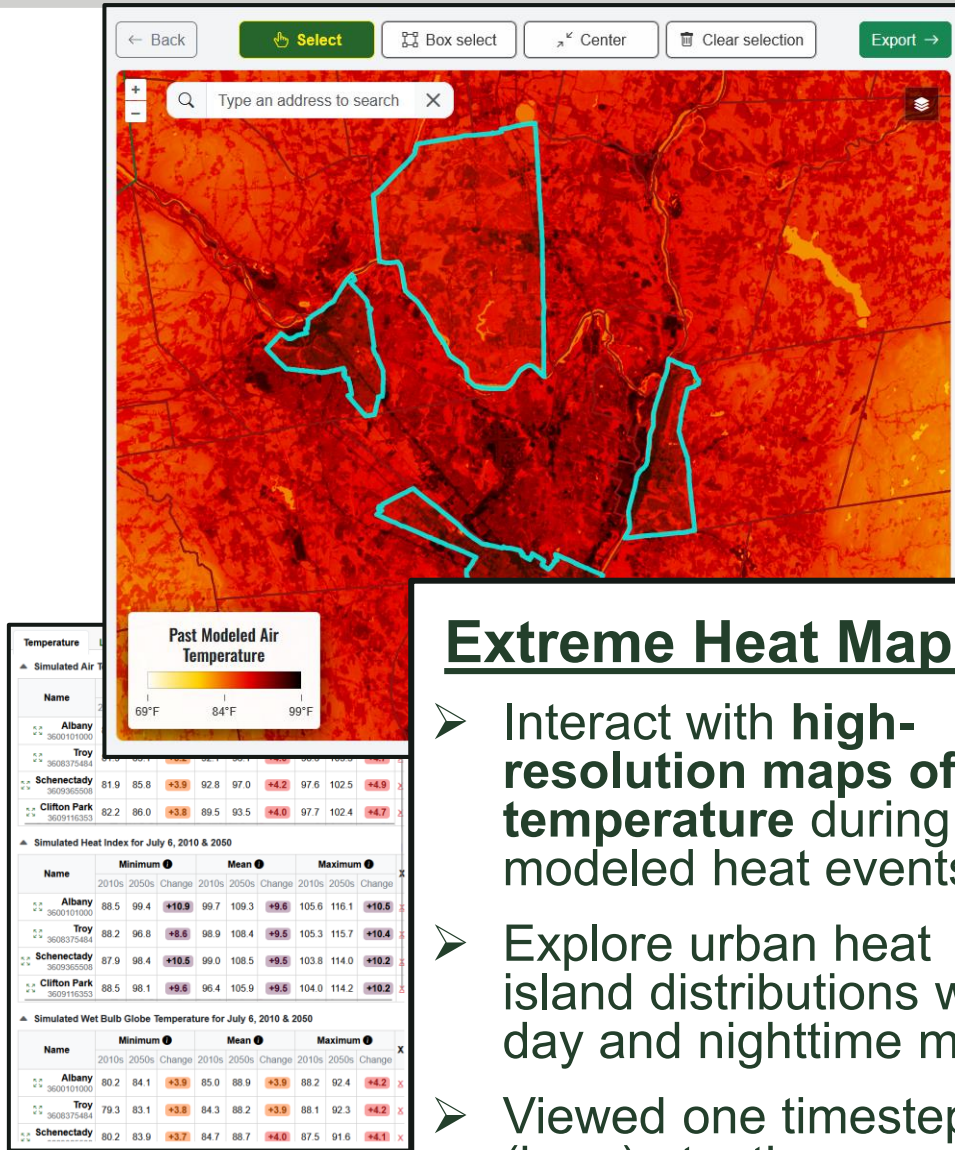
During the game, players will:

1. Identify relevant adaptation strategies from the New York State Climate Smart Communities (CSC) certification program;
2. debate these adaptation strategies as part of an imaginary XSP process; and
3. reflect on how the XSP process can be used in a real community.

Game Materials

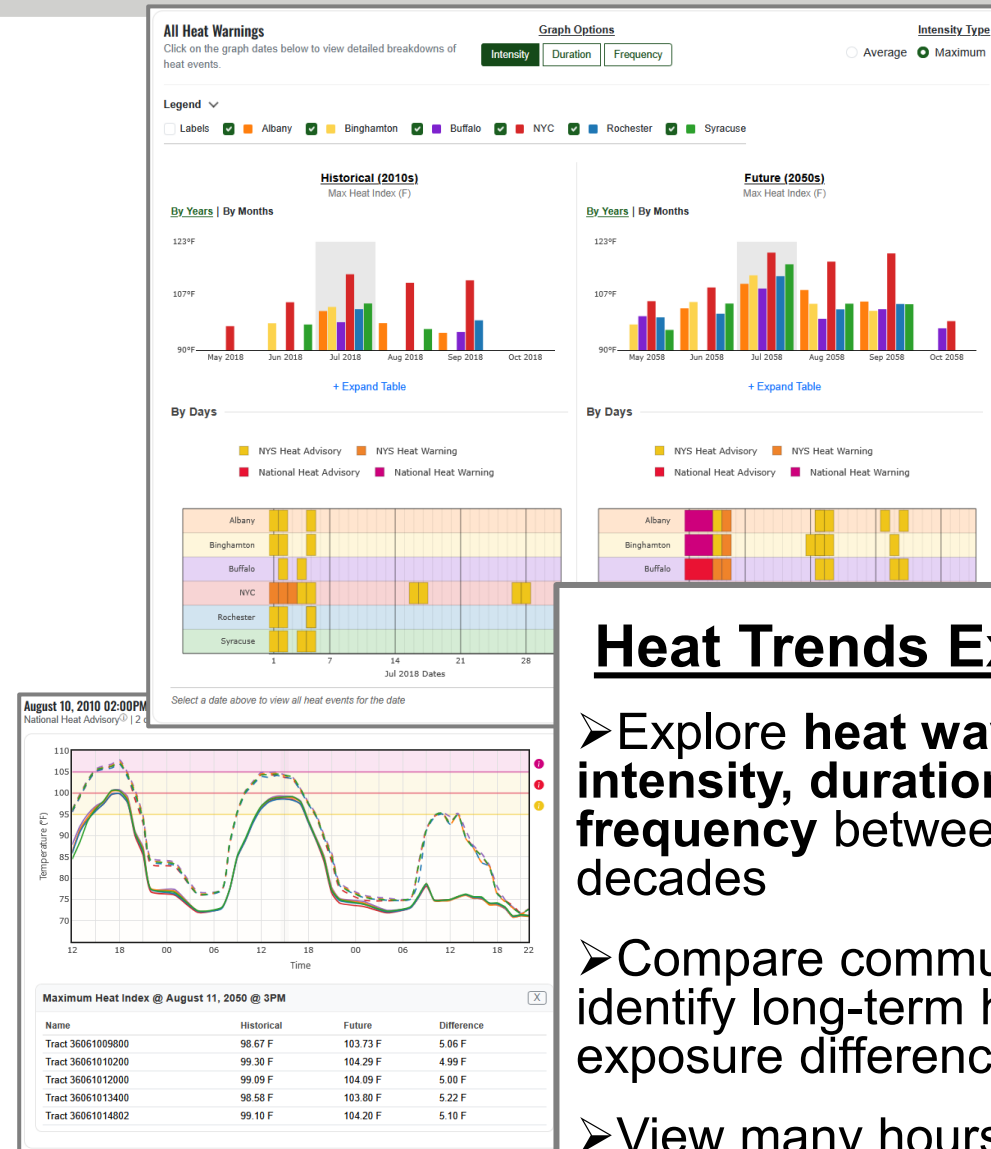
1 Game Board	6 Quick Start Guides	1 Facilitator Manual
 Side A Side B	 1 per player	 1 per facilitator
 Scenario 1: When the Levee Breaks Scenario 2: Under Pressure Scenario 3: Gimme Shelter Scenario 4: Wish You Were Here	 1 envelope per set 4 cards per envelope	 1 envelope per set 4 cards per envelope
 MAYOR 2. Climate Scientist 3. Developer 4. Community Member 5. City Planner 6. Engineer	 3 minutes	 20 Poker Chips 3 per player

NEW EXTREME HEAT MAPPING TOOLS



Extreme Heat Mapper

- Interact with **high-resolution maps of temperature** during modeled heat events
- Explore urban heat island distributions with day and nighttime maps
- Viewed one timestep (hour) at a time



Heat Trends Explorer

- Explore **heat wave intensity, duration, and frequency** between decades
- Compare communities to identify long-term heat exposure differences
- View many hours/days at once

NEW FUNDING FOR CLEAN GREEN SCHOOLS: PROJECTS TO ENHANCE OUTDOOR LEARNING SPACES AT PUBLIC SCHOOLS

New funding to become available for schools to transform school grounds into park-like greenspaces.

Available as part of NYSERDA's Clean, Green Schools Program.

Uses Clean Water, Clean Air and Green Jobs Environmental Bond Act Funds.

- [See Draft Bond Act Guidelines](#) to learn about potential eligible activities and requirements (subject to change)



Transform asphalt-covered school grounds into park-like green spaces that improve well-being, learning, and play while reducing extreme heat and contributing to communities' ecological health and climate resilience.

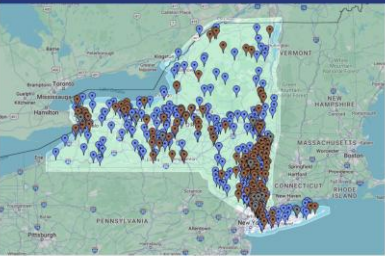
Image source: Wikicommons



CLIMATE SMART SUPPORT FOR LOCAL ACTION

CLIMATE SMART COMMUNITIES





State Support for Local Climate Action

Climate Smart Communities (CSC) is a New York State program that helps local governments take action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to a changing climate. The program offers grants, leadership recognition, and free technical assistance.

Registered communities have made a commitment to act by passing the CSC pledge. **Certified** communities are the foremost leaders in the state; they have gone beyond the CSC pledge by completing and documenting a suite of actions that mitigate and adapt to climate change at the local level.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Participating Climate Smart Communities:

 REGISTERED COMMUNITIES	462	 BRONZE CERTIFIED COMMUNITIES	144
 PEOPLE LIVING IN CLIMATE SMART COMMUNITIES	17,918,112	 SILVER CERTIFIED COMMUNITIES	24

CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

Climate Smart Communities

AboutActions & CertificationSupportSIGN IN

About

Actions & Certification

Support

CSC Coordinators

CSC Scorecard

Regional Greenhouse Gas Inventories in NYS

Webinar Presentation Archive

Find a Coordinator in Your Region

Climate Smart Communities Coordinators are available to provide free technical assistance to communities across all 10 regions of New York State. Coordinators facilitate local action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to climate change through outreach, planning, education, and capacity building.



TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

State Support for Local Climate Action

Local governments can receive financial and technical support from New York State agencies for taking action to mitigate and adapt to climate change.

Grants

Several New York State agencies provide funding to support completion of Climate Smart Communities (CSC) certification actions, including the [Department of Environmental Conservation](#) (DEC), the [Energy Research and Development Agency](#) (NYSERDA), and the [Department of State](#) (DOS). The descriptions of the certification actions on this website include references to the specific funding programs relevant to each action.

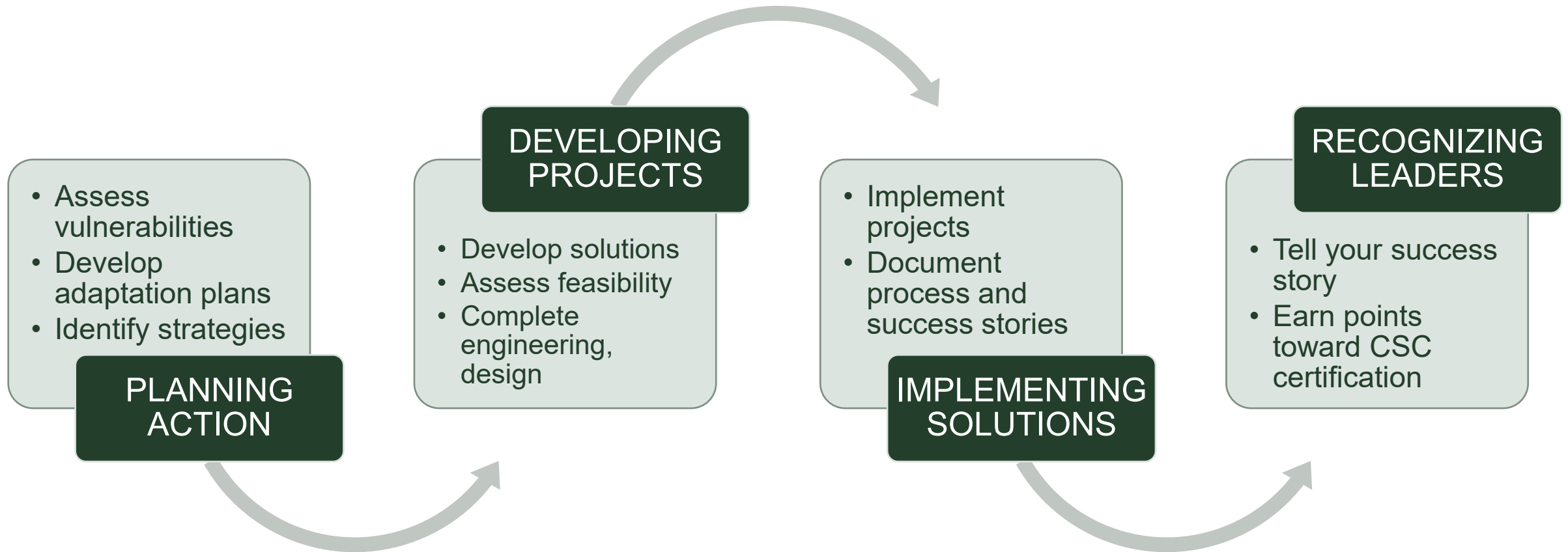
Grant applications for state funds from Registered and Certified Climate Smart Communities earn higher scores for some programs, including [DEC's CSC Grant Program](#).

GRANTS PROGRAM



Climate Smart
Communities

SUPPORTING CLIMATE SMART ACTION: FROM PLANNING TO IMPLEMENTATION





CERTIFICATION ACTIONS

- Assess vulnerabilities
- Develop adaptation plans
- Identify strategies

PLANNING ACTION

DEVELOPING PROJECTS

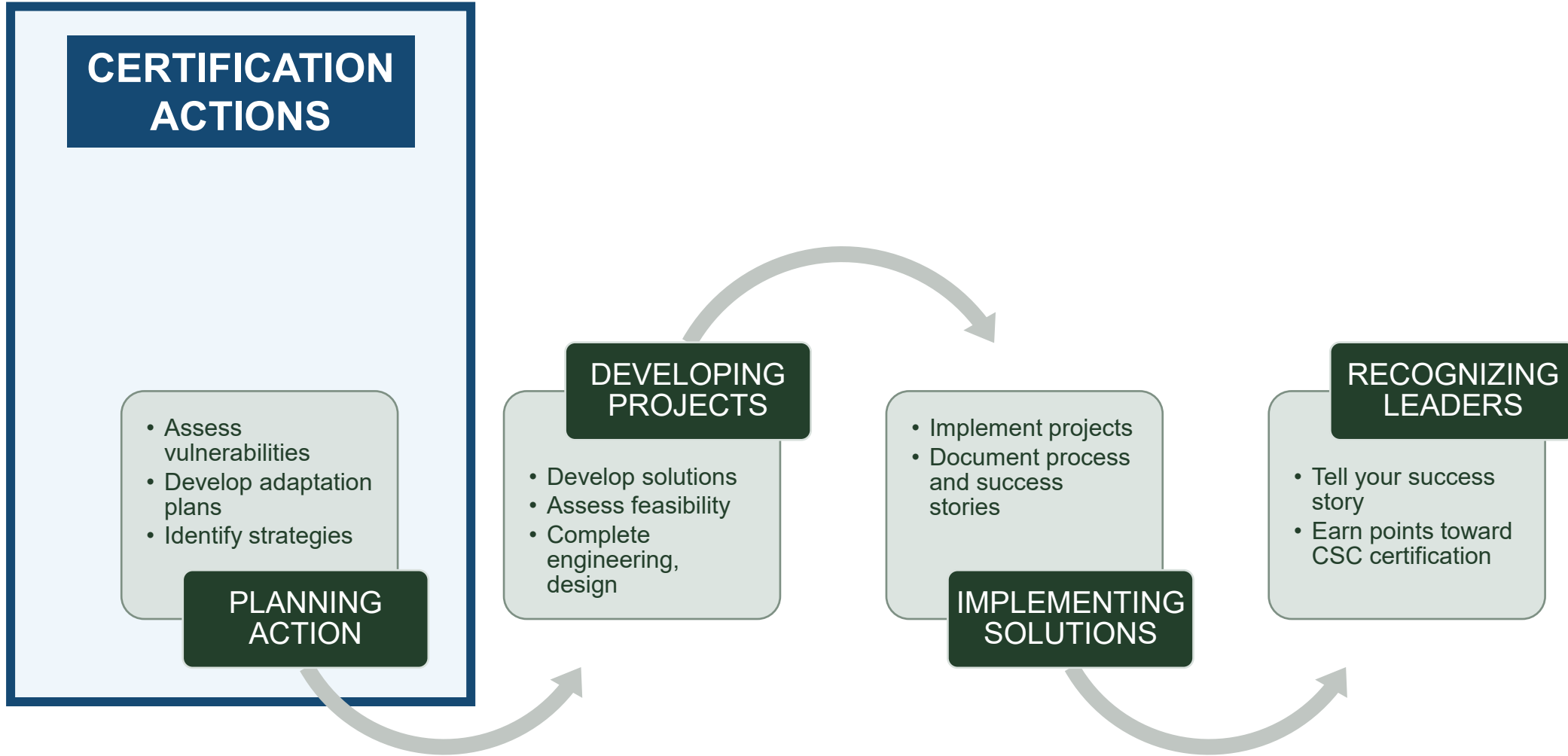
- Develop solutions
- Assess feasibility
- Complete engineering, design

- Implement projects
- Document process and success stories

IMPLEMENTING SOLUTIONS

RECOGNIZING LEADERS

- Tell your success story
- Earn points toward CSC certification



PE7 Action: Climate Vulnerability Assessment

4 Points

 Bronze Priority  Silver Priority

• THIS ACTION HAS VARIABLE POINTS: 4, 8, 16 • COMPETITIVE FUNDING AVAILABLE

PE7 Action: Evaluate Policies for Climate Resilience

6 Points

 Bronze Priority  Silver Priority

• COMPETITIVE FUNDING AVAILABLE

PE7 Action: Climate Adaptation Plan

3 Points

 Bronze Priority  Silver Priority

• THIS ACTION HAS VARIABLE POINTS: 3 — 15 • COMPETITIVE FUNDING AVAILABLE

PE7 Action: Climate-resilient Hazard Mitigation Plan

4 Points

PE7 Action: Heat Emergency Plan

6 Points

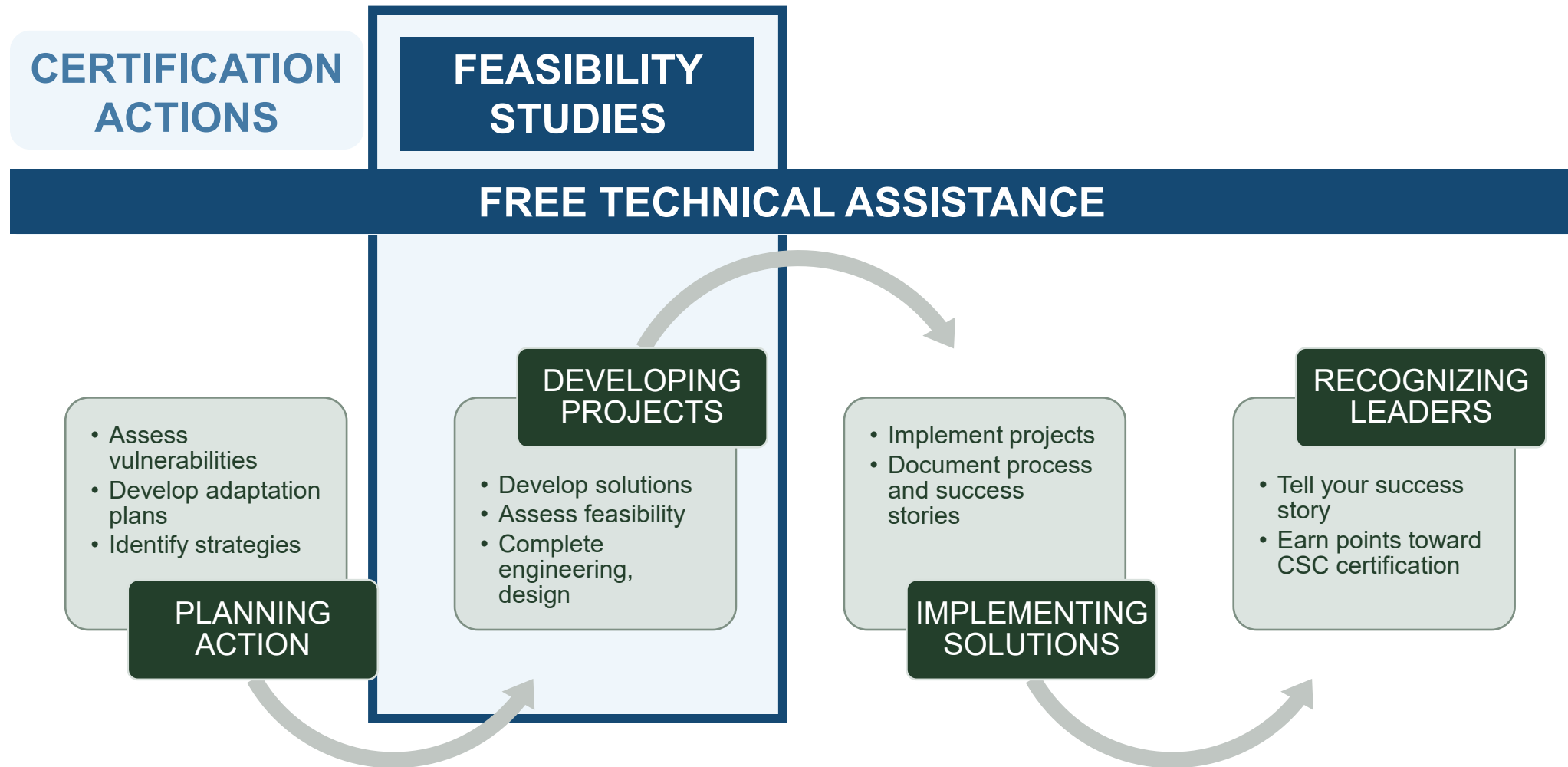
• COMPETITIVE FUNDING AVAILABLE

PE7 Action: Shade Structures Policy

CSC PE 7 - GUIDING LOCAL ADAPTATION

Offers a range of certification actions with resources to help communities

- identify and assess impacts and vulnerabilities;
- develop plans for strategic action, and incorporate resilience considerations across existing plans;
- explore and advance specific solutions and best practices.



CSC Coordinators Are Here To Help

Western New York
For Niagara and Erie Counties
Erin Hanaburgh
University at Buffalo Regional Institute

For Allegany, Cattaraugus, and Chautauqua Counties
Jamilyn Makaehu
Southern Tier West Regional Planning and Development Board

Southern Tier
For Broome, Chenango, Delaware, Tioga, and Tompkins Counties
Ashley Seyfried
Southern Tier 8

For Chemung County
Jack Cook
Southern Tier Central Regional Planning and Development Board

For Steuben County
Jack Cook
Southern Tier Central Regional Planning and Development Board

Finger Lakes
Rachel Scudder
Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council

Central New York
Mike Boccuzzi
Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board

North Country
Carlie Leary
Adirondack North Country Association

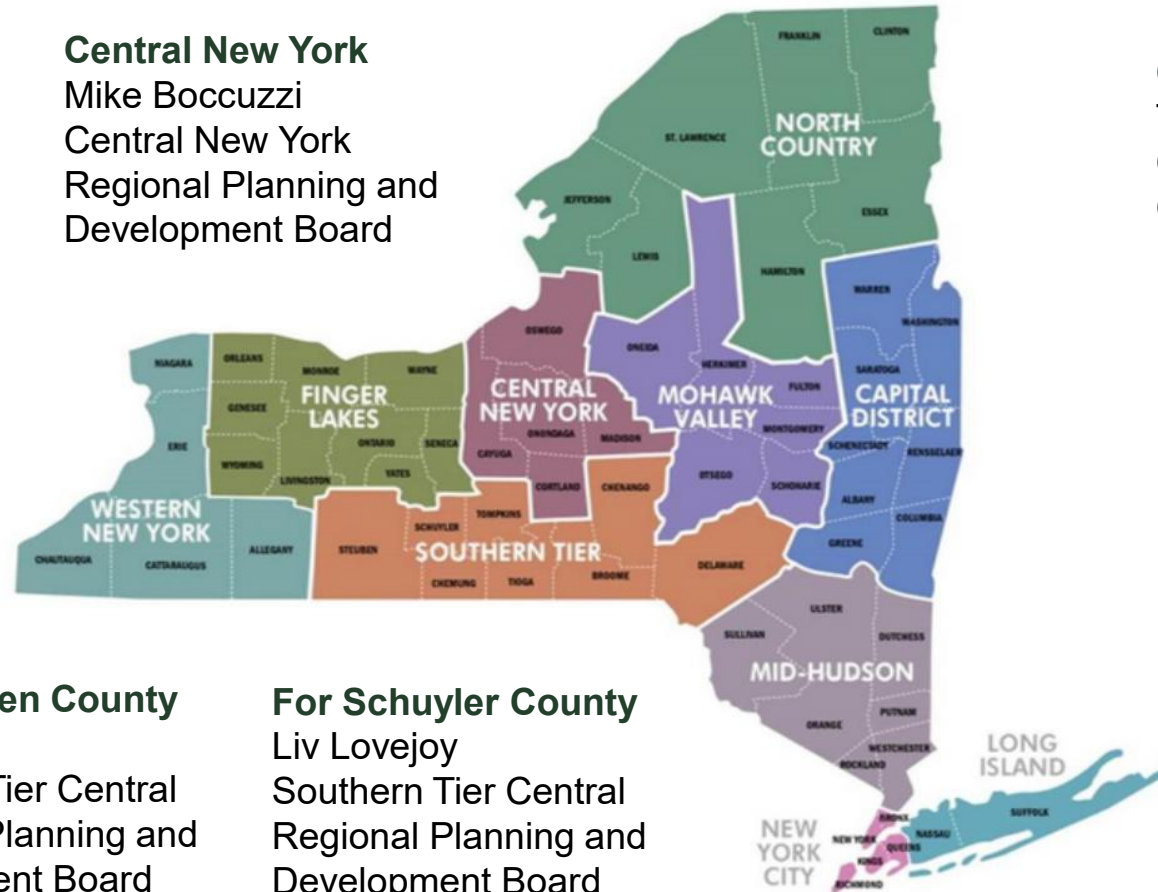
Mohawk Valley
Amanda Whalen
Mohawk Valley Economic Development District

Capital Region
Tara Donadio
Capital District Regional Planning Commission

Mid-Hudson
Eleanor Peck
Hudson Valley Regional Council

Long Island
Sarah Oral
IMEG (formerly Cameron Engineering)

New York City
Jeanette Castillo
NYC Mayor's Office of Climate and Environmental Justice/Solar One



Climate Smart Communities: Regional Coordinators

Climate Smart Communities

AboutActions & CertificationSupport

SIGN IN

> About

> Actions & Certification

> Support

CSC Coordinators

CSC Scorecard

Regional Greenhouse Gas Inventories in NYS

Webinar Presentation Archive

Find a Coordinator in Your Region

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WESTERN NEW YORK
FINGER LAKES
CENTRAL NEW YORK
SOUTHERN TIER
MOHAWK VALLEY
CAPITAL DISTRICT
NORTH COUNTRY
MID-HUDSON
LONG ISLAND
NEW YORK CITY

- **Free guidance, technical assistance** for local governments and their partners. Coordinators conduct outreach, planning, education, and capacity building.
- Contact climatesmart@dec.ny.gov.



Coordinator
website



FEASIBILITY STUDIES

- Study feasibility of solutions specific to an impacted area (including assessing the impacts and developing / sizing designs)
- Complete 20% / 30% engineering and design
- Levee recertification studies consistent with FEMA requirements
- Engineering and design for certain HVAC/R replacements



CERTIFICATION
ACTIONS

FEASIBILITY
STUDIES

IMPLEMENTATION
GRANTS

FREE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

- Assess vulnerabilities
- Develop adaptation plans
- Identify strategies

PLANNING
ACTION

DEVELOPING
PROJECTS

- Develop solutions
- Assess feasibility
- Complete engineering, design

- Implement projects
- Document process and success stories

IMPLEMENTING
SOLUTIONS

RECOGNIZING
LEADERS

- Tell your success story
- Earn points toward CSC certification





- **Climate Smart Community Certification Actions**

- Planning, assessments, inventories that align with CSC certification actions
- Maximum award \$200,000

- **Implementation Projects - Adaptation and Mitigation**

- Alternative transportation, refrigerant management, composting facilities
- Natural resilience projects, relocation of critical facilities
- Maximum award \$2,000,000

- **Engineering feasibility studies**

- Study impacts on specific areas (e.g., flooding, extreme heat)
- Complete engineering design of adaptation projects
- Also includes dam repair, levee recertification, HVAC/R system replacement

NEWLY EXPANDED ELIGIBILITY



*CSC grant
website*



DEC Municipal Zero-emission Vehicle (ZEV) Program

- **Vehicle Rebates**

- For purchase of ZEVs - *for fleet use*.
- Light-duty and medium-duty vehicles eligible.

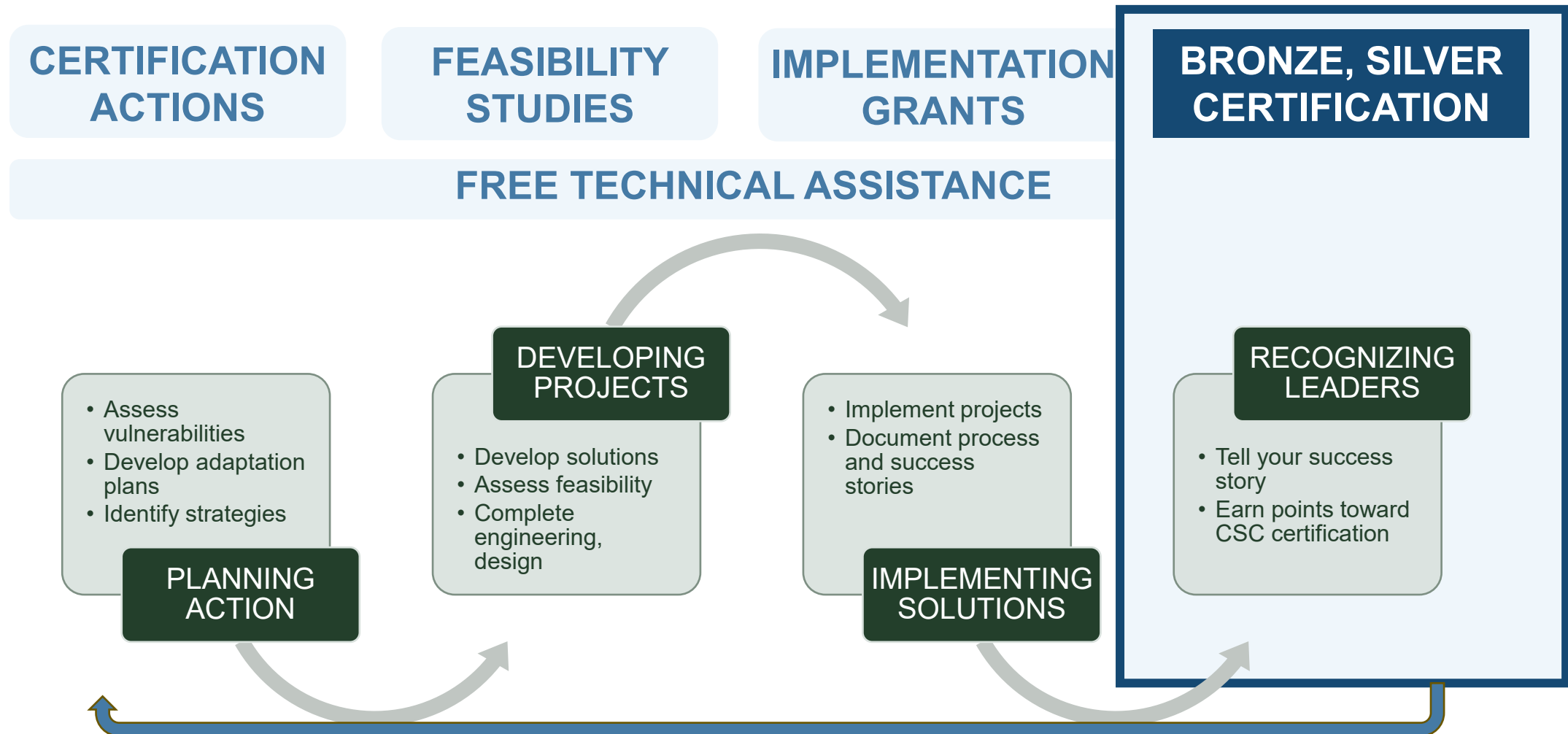
- **Infrastructure Grants for Charging/Fueling Stations**

- For Level 2 and DCFC EV chargers and for hydrogen fueling stations - *for public use*.
- Covers 80% - 100% of the cost up to \$250k per site. For sites located in disadvantaged community census tracts the maximum is \$300k.



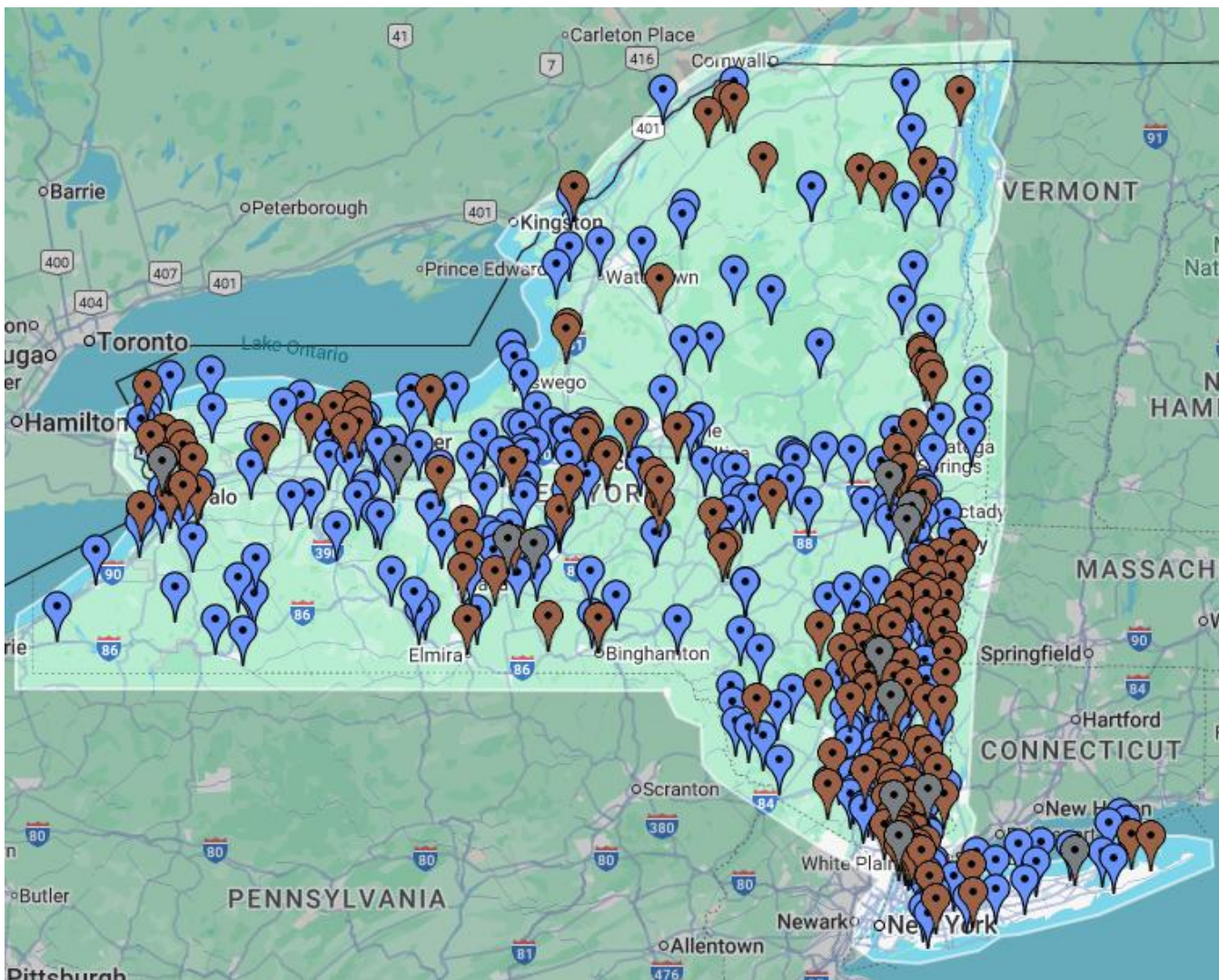


FROM FORMULATING STRATEGIES TO IMPLEMENTING SOLUTIONS





Certification Program



- **Registered**

- 479 local governments have taken the CSC pledge (blue pins on map)
- 92% of NYS population (17.9 million people)

- **Certified**

- Leaders who have documented progress
- 192 communities certified; thousands of actions taken

CSC
website



Leo Matteo Bachinger

New York State DEC

Office of Climate Change

Leo.Bachinger@dec.ny.gov



**Department of
Environmental
Conservation**

Visit dec.ny.gov to learn more about DEC's work across the state.

Scan the QR code to visit the NYSARP webpage.

Questions about NYSARP: NYSAdaptPlan@dec.ny.gov





Department of State
Planning, Development
& Community Infrastructure

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF STATE RESILIENCE INITIATIVES



STRENGTHENING RESILIENCE

OCTOBER 27, 2026

TODAY'S PRESENTER



JAYME BRESCHARD

Director
Resilience & Community
Infrastructure

HOW OPDCI SUPPORTS COMMUNITIES

Increasing resilience & sustainable growth in New York communities



LAND USE

Guide sustainable growth



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Community-drive solutions



PARTNERSHIPS

Connect people and resources



PLANNING

Plans that reach implementation



EQUITY and ENGAGEMENT

Every community at the table



SUSTAINABLE GROWTH

Build long-term resilience

BUILDING RESILIENCE INTO COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



BROWNFIELD OPPORTUNITY AREAS

Turning vacant and underused sites into community assets



SMART GROWTH

Growth directed to existing centers and infrastructure



DRI & NY FORWARD

Downtown revitalization investment in cities & villages



WITHSTAND

Stand up to extreme events and other risks



RECOVER

Restore social, economic and ecological systems



ADAPT

Keep adapting as conditions change

COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Program funding is available through the NYS Consolidated Funding Application



**LOCAL WATERFRONT
REVITALIZATION**



**STATE COASTAL
MANAGEMENT**



LONG ISLAND SOUND



**COASTAL CONSISTENCY
REVIEW**



**SOUTH SHORE ESTUARY
RESERVE**

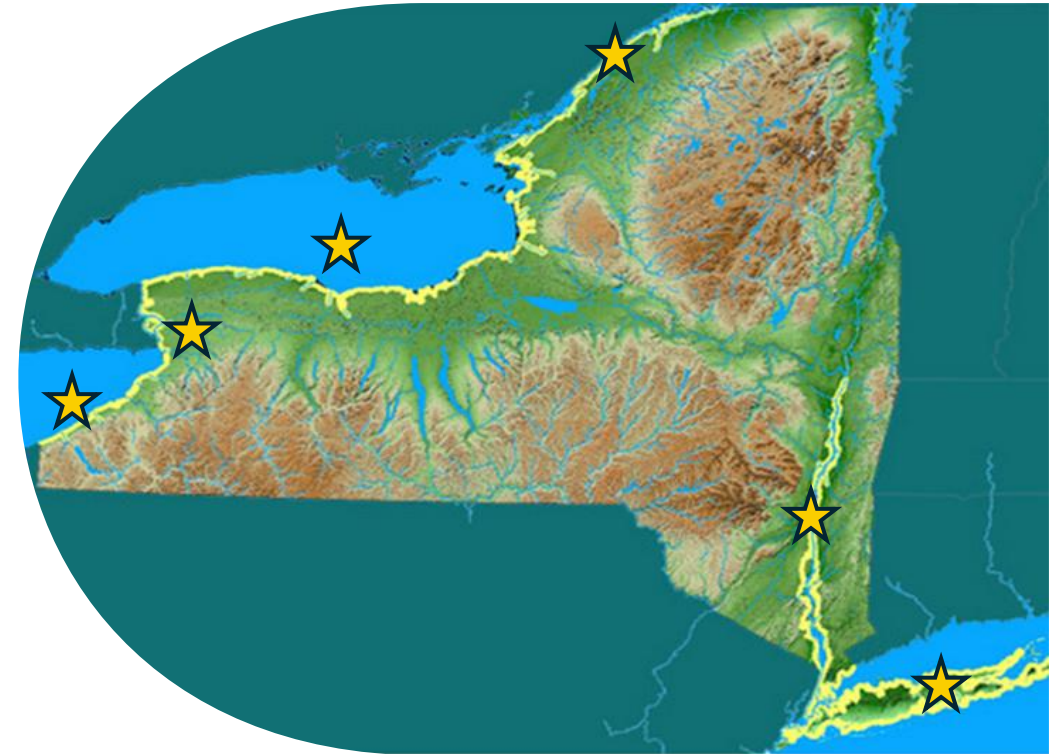


OCEAN & GREAT LAKES

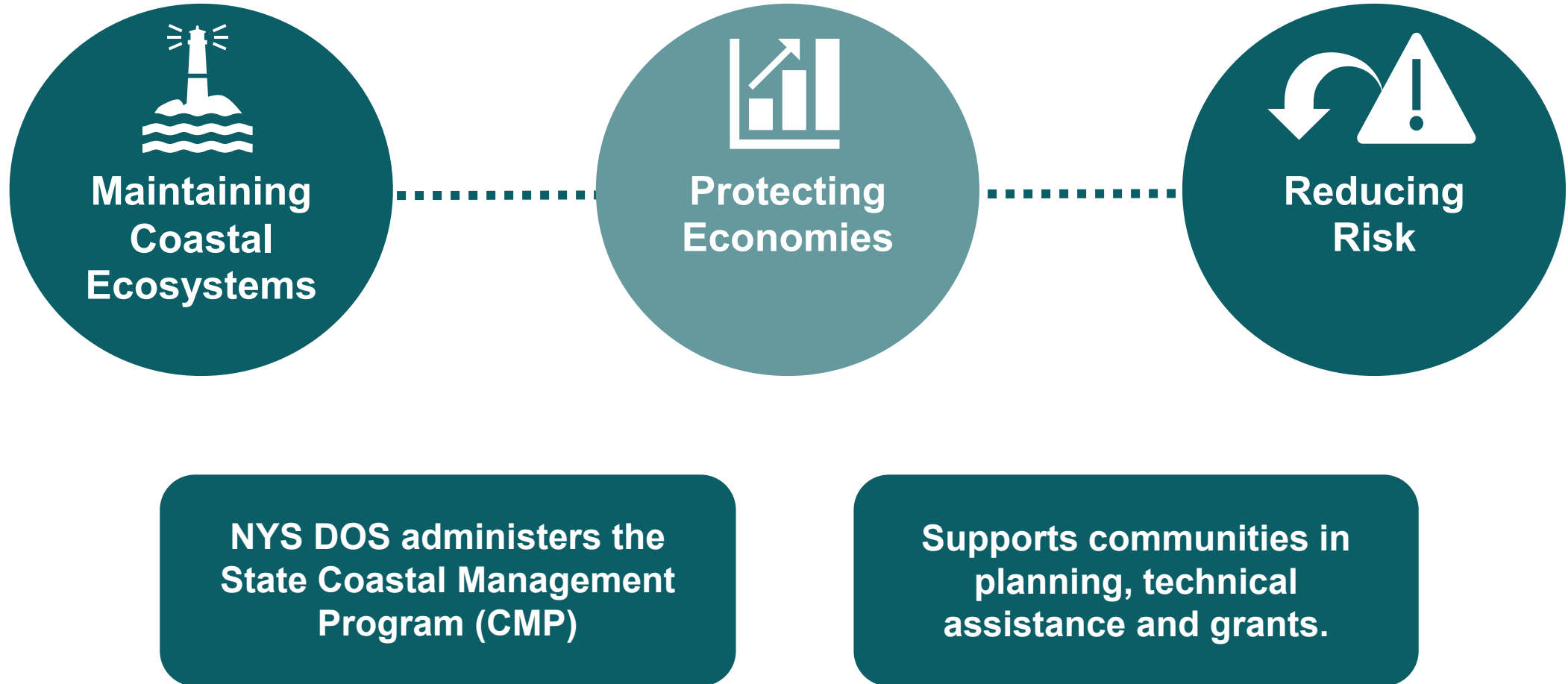
Technical assistance & funding for waterfront & coastal communities Statewide

NYS COASTAL AREAS

- **All tidal waters** (including Hudson River up to Troy)
- **Lake Erie and Lake Ontario**
- **St. Lawrence and Niagara Rivers**



DOS COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM FOCUS AREAS

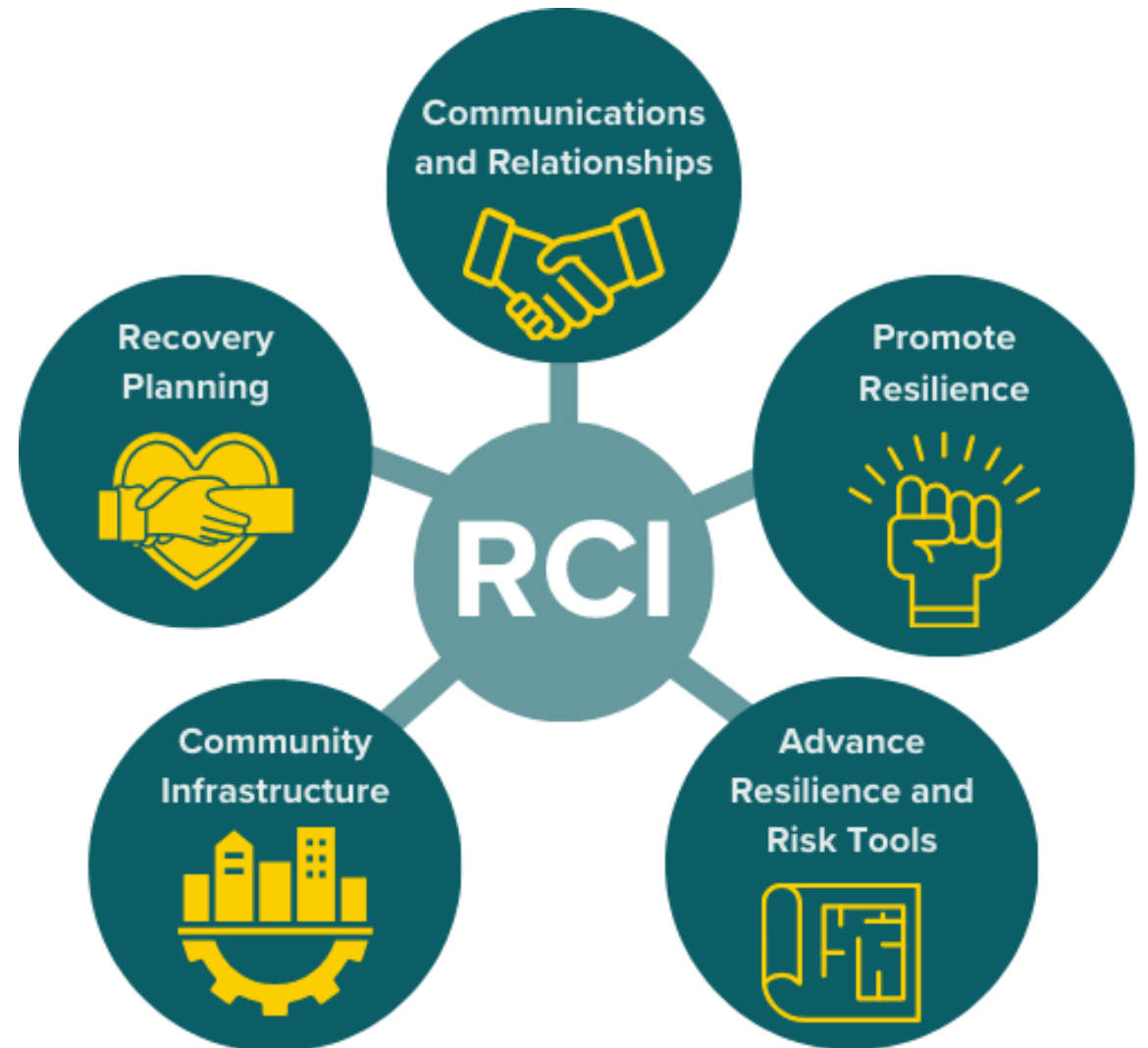


INTEGRATING RESILIENCE ACROSS OUR WORK

Integrate resilience into planning, projects and funding

Support programs with tools, data and technical input

Strengthen coordination across OPDCI and its partners



PROGRAMS SUPPORTING COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

LWRP

Local Waterfront
Revitalization
Program



dos.ny.gov/local-waterfront-revitalization-program

CRISP

Countywide
Resilience
Implementation
Strategy Program



dos.ny.gov/countywide-resilience-implementation-strategy-program

ENVIRONMENTAL BOND ACT

Community
Resilience and Flood
Risk Reduction
Grants Program



environmentalbondact.ny.gov

COUNTYWIDE RESILIENCE IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY PROGRAM

- **Countywide Resilience Implementation Strategy Program (CRISP)** funding available: \$1,000,000
- Maximum award: \$250,000
- Match requirement: 10%
- **Purpose:** Help counties develop actionable resilience strategies and advance priority projects toward implementation
- **Outcome:** A practical roadmap that prepares projects for future investment and funding



COMMUNITY RESILIENCE AND FLOOD RISK REDUCTION GRANTS

- **NYS Environmental Bond Act Project types:**
 - **Coastal Rehabilitation & Resilience Projects**
 - **Inland Flooding & Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (LWRP) Implementation Projects**
- **Purpose:** Help communities stabilize shorelines and manage coastal erosion; upgrade local infrastructure to withstand severe storms; transform and protect community waterfront assets
- **Outcome:** Long-term community resilience, enhanced public safety, and restored natural ecosystems



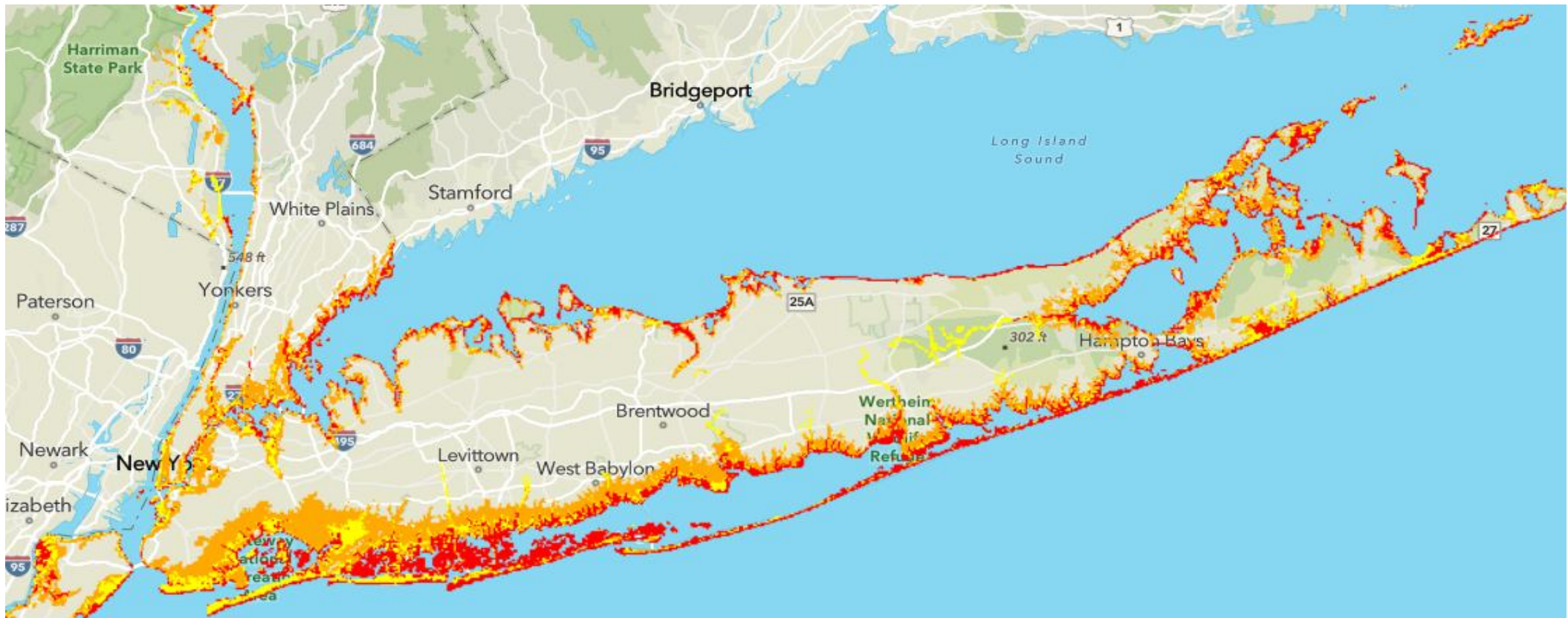
USING RISK TO GUIDE DECISIONS

$$\text{Hazard} \times \text{Exposure} \times \text{Vulnerability} = \text{Risk}$$

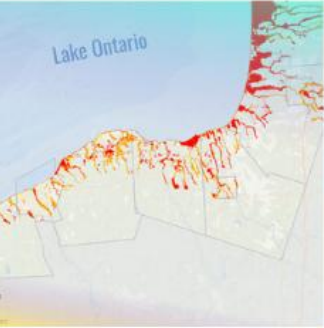
Identifies what's most at risk

Helps prioritize actions

Supports better decisions



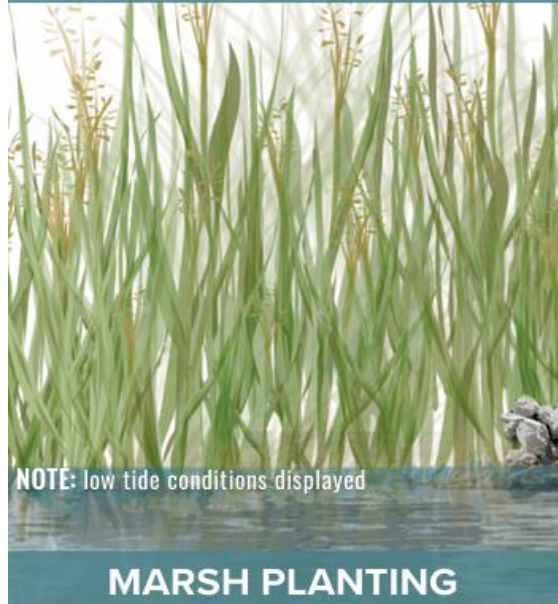
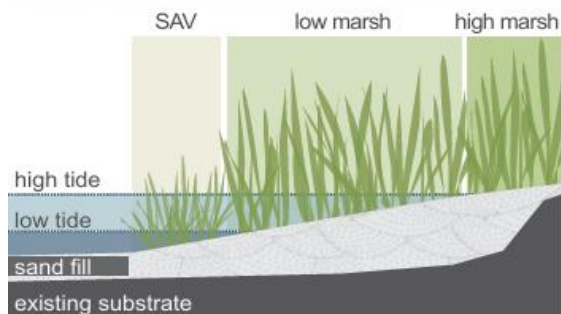
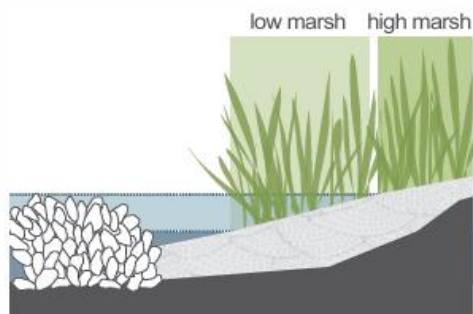
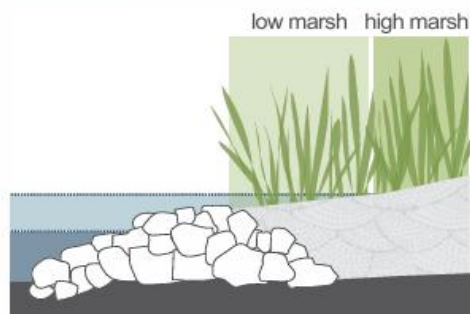
7 RESILIENCE PRINCIPLES FOR NEW YORK COMMUNITIES

						
						
Know your risks so you can avoid and reduce them	Maintain capacity to adapt to changing conditions	Seek solutions that deliver multiple benefits and advance multiple goals	Let nature do the work by protecting and restoring natural systems	Use multiple, complementary measures so if one fails, others continue to protect	Share costs and benefits equitably across communities and generations	Make inclusive and transparent decision through meaningful engagement

ALL PRINCIPLES WORK TOGETHER TO BUILD RESILIENCE

NATURAL & NATURE-BASED APPROACHES TO RESILIENCE

LIVING SHORELINE EXAMPLES FOR TIDAL NEW YORK COMMUNITIES

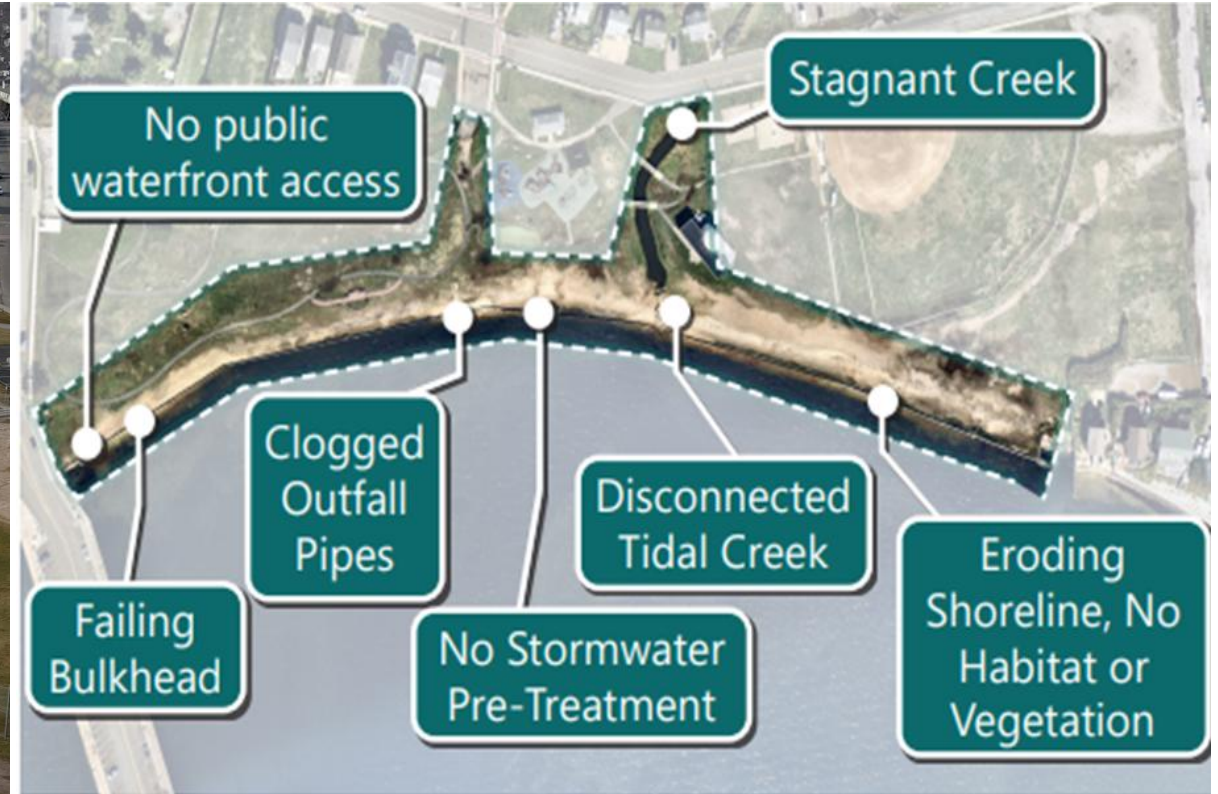


Learn more about living shorelines



opdgig.dos.ny.gov/apps/45466e6f0c344887b5f43ba91909bae3/explore

UNDERSTANDING THE CHALLENGE



Patchogue, Long Island



PUTTING RESILIENCE INTO PRACTICE

- **Understand Risk**

- Planning tools and resource
- Downstate Coastal Asset Inventory and Risk Assessment Tool
- Risk Maps

- **Plan and Prioritize**

- Dedicated staff and technical assistance
- In-person learning sessions

- **Move Projects Forward**

- Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (LWRP)
- Countywide Resilience Implementation Strategy Program (CRISP)
- Bond Act





Department of State

Planning, Development & Community Infrastructure



Beyond the Hazard Mitigation Plan

Tracking and advancing resilience actions with MitigateNY



Hazard mitigation planning turns risk into action.

A recurring, locally driven process to understand vulnerabilities, choose priorities, and reduce future losses.

01

UNDERSTAND

People, places and local conditions

02

IDENTIFY

Hazards, assets and vulnerabilities

03

ASSESS

Risk, capacity and constraints

04

PRIORITIZE

Mitigation strategies and actions

05

MAINTAIN

Progress between plan updates

1

STATE HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

Shared statewide risk and mitigation framework.

58

COUNTY PLANNING PROCESSES

Multi-jurisdictional planning with local participation.

1,500+

LOCAL JURISDICTIONS

Cities, towns, villages, and other planning partners.

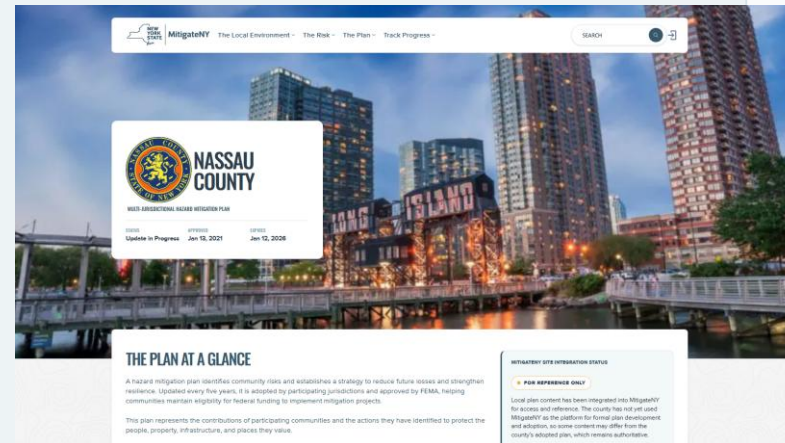
Federally required, updated every five years, and useful every year in between.

MitigateNY makes planning information easier to use.

One connected home for the State plan, county plans, shared data, built-in guidance, and actions.

STATE HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN + COMMON DATA

Reusable content • county-filtered analysis • embedded guidance



A STRONGER STARTING POINT

≈60% of required sub-elements

Shared, base content substantially addresses approximately 60% of requirements before local customization.

- Requirements mapped into the plan
- Common analysis supplied upfront
- Guidance at the point of work

Your community's needs belong in the plan.

Explore the four chapters on your county site. Shared state information is the starting point, local experience gives it meaning.

01 The Local Environment
Built, natural, and social conditions that shape

02 The Risk
Hazards, exposure, and the assets and people at risk.

03 The Plan
Local strategies, capabilities, and jurisdictional priorities.

04 Track Progress
Mitigation actions, implementation status, and changing

WHAT LOCAL PARTNERS KNOW

- Recurring flooding, erosion, or access at specific locations
- Who and what is affected, including natural systems and vulnerable groups
- Existing projects, community priorities, partners already doing the work

County-led plans are strongest when community partners help identify gaps and opportunities.

Actions are where the plan becomes usable

We already have roughly 16,000 mitigation actions in a common system. The next step is to make those records easier to refine, compare, prioritize, and advance.

~16k

MITIGATION ACTIONS

already collected
in a common system

An action is more
than a line in an
appendix.

The screenshot displays the MitigateNY interface for a specific mitigation action. The header includes navigation tabs: 'The Local Environment', 'The Risk', 'The Plan', and 'Track Progress' (which is active). The main title is 'DELAWARE (TOWN) | KOHLERTOWN ROUTE 52, CULVERT ISSUES'. Below the title, there are filters for 'In Progress' and 'Jurisdictional priority: High'. The record is categorized as 'LOCAL PLAN' and 'Sullivan County Actions / Jurisdictions / Delaware (Town) / Action'. The 'THE PROBLEM' section describes severe flooding on State Route 52 due to culvert issues. The 'THE SOLUTION' section outlines the plan to replace culverts and increase stormwater drainage capacity. The 'ALTERNATIVE CONSIDERED' section lists 'Elevate roads' as rejected due to cost prohibitive. The 'COST & BENEFIT EVALUATION' section shows a cost range of \$50,000 - \$150,000 and a 'Yes' for costs reasonable vs. benefits. The 'GOALS & COMMUNITY IMPACT' section lists various goals and their status (e.g., 'Adapts to climate change' is 'No', 'Mitigates climate change / reduces GHGs' is 'No', 'Protects or assesses risk to vulnerable populations' is 'Yes', 'Supports potential Community Rating System (CRS) points' is 'Yes', 'Aligns with a Climate Smart Communities action' is 'Yes', 'Environmental / historic preservation concerns' is 'Yes'). The 'KEY FACTS' section includes lead agency (Highway Department), cost range (\$50,000 - \$150,000), time to implement (2 - 4 years), potential funding (FEMA HMA, CHIPS, NYS DOT, County Budget, Town Budget), planning mechanism (Not disclosed), hazard (Flooding), type of work (Community Infrastructure), associated risk environment (Not Reported), jurisdictional priority (High), application readiness (Not Yet Assessed), project maturity (Not Yet Assessed), critical facility (Yes), culvert (Yes), RL/SRL (No), location (No site coordinate recorded), and action record (Created 1 Mar 2021, Status updated 1 May 2026, Plan source Local (LHMP), In the last HMP Yes). The bottom of the record shows 'Show 16 empty fields' and 'Fill them in'.

WHAT THE RECORD CARRIES

PROBLEM + SOLUTION

What is happening, and what is proposed?

COST + READINESS

Cost, timeline, funding, maturity, application readiness.

OWNERSHIP + PRIORITY

Lead, geography, jurisdictional priority, status, and provenance.

COMMUNITY IMPACT + OPPORTUNITY

Priority action types, resilience benefits, funding/program alignment, CRS potential.

Refinement turns an action into something a community can advance, and partners can see and support.

Live Demo

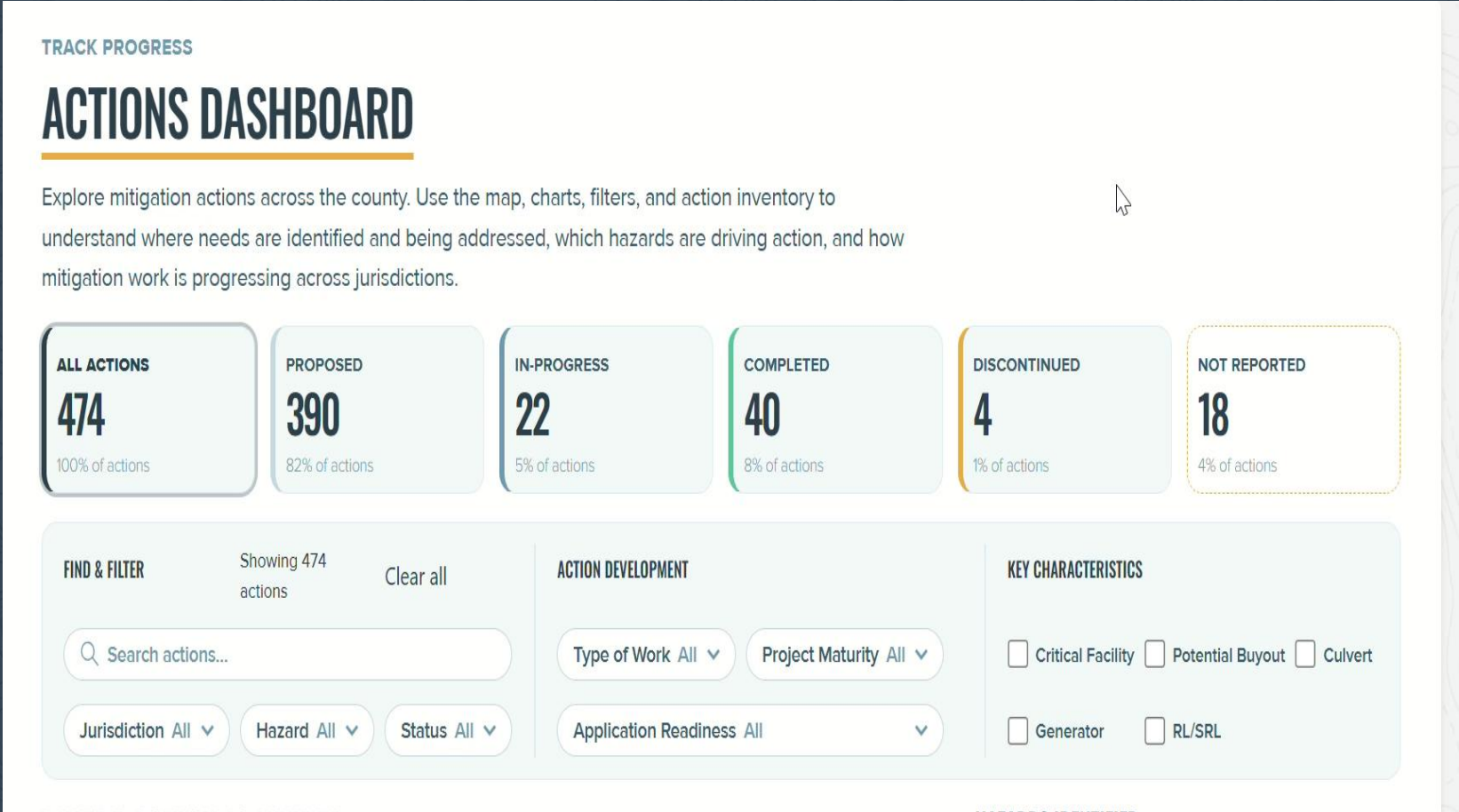
Site Integration & Action Tracking

Dashboard

Filters

Action Details

County Prioritization



Statewide visibility means earlier support

When needs are described consistently, patterns show up early enough for DHSES and partners to act.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

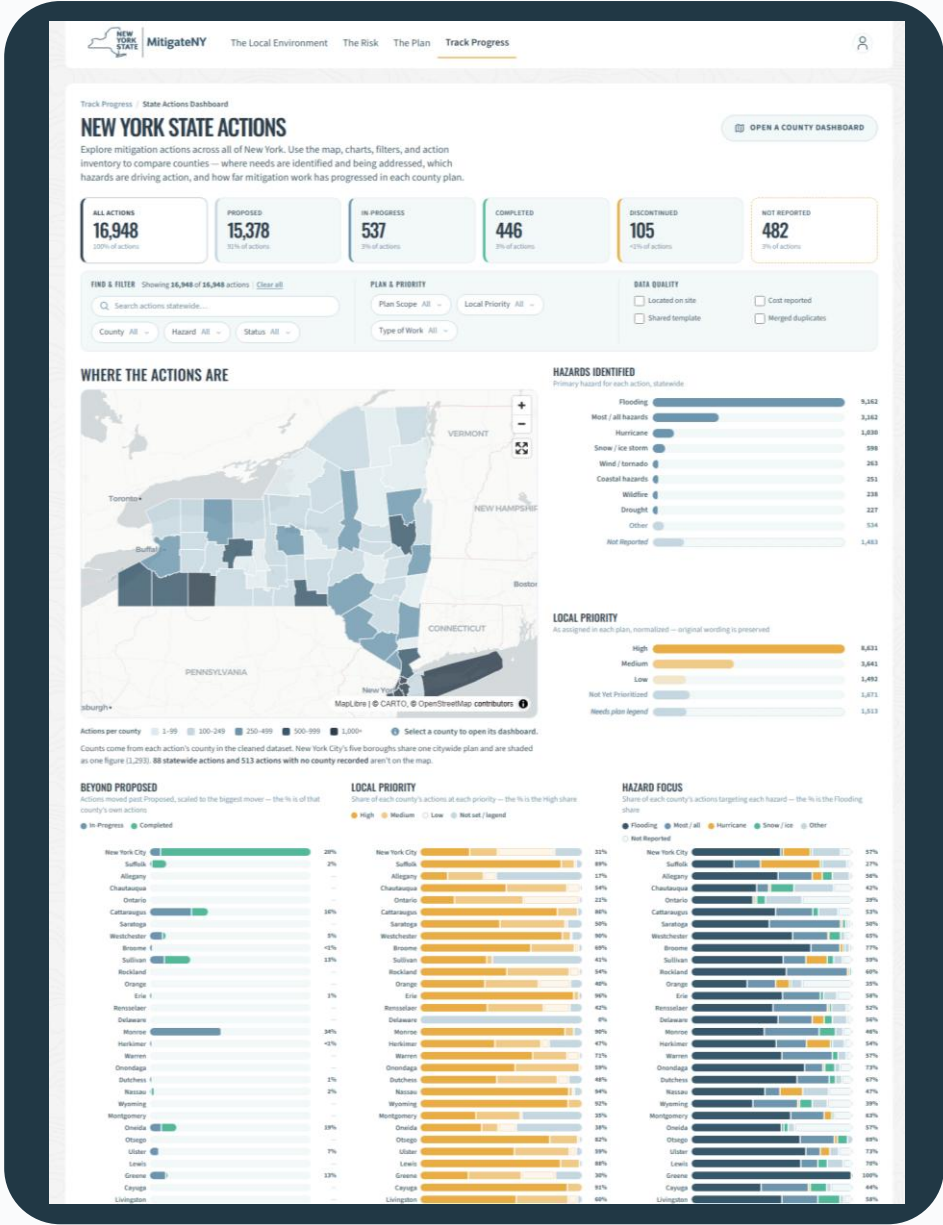
Help scope or mature a project before the next funding opportunity.

FUNDING ALIGNMENT

Match real demand to the right program, partner, or funding window.

COMMON BARRIERS

See where many communities are stuck on the same thing and coordinate a response.



Make your plans and proposals visible.

Start with your actions. Keep them current. Use MitigateNY to turn required planning into a working portfolio.



GO TO: [COUNTY].hazardmitigation.ny.gov

Navigate: Track Progress → Actions Dashboard

REVIEW Review the actions already in your plan.

REQUEST ACCESS Contact your county or local hazard mitigation representative to get access.

REFINE & PRIORITIZE Add new actions, refine what's there, establish priorities.

Visit the State Hazard Mitigation Plan:
<https://hazardmitigation.ny.gov/>

General MitigateNY Inquiries:
mitigateny@dhses.ny.gov

Corrina Cavallo · Deputy Chief, Hazard Mitigation
corrina.cavallo@dhses.ny.gov

Eric Krans · Program Manager, AVAIL
ekrans@albany.edu



LONG ISLAND SOUND
PARTNERSHIP

New York State Agency Updates Q & A

- ❖ **Suzanna Randall**, Chief Resiliency Officer, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
- ❖ **Leo Bachinger**, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation Office of Climate Change
- ❖ **Jayme Breschard**, NYS Department of State
- ❖ **Corrina Cavallo**, NYS Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services



LONG ISLAND SOUND
PARTNERSHIP



Buyouts & Conservation Easements





Department of
Environmental
Conservation

NYSDEC Land Acquisitions in the LIS Watershed

Cassie Bauer, Division of Marine Resources

Long Island Sound Coastal Resilience Forum
October 27th, 2026

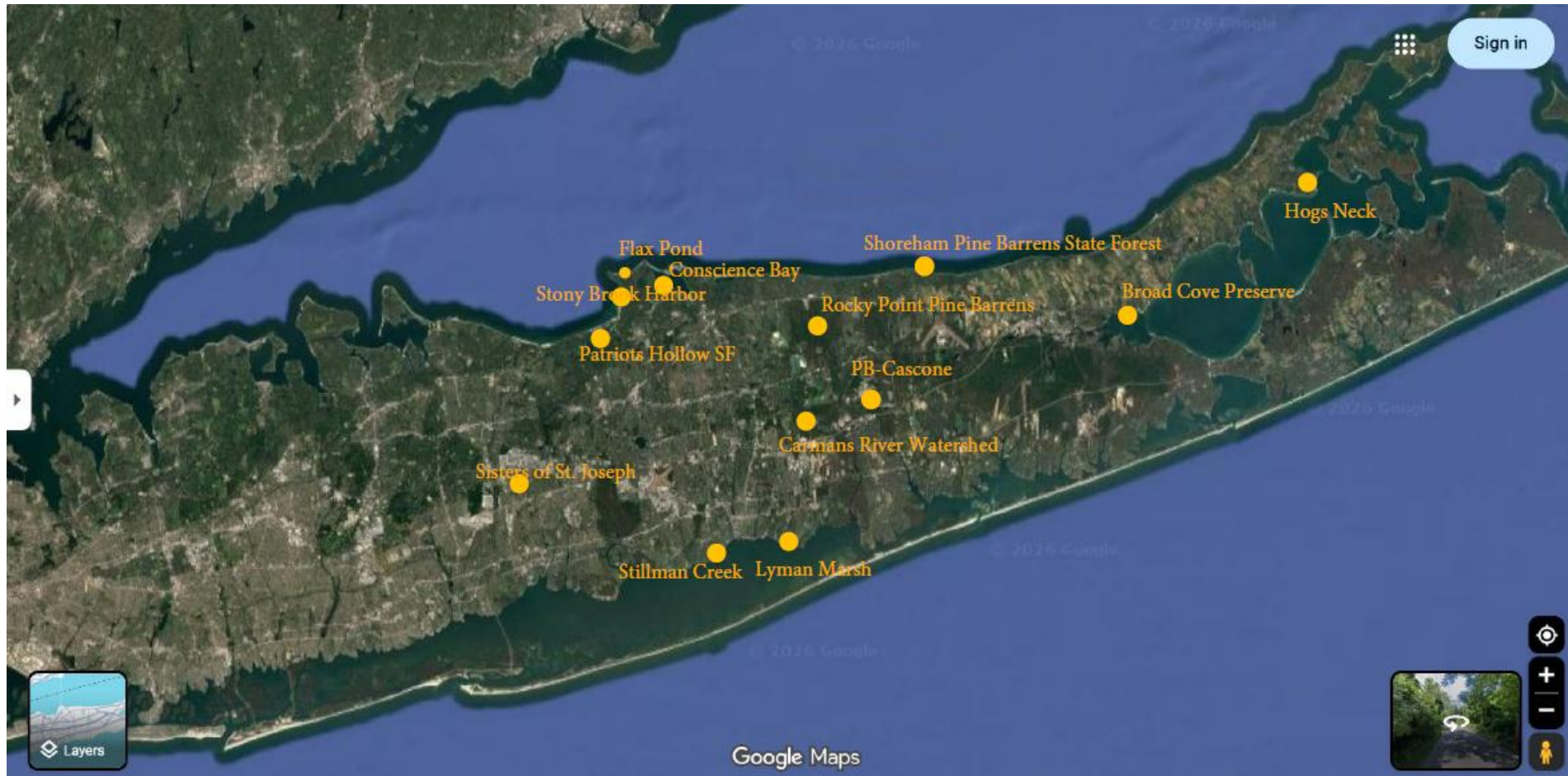
Benefits to Open Space Conservation

- Clean Air and Water
- Wildlife Habitat Protection
- Climate Resilience
- Public Access
- Scenic, Historic, and Cultural Resources Protection



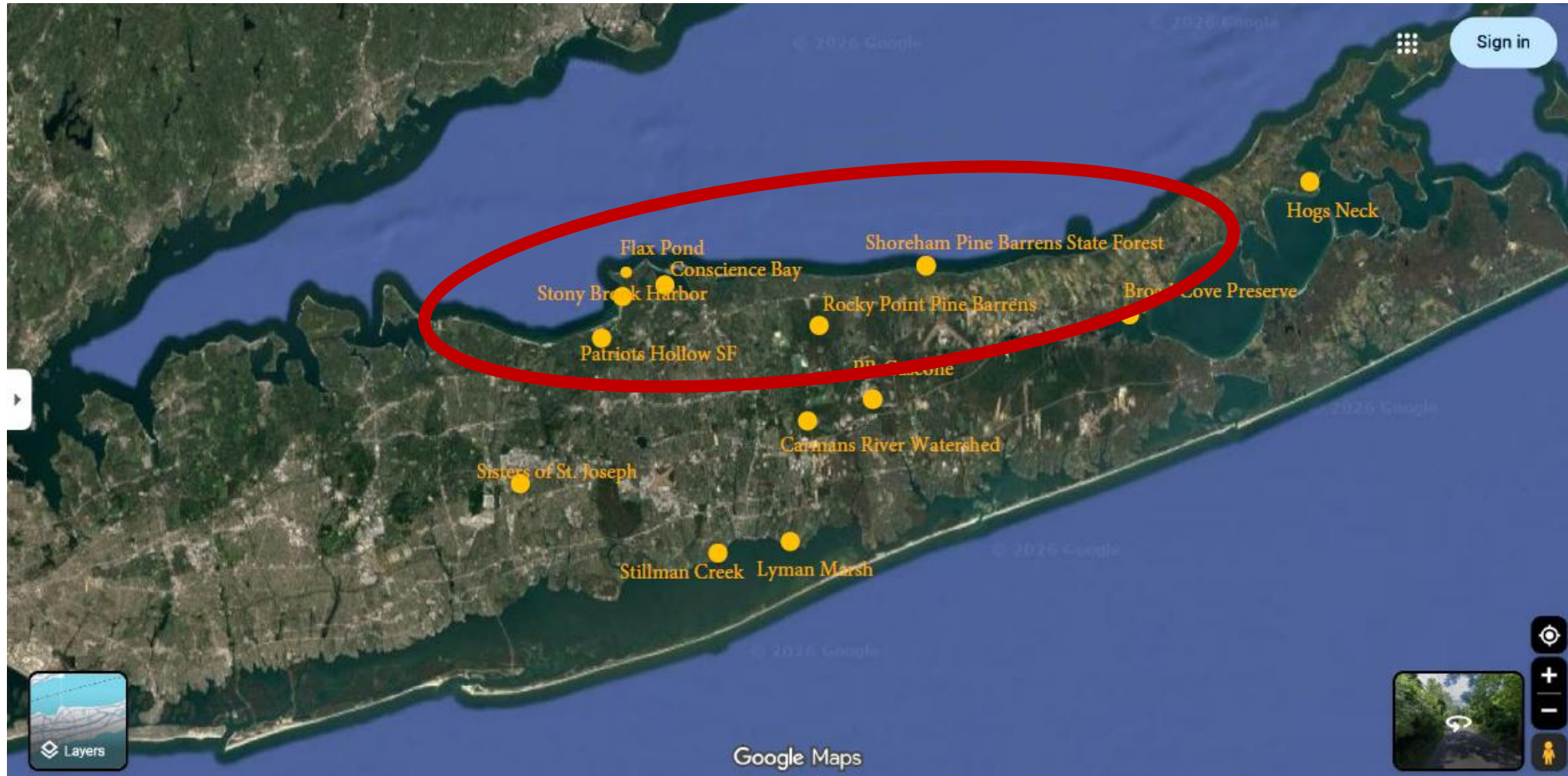
NYSDEC Land Acquisitions

Since 2016, NYSDEC has invested nearly \$60 million to acquire over 1,000 acres of property on Long Island.



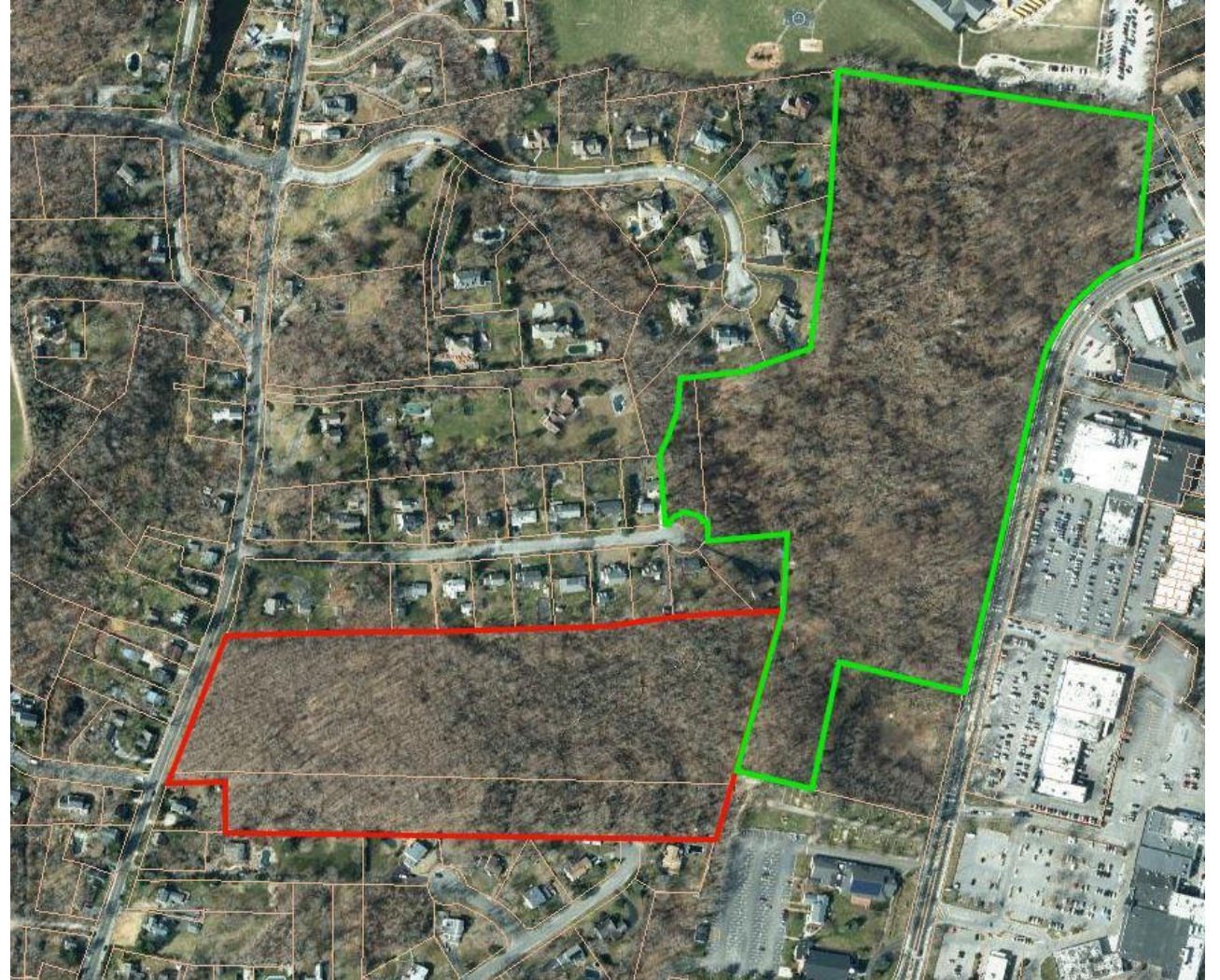
NYSDEC Land Acquisitions

NYSDEC Acquisitions in the LIS Watershed since 2016: 800 acres for \$40 million



Patriots Hollow State Forest

- Location: Setauket
- In 2017, NYSDEC added 17 acres to the Patriot Hollow State Forest.
- Residentially zoned; preservation prevents surface and groundwater contamination from draining to the Long Island Sound.



Stony Brook Harbor Acquisitions

- Location: East Long Beach Rd, Village of Nissequogue
- NYSDEC acquired 3 properties between 2019-2021
- Added 5.5 acres to the Stony Brook Harbor Tidal Wetland Complex
- Acquisitions provide water quality, tidal wetland, and coastal habitat protection



Flax Pond - Copeland Property

- Location: Village of Old Field
- Added 6 acres and 300ft of shoreline to the Flax Pond State Tidal Wetland Area
- Once slated for development; preservation protects coastal water quality and habitat



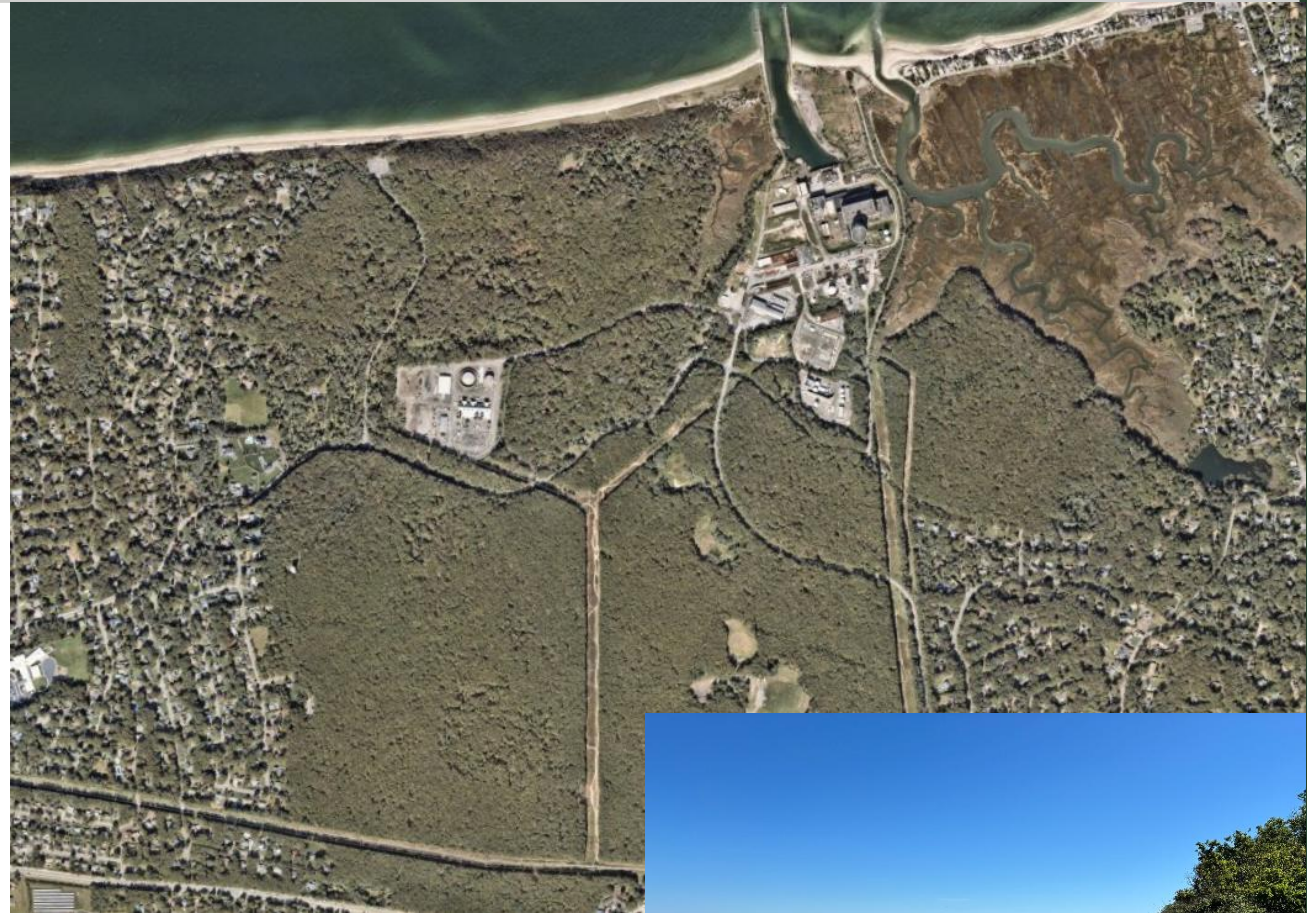
Conscience Bay – Little Bay Tidal Wetland Area

- Location: East Setauket
- Added over 15 acres through 5 property acquisitions
- Improved public access and habitat



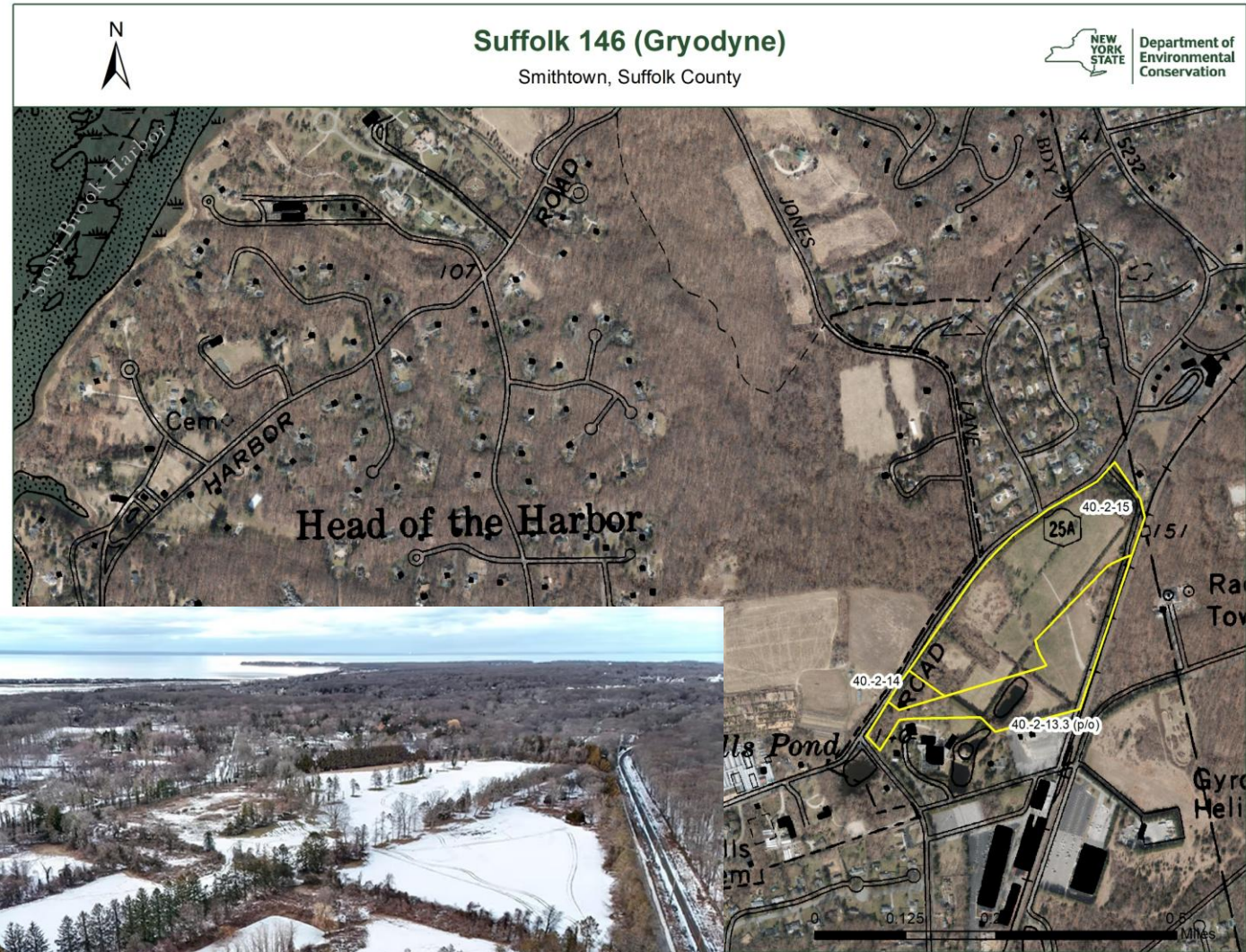
Shoreham Pine Barrens State Forest

- Location: Shoreham/Wading River
- Acquired 748 acres in Oct 2026
- DEC's largest-ever private acquisition on LI
- Protects one of the largest remaining undeveloped coastal parcels in the LIS watershed, including several hundreds of acres of oak forest, rare pine barrens, and more than 40 acres of tidal wetlands.



Future NYSDEC Acquisition?

- Gyrodyne: 45+/- acre open field located in the village of St. James.
- Several proposals to develop the property
- DEC has been in actively pursuing this property since 2023



Supporting NYS Land Acquisitions

State Funding for Land Acquisitions

Water Quality Improvement Project (WQIP) Program

May 2026



Program Description

The Water Quality Improvement Project (WQIP) program is a competitive, statewide reimbursement grant program that can be used to fund projects that directly improve water quality or habitat, promote flood risk reduction, restoration, and enhanced flood and climate resiliency, or protect a drinking water source. Funding is for construction and implementation projects, not for those that are exclusively for planning. Maximum funding awards vary by project type. Program priorities and requirements are also subject to change from year to year. The typical annual funding available for the WQIP program is at least \$75 million.

Application Details

- Apply through the Regional Economic Development Council Consolidated Funding Application at <https://on.ny.gov/cfa>.
- Submit applications by 4:00 p.m. on July 31, 2026.

Eligible Applicants

- Municipalities, including Indian Nations and municipal corporations (ECL §56-0101)
- Soil and Water Conservation Districts
- 501(c)(3) Not-for-profit corporations (land acquisition for source water protection; dam safety repair, rehabilitation, and dam removal; aquatic connectivity, marine district habitat restoration; and fish and wildlife habitat restoration and enhancement project types only)

Eligible Project Types and Activities

Wastewater Treatment Improvement

Priority Projects

- Wastewater effluent disinfection for facilities that currently do not have any disinfection.
- Upgrades to municipal systems to meet a DEC-approved watershed implementation plan's (i.e., Total Maximum Daily Load plan, Nine Element Watershed Management Plan, Harmful Algal Bloom Action Plan, or DEC Action Agenda) nutrient requirements (primarily phosphorus).
- Combined sewer overflow/sanitary sewer overflow (CSO/SSO) projects to upgrade systems to meet CSO or SSO discharge requirements.
- Municipal systems to serve multiple properties with inadequate on-site septic systems.

General Wastewater Treatment Improvement

- All other wastewater treatment projects

Non-Agricultural Nonpoint Source Abatement and Control

- Decentralized wastewater treatment facilities
- Green infrastructure practices
- Stormwater retrofits
- Streambank and shoreline stabilization
- Riparian buffers
- In-waterbody controls for nutrients
- Bathing beach restoration
- Stream culvert repair and replacement
- Programs to implement nonpoint source management within a defined geographic area

For more information, or to sign up for email updates from NYSDEC, visit dec.ny.gov

NYS Open Space Conservation Plan



CONSERVING OPEN SPACE IN NEW YORK STATE

NEW YORK STATE OPEN SPACE
CONSERVATION PLAN

SUMMARY | 2016



Thank you!

cassandra.bauer@dec.ny.gov

...and come check out our table at the Tools Café!

NYSDEC LIS Public Access Map



NYSDEC Living Shoreline Map





Department of Environmental Conservation



**Homes and
Community Renewal**

Office of Resilient Homes
and Communities

Blue Buffers

Voluntary Flood-Prone Property Buyout Program

October 2026

Rachel Wieder

Deputy Commissioner

New York State Office of Resilient Homes and Communities

NYS Office of Resilient Homes and Communities (RHC)

- Created in 2013 following Superstorm Sandy as Governor's Office of Storm Recovery (GOSR)
- Now a permanent agency within Homes and Community Renewal (HCR)
- Managed \$4.7B in CDBD-DR grants, including for buyout and acquisition of 1,289 properties
- Administers state-funded programs such as Blue Buffers, Resilient Retrofits, and Rapid Response

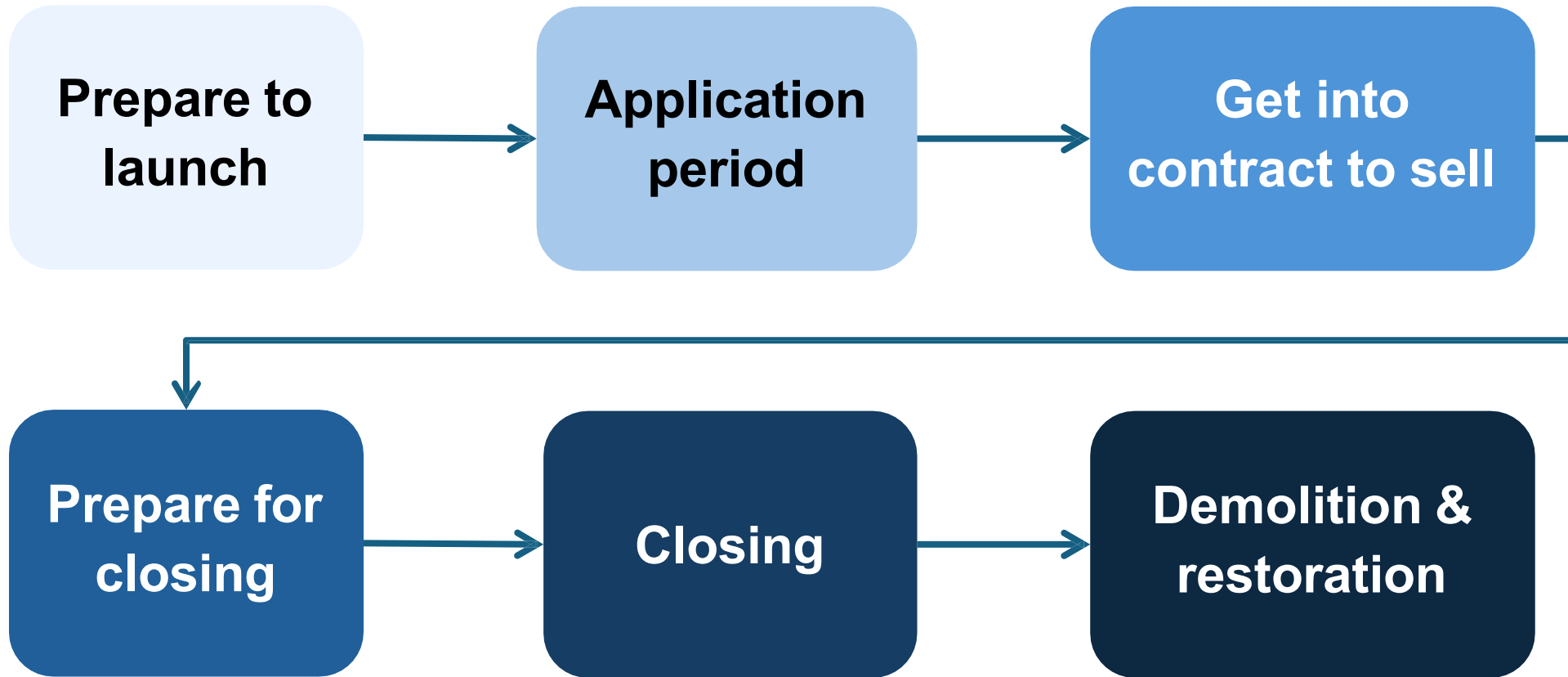




About Blue Buffers

- \$250 million statewide voluntary flood-prone property buyout program
- Part of \$1.1B in flood-risk reduction programming in the 2022 NYS Environmental Bond Act
- Funds purchase and demolition of properties at high risk of flooding from willing sellers
- Local government or designated nonprofit owns and maintains acquired land to facilitate beneficial open space, flood mitigation, and/or shoreline stabilization

Program Timeline



Wrap-Around Support



Case management

End-to-end support for owners and tenants



Closing support

No-cost legal assistance to address title issues; access to **closing attorney**



Relocation support

- Relocation counseling and planning support available
- Pre-purchase counseling referral



Tenant financial assistance

Moving Stipend or Relocation Award, depending on move-out timeline

Local Government Participation

For a community to be eligible, it must not have majority second homes, and its median home value must be within <130% of the county median. The Program does not set home value or income caps for individual participants.

Pathway #1: Invitation to Participate

Selected based on prioritization criteria, including DAC status, residential areas within 100-year floodplain, and Repetitive and Severe Repetitive Losses

Pathway #2: Application to Participate

RHC will issue a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA), inviting local units of government across NYS to apply to participate



Questions?

For more information:

- Visit **bluebuffers.org** for our full Program Policy Guide
- Email bluebuffers@hcr.ny.gov



NRCS Conservation Easement Programs

Tuesday, October 27, 2026

Oscar Vélez-Juarbe
District Conservationist



Natural
Resources
Conservation
Service

nrcs.usda.gov/

What is NRCS?

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is an agency within the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) that helps farmers, ranchers, and private landowners protect and conserve natural resources like soil, water, air, and wildlife.

- NRCS provides technical and financial assistance for the implementation of conservation practices.
- Establish and maintain technical standards for conservation practices for ourselves and cooperative agencies.





NRCS Conservation Easement Programs

Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP)

- Helps landowners, land trusts, and other entities protect, restore and enhance wetlands or protect working farms and ranches through conservation easements
- ACEP has 2 components:
 - Agricultural Land Easements (ALE)
 - Wetland Reserve Easements (WRE)



Agricultural Land Easements (ALE)



- Help private and tribal landowners working with land trusts, and other entities such as state and local governments protect croplands and grasslands on working farms and ranches by limiting non-agricultural uses on the land.
- The eligible entity (land trust, local government or tribe) may apply for up to 50% of the fair market value of the agricultural land easement.
- The landowner needs to meet NRCS eligibility for programs.





Agricultural Land Easements (ALE)

- Eligible land types must meet one of the four following land eligibility criteria:
 - Protect Prime, Unique or Other productive soil (at least 50% of the land)
 - Provide protection of grazing uses and related conservation values
 - Contain historical or archaeological resources
 - Land that furthers a state or local policy consistent with the purposes of ACEP-ALE



Agricultural Land Easements (ALE)



- **Very important**, an eligible entity (land trust or local government) must be identified to submit an application to NRCS and work through the easement process.
A landowner cannot apply for funds
- The entity needs to have an interest in protecting the property in question.
- An entity needs to show they have the funds to enroll the land into an easement at the time of application.
- If they do not, there is an option for advanced payment, and the portion provided by NRCS can be deposited to an escrow account within 30 days of closing.



Agricultural Land Easements (ALE)

- When an application is selected for funding, NRCS enters into a Program agreement and Parcel Contract with the entity.
- Once funds are obligated to the parcel contract, the entity may order an appraisal, draft a conservation easement deed for review by NRCS and all other required documents.
- The entity may close on the easement after receiving approval from NRCS to close.





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Wetland Reserve Easements (WRE)

- NRCS provides technical and financial assistance directly to private landowners and American Indian tribes to restore, enhance, and protect wetlands through the purchase of a wetland reserve easement.
- NRCS pays for all costs associated with recording in the local land records office, including recording fees, charges for abstracts, survey and appraisal fees, and title insurance.





Landowner and Land Eligibility for WRE

- Own their private land for at least 24 months
 - There is a 24-month ownership waiver option that can be approved by the State Conservationist
- Must Comply with adjusted gross income limitation (AGI) provisions.
 - \$900,000
- Must be in compliance with the Highly Erodible Land and Wetland Provisions of the Food Security Act.





Landowner and Land Eligibility for WRE

- Includes land that can be successfully and cost effectively restored to a wetland
- Applications are prioritized based on the easement's potential for protecting and enhancing habitat for migratory birds and other wildlife.





Landowner and Land Eligibility for WRE

- At least 50% of the soils need to be hydric. The other 50% can be non-hydric soils. There are instances where more than 50% of the soils are non-hydric, that will require higher level approval within NRCS.
- Document an agricultural history (if it's a functional wetland, there is no need to enroll into WRE)
- Easement value is determined by either a Geographic Area Rate Cap (GARC) or by individual appraisal.





Enrollment Options WRE

- Permanent Easement
 - These are conservation easements in perpetuity
- NRCS pays 100% of the easement value for the purchase of the easement
- NRCS pays between 75 to 100% of the restoration costs (in my experience, it has been 100%)





Enrollment Options WRE

- 30-Year Easement
 - Expire after 30 years
 - There is an option to roll them over to permanent
- NRCS pays 50 to 75% of the easement value for the purchase of the easement
- NRCS pays between 50 to 75% of the restoration costs (in my experience, it has been 75%)



Enrollment Options WRE



- 30-Year Easement (Example)
 - Easement cost \$100,000, NRCS will only pay 75%, which comes out to \$75,000
 - Restoration cost \$40,000, NRCS will only pay 75%, which comes out to \$30,000. The landowner still needs to put \$10,000 towards the restoration.
 - To ensure the landowner is paying their part of the restoration, NRCS will hold the corresponding 25% of the restoration cost from the easement cost. In this case, the LO will only receive \$65,000 for the easement.



Enrollment Options WRE



- 30-Year Contracts
 - Only allowed to enroll acreage owned by Indian tribes
 - Program payment rates are commensurate with 30-year easements
- Term Easements (Not an Option in NY)
 - Last for the maximum duration allowed under applicable state laws

Program payment rates are commensurate with 30-year easements



Benefits from enrolling land in WRE



- Habitat for fish and wildlife, including threatened and endangered species
- Improves water quality
- Reduces flooding, recharges groundwater.
- Protection for biological diversity.
- Opportunities for educational, scientific and limited recreational activities.





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District Conservationist
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Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the State or local Agency that administers the program or contact USDA through the Telecommunications Relay Service at 711 (voice and TTY). Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at [How to File a Program Discrimination Complaint](#) and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Mail Stop 9410, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

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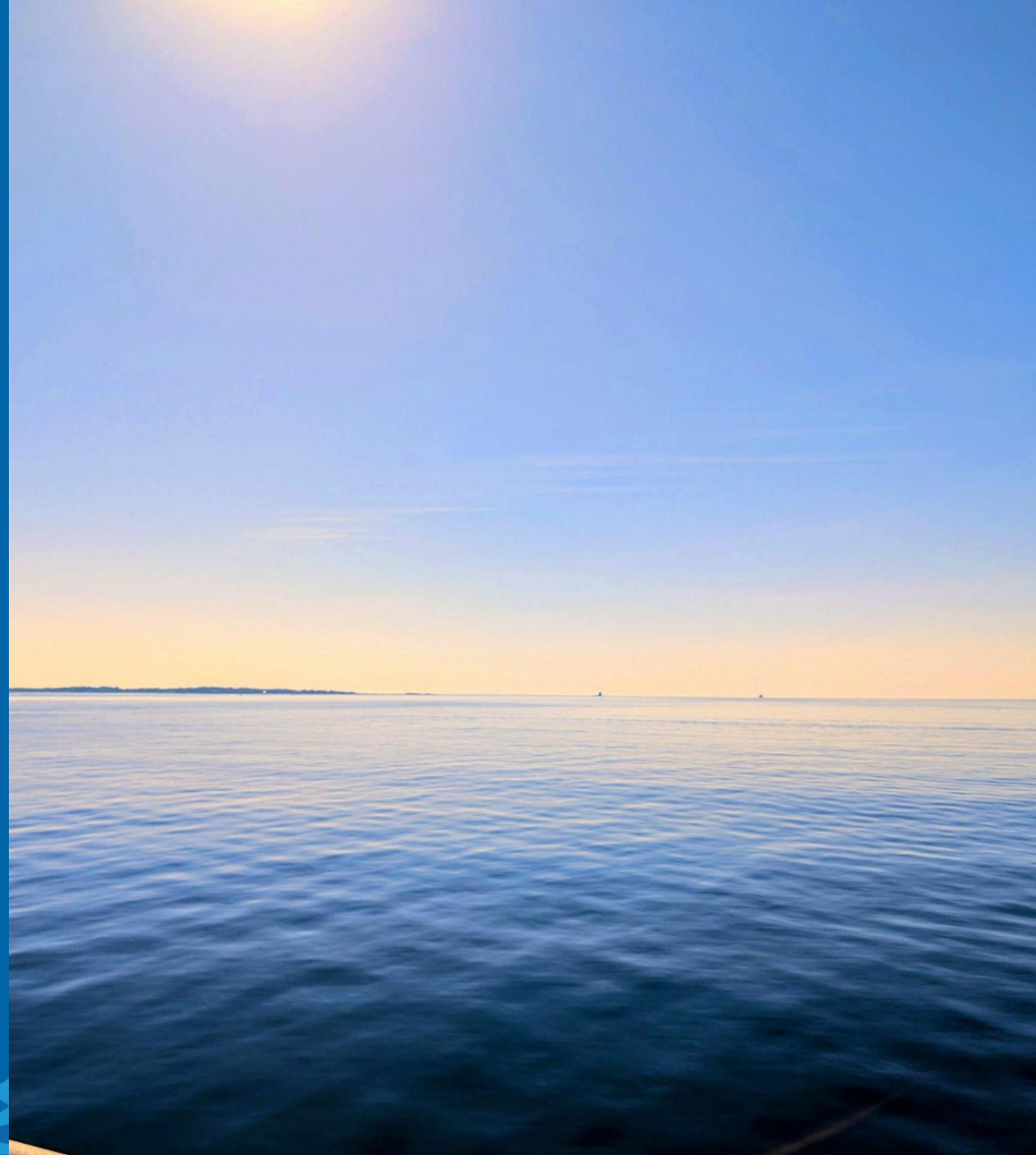




LONG ISLAND SOUND
PARTNERSHIP

Lunch & Tools Café

12:30 - 1:45 PM





LONG ISLAND SOUND
PARTNERSHIP



Local Resilience Initiatives: Successes & Challenges



DAVIS PARK ECD AND SHORELINE STABILIZATION PROJECT



Presented By:
Kelly Risotto, Principal
Land Use Ecological Services, Inc.



Project Funded By:
Suffolk County Soil & Water Conservation District
Davis Park Erosion Control District
Davis Park Association

DAVIS PARK ECD AND SHORELINE STABILIZATION PROJECT

Introduction

- **Davis Park Association (DPA) was awarded funding from the Suffolk County Soil & Water Conservation District via the 2026 Community Assistance Program (CAP)**
- DPA through their Erosion Control District (ECD) is proposing shoreline restoration to advance the CAP program priorities of **Climate Resilience** and **Habitat Restoration**
- **Climate Resilience** – DPA proposes to utilize nature-based features to stabilize the eroding bayside shoreline east of the Davis Park Marina to reduce property damage from flooding, storm surge, and sea level rise
- **Habitat Restoration** – DPA proposes to restore approximately 10,000 SF of intertidal and high marsh habitat along approximately 265 LF of shoreline



Davis Park Shoreline Project Location



DAVIS PARK ECD AND SHORELINE STABILIZATION PROJECT

Role of Davis Park Erosion Control District (ECD)

- Davis Park ECD is a Special District within the Town of Brookhaven
- Mission of the ECD is to protect land stability, water quality, and natural resources by implementing erosion prevention measures
- Erosion prevent measures include shoreline stabilization via beach nourishment, habitat restoration, and/or construction of erosion protection structures
- Focus of shoreline stabilization has shifted from the Atlantic Ocean beaches to the Great South Bay shoreline in recent years. Many Fire Island communities are now prioritizing bayside projects as flooding and erosion has become more prevalent with sea level rise and more frequent storms.



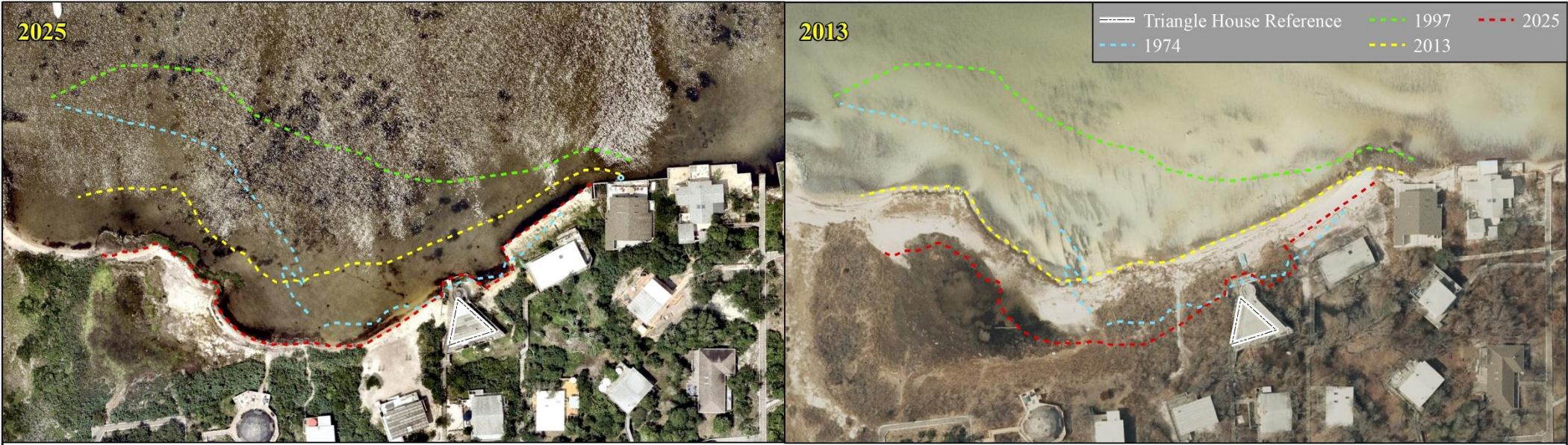
DAVIS PARK ECD AND SHORELINE STABILIZATION PROJECT

Davis Park Bayside Shoreline

- Shoreline east of the Davis Park Marina has exhibited significant change since expansion of the marina in the 1960's
- Based on aerial imagery, it appears that dredge spoil from the marina expansion was placed outside of the marina bulkhead
- The project area east of the marina appears to have filled in between 1974 and 1997, but began eroding shortly thereafter to its current location
- Shoreline stabilization project aims to restore the shoreline for flood and erosion control and protection of community structures and infrastructure



Davis Park Shoreline Change 1974 - 2025



NOTES:

1. Traingle House Reference and Dry Shoreline digitized from aerals for analysis of shoreline change.
2. 1974 infrared aerial from NYSDEC. 1997 aerial from USGS Earth Explorer. 2013 aerial from NYSGIS Clearinghouse. 2025 aerial from Nearmap.

1 in = 100 ft

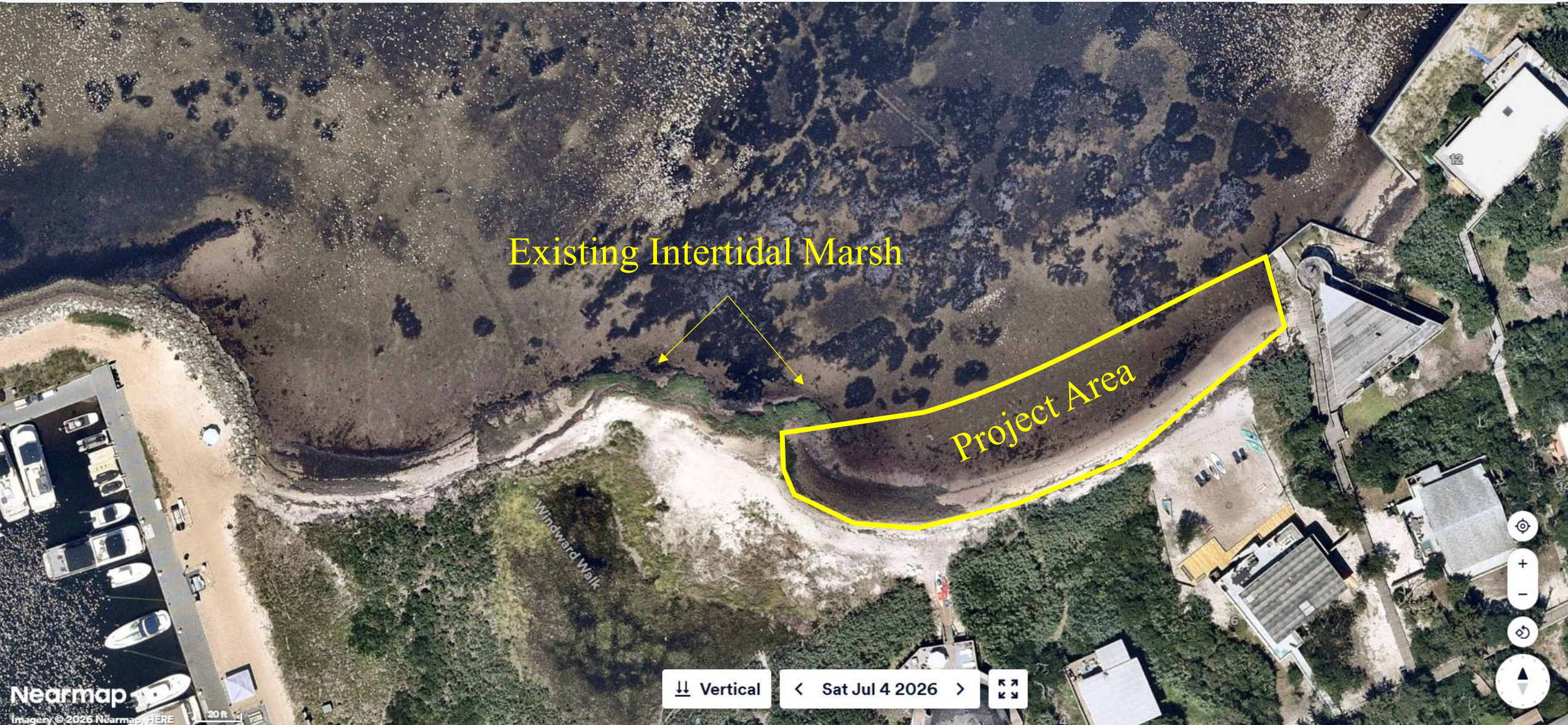
Prepared By: Land Use Ecological Services, Inc.
570 Expressway Dr. South, Suite 204
Medford, NY 11763

Date: 3/24/2026 Revised:

Project: SHORELINE CHANGE
East of Marina
At: Davis Park, Great South Bay Shoreline

Sheet: SC-DPB-1

Davis Park Shoreline Conditions 2026



Davis Park Shoreline Conditions 2026



Photos taken at low tide on July 21, 2026. Intertidal marsh present on the western project boundary.

DAVIS PARK ECD AND SHORELINE STABILIZATION PROJECT

Davis Park Bayside Shoreline Stabilization – Project Status

- Project is in the initial data collection and analysis phase by project engineer and ecological consultant
- Data collection includes private/public parcel boundary, site elevations (topography, bathymetry), location of MLW, MHW and SHW, and tidal wetland boundary
- Analysis includes wake, wave and wind data to determine if native plantings will require protection via bagged shells, boulders, or other means.



DAVIS PARK ECD AND SHORELINE STABILIZATION PROJECT

Davis Park Bayside Shoreline Stabilization – Project Status

- Next Steps
 - Prepare *Stabilization Plans* for bayside shoreline with technical memo providing justification for selected measures
 - Obtain permits from USACE, NPS/FINS, NYSDEC, NYSDOS, and Town of Brookhaven
 - Target for project implementation is Spring 2027
- Project Monitoring and Adaptive Management
 - Restoration projects typically require 5 years of post-project monitoring to evaluate success
 - Monitoring will include density and survivorship of planted vegetation and may include survey of project area to evaluate erosion/accretion and changes in elevation



OTHER FIRE ISLAND SHORELINE STABILIZATION PROJECTS

Other Fire Island Bayside Shoreline Stabilization Projects

Many Fire Island communities are evaluating their bayside shorelines as focus has shifted from the oceanfront to bayside.

- **Fair Harbor Bayside**

- Proposed 800 LF of living shoreline modeled after the Patchogue Shorefront Park living shoreline. Restoration of ~15,000 SF of marsh and buffer habitat.
- Project is in final permitting phase with implementation this winter/spring if possible.

- **Point O' Woods Bayside**

- Proposed ~300 LF of living shoreline with a marsh sill a 'crab claw' design east of the community bulkhead. Restoration of 18,500 SF of marsh and buffer habitat.
- Project is in design phase with permit applications expected to be filed by EOY.

OTHER FIRE ISLAND SHORELINE STABILIZATION PROJECTS

Other Fire Island Bayside Shoreline Stabilization Projects

Several other communities are evaluating existing conditions and shoreline change to determine the feasibility and level of stabilization that will be required for flood and erosion protection, with a focus on nature-based features where possible.

NPS/FINS has hosted bayside workshops and developed a *Shoreline Management Decision Framework* and *Permitting Framework* to guide Fire Island applicants in an effort to streamline the regulatory process and enable faster implementation of bayside projects.

Communities are utilizing these frameworks to guide project development.

THANK YOU!

QUESTIONS?

Contact Info:



Kelly M. Risotto, Principal

LAND USE ECOLOGICAL SERVICES, INC.

Office (631) 727-2400 Mobile (631) 764-7983

Email krisotto@landuse.us



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Interactive Adaptation Scenario Planning Session





Group Activity: Explore the map and scenario on your table. Work through the steps in the worksheet to come up with an adaptation strategy.

Report Out & Discussion: Each group will report out on your selected adaptation strategy.



Report Out - Scenario 1

*The **Downtown Harborfront Community** is vulnerable to compound flooding. During heavy rains, stormwater flows down the surrounding steep streets, pooling in the middle of downtown. Further compounding the flooding issues is the low groundwater in this area; during sustained rainstorms the ground often becomes oversaturated and is no longer able to absorb stormwater. Storm drains often backup and overflow, creating flooding issues for businesses, apartment buildings, homes, and parking lots. During coastal storms events and extreme high tides, low lying areas along the water experience coastal flooding. The community is tired of the frequent destructive and costly flooding and is looking to implement solutions.*

Report Out - Scenario 2

*Nor'easters and other storm events have caused significant erosion and undermining of the **Coastal Bluffs** over the last decade. The bluff has been receding landward and some of the homes and infrastructure on top of the bluff are now at risk. Because the bluff is owned by various private landowners, this has led to individual, piecemeal solutions to try to stabilize the bluff. Several homeowners have tried to mitigate the bluff erosion using riprap, but it has not been very successful. Additionally, the private community beach in front of the bluff has lost a great deal of sand over the last decade. During high tides, the water comes almost up to the toe of the bluff, leaving limited beach for the community to enjoy. Homeowners are upset that the significant bluff erosion is putting their homes at risk and that they are losing their beach. The homeowners have been reaching out to their Town officials and environmental organizations seeking help.*

Report Out - Scenario 3

*The **Tidal Marsh** is being rapidly lost due to rising sea levels. If action is not taken, significant portions of the marsh may become mudflat by 2050. On top of that there is significant nitrogen pollution from the surrounding homes and golf course that is likely further contributing to marsh degradation. The community has noticed fewer birds and wildlife inhabiting the marsh in recent years and are concerned about the marsh loss. They are also concerned about the increasing frequency of roadway flooding. Storm events and high tide events lead to high water levels in the marsh that can overwhelm the surrounding low-lying roadways. The roadway between the marsh and the Sound experienced significant, sustained flooding five times last year. The community is hoping to find a solution to save the marsh and address the frequent roadway flooding.*

Report Out - Scenario 4

*The Town's only **Public Beach** has experienced significant erosion over the last decade. While sand has been added to the beach over the years to try to mitigate the issue, it has not proved to be a successful solution. Additionally, the parking lot frequently experiences flooding during high tides and storms, as well as heavy rain events. The flooding and erosion issues have become increasingly severe in recent years, putting public access at risk. Town officials frequently receive phone calls from frustrated members of the public complaining about the lack of sand on the beach and inaccessible parking. A sustainable, long-term solution is needed to stabilize the shoreline and preserve public access.*

Report Out - Scenario 5

*The homeowners that live on the **Peninsula** have become increasingly concerned about the future sustainability of their small community. Their homes have become increasingly susceptible to storm and flooding impacts, and they had difficulty accessing home/flood insurance. During storm events, the roadway leading to their peninsula often becomes overtopped with water and becomes impassable, cutting off the residents that live on the peninsula to the rest of the mainland and emergency services. The nature preserve and lighthouse are treasured community assets and are also at risk due to rapid shoreline erosion. There are various perspectives about what should be done to address the issues. Some homeowners are thinking about selling their homes while others are adamant about staying and protecting their community.*



LONG ISLAND SOUND
PARTNERSHIP

Wrap up

Please submit feedback on this event!

