



East Side Coastal Resiliency

The East Side Coastal Resiliency (ESCR) project is a coastal protection initiative, jointly funded by the City of New York and the federal government, aimed at reducing flood risk due to coastal storms and sea level rise. The ESCR project will protect 110,000 New Yorkers from the impacts of climate change, by reducing flood risk to communities, properties, businesses, critical infrastructure, and public open spaces. In addition to providing flood protection, the project will strengthen and enhance waterfront spaces on Manhattan's East Side by improving accessibility, increasing ecological diversity, and delivering improved recreational amenities to a vibrant and highly diverse community. The ESCR project is among the largest and most technically complex infrastructure projects in New York City's history.

ESCR Highlights

The ESCR team is making great progress so far in 2024. In **Project Area 1**, the Delancey Street Pedestrian Bridge structure arrived on site and was installed in place, and it's expected to open to the public in September! Ballfields 1 and 2 are also nearing completion, and we have more updates on their opening in the pages ahead.

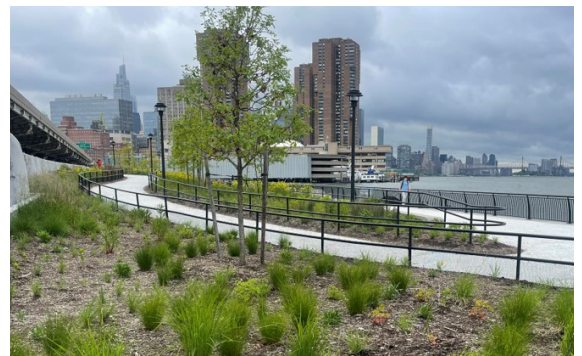
In **Project Area 2**, we've been happy to see the community enjoying the newly-reopened Stuyvesant Cove Park while Murphy Brothers Playground construction is accelerating.

Continue reading for more exciting updates, including **Parallel Conveyance** progress and recent **Community Engagement events!**

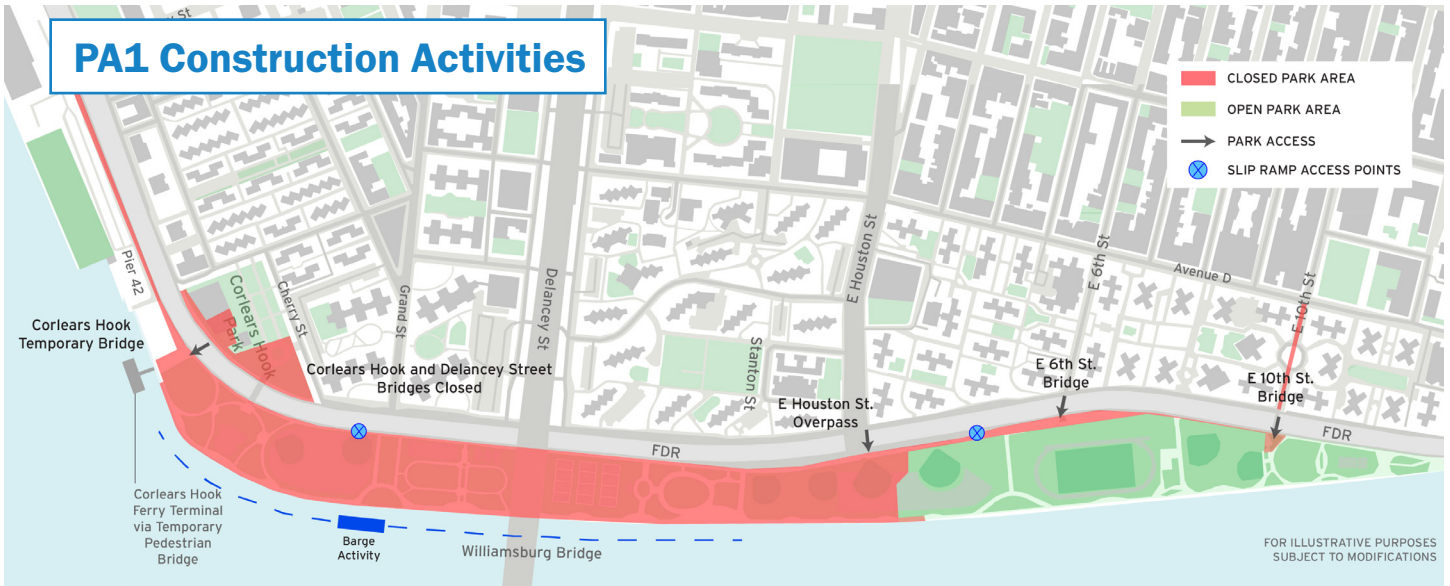
For more information on earlier ESCR construction, be sure to check out our previous newsletters.



Delancey Street Pedestrian Bridge installation, June 2024



Stuyvesant Cove Park, May 2024



Project Area 1

East River Park and adjacent areas

Work in Project Area 1 (PA1) is concentrated between Montgomery Street and E. 15th Street, largely focused on East River Park. East River Park will be closed in phases over the next several years, keeping a minimum of 42% open space for public access at all times.

Currently, East River Park from Montgomery Street to E. Houston Street, including a small portion of Corlears Hook Park, is closed for construction. East River Park north of E. Houston Street will remain open through the end of 2024. During work hours, portions of E. 10th Street have been closed to vehicular traffic for utility work. Visitors can access open areas of the park from the E. Houston Street north ramp, as well as the E. 6th Street and E. 10th Street pedestrian bridges. Traffic on the FDR Drive has been maintained with minimal lane closures. Vehicles and pedestrians should follow all posted signs and striping.

Park Amenities Update: In March 2024, the ESCR team notified the Community Advisory Group (CAG) that the opening of Ballfields 1 and 2 shifted to September 2024, in order to uphold the safety of park users during ongoing construction activities near the ballfields. Upon opening, we expect Ballfields 1 and 2 to be accessible via the Delancey Street Pedestrian Bridge. Nearby amenities, including the Amphitheater and Nature Exploration Area, are also starting to take shape. Demolition and underground utility work at Ballfields 3, 4, and 5 is continuing, and much of the underground drainage infrastructure has already been installed. This includes large tide gates and sluice gates to prevent both inland flooding and excess drainage into the river.

Bridge Work: In a huge milestone for the project, crews installed the new Delancey Street Pedestrian Bridge during an overnight closure of the FDR Drive on June 8, 2024! After arriving from its manufacturing site in Italy, the bridge was assembled at a staging area in East River Park. The structure



Delancey Street Pedestrian Bridge being rolled on the FDR Drive, June 2024

was then rolled along the FDR Drive using Self-Propelled Modular Transporters (SPMT) and lifted into place by two cranes. In the months ahead, the bridge deck and other elements will be completed as crews work towards a September 2024 opening of the bridge. Be sure to check out [our video](#) of the Delancey Street Bridge installation on the ESCR website.



Delancey Street Pedestrian Bridge installed, June 2024

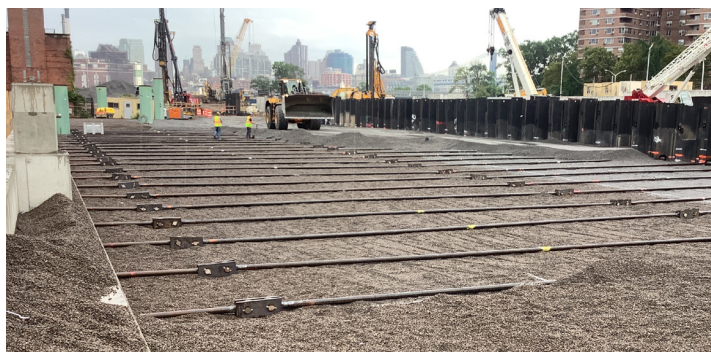
Construction of key elements for the Corlears Hook Bridge has been ongoing through the first half of the year, including its west stairs within Corlears Hook Park. This new bridge follows a similar manufacturing process as its Delancey Street neighbor and is expected to be installed later this year. At the north end of East River Park, removal of the existing bridge at E. 10th Street is scheduled to begin in 2025, followed by the installation of its replacement.



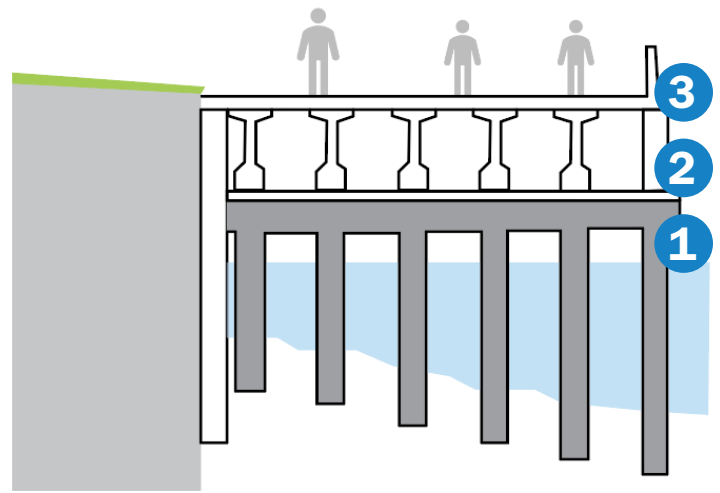
Corlears Hook Bridge western abutment and stairs, March 2024

Esplanade Reconstruction: With all Phase 1 demolition complete, construction activity on the esplanade has been steady through the first half of the year. In areas south of the Williamsburg Bridge, the concrete paver base has been poured and a mock-up of the paver pattern has been installed for review. The areas of the esplanade near Ballfields 3, 4, and 5 are in various stages of demolition and reconstruction. This work ranges from removal of existing pieces to leveling pier caps to installation of waterproofing membranes. In the column to the right, you can see an overview of the esplanade rebuilding process. Understanding the importance of the esplanade for walking, running, and waterfront access, our team is pushing forward in earnest to get these spaces reopened for the community.

Buried Floodwalls: Much progress has been made on PA1's floodwalls, especially in Phase 1, with all 1,777 linear feet of buried floodwalls installed! In addition to the park's raised grade, the underground walls offer an extra layer of protection against flooding. They are anchored inland by tie rods, which hold the walls in place and provide structural support against pressure from forces like earthquakes. On the southern end of the project, floodwall work on the corner of Montgomery Street and South Street is picking up steam.



Tie rods connecting combi-wall and floodwall, March 2024



Existing pier caps



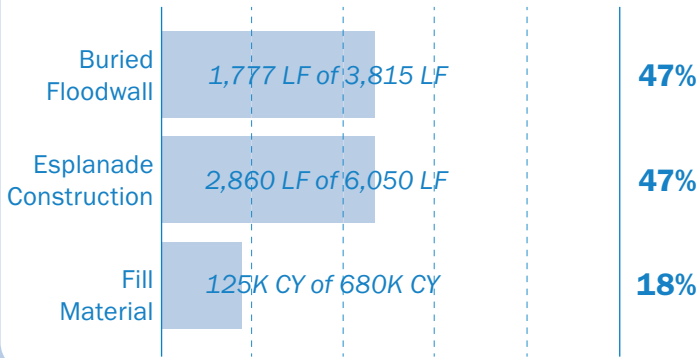
Placing prefabricated esplanade support beams



Installation of water-proofing membrane and drainage board

Major PA1 Metrics

% of total project amount complete



Community members attend concert organized by Stuyvesant Cove Park Association, June 2024

Eco Features: Much like the buried floodwalls and expanded sewer capacity, there's always more than meets the eye with ESCR! Just offshore of East River Park, ECO Armor Blocks, Sea Pillars, and Tide Pool Armors have been installed. These nearly-hidden environmental features sit underwater and in tidal areas to encourage marine habitats and biodiversity in the East River. Sea Pillars consist of 24-inch concrete pipe pile interiors and a textured exterior, which captures tide water and attracts marine organisms. ECO Armor Blocks have been installed along the riprap near Ballfields 1 and 2, and they also feature textured exteriors that are attractive to marine life. Within the riprap, there are visible Tide Pool Armors, which create habitat opportunities where they would otherwise be less likely to thrive. These fascinating environmental features will also be installed in the north embayment, near Ballfields 5 and 6.



ECO Armor Blocks and Tide Pool Armors, June 2024

E. 10th Street: Utility upgrade progress on East 10th Street between FDR Drive and Avenue D has continued throughout 2024. This critical work includes replacement of 100-year-old water mains and deep sewer work. In the months ahead, crews will begin microtunneling under the FDR Drive between E. 10th Street and the park. Notices have been provided to the community in the event of any necessary, temporary water shutdowns. The Outreach team has attended several tenant association meetings to respond to questions and provide information. As we mentioned, demolition of the E. 10th Street bridge will take place in 2025, followed by reconstruction activities. We thank you for your patience.

Project Area 2

Asser Levy Playground/Stuyvesant Cove Park/Murphy Brothers Playground

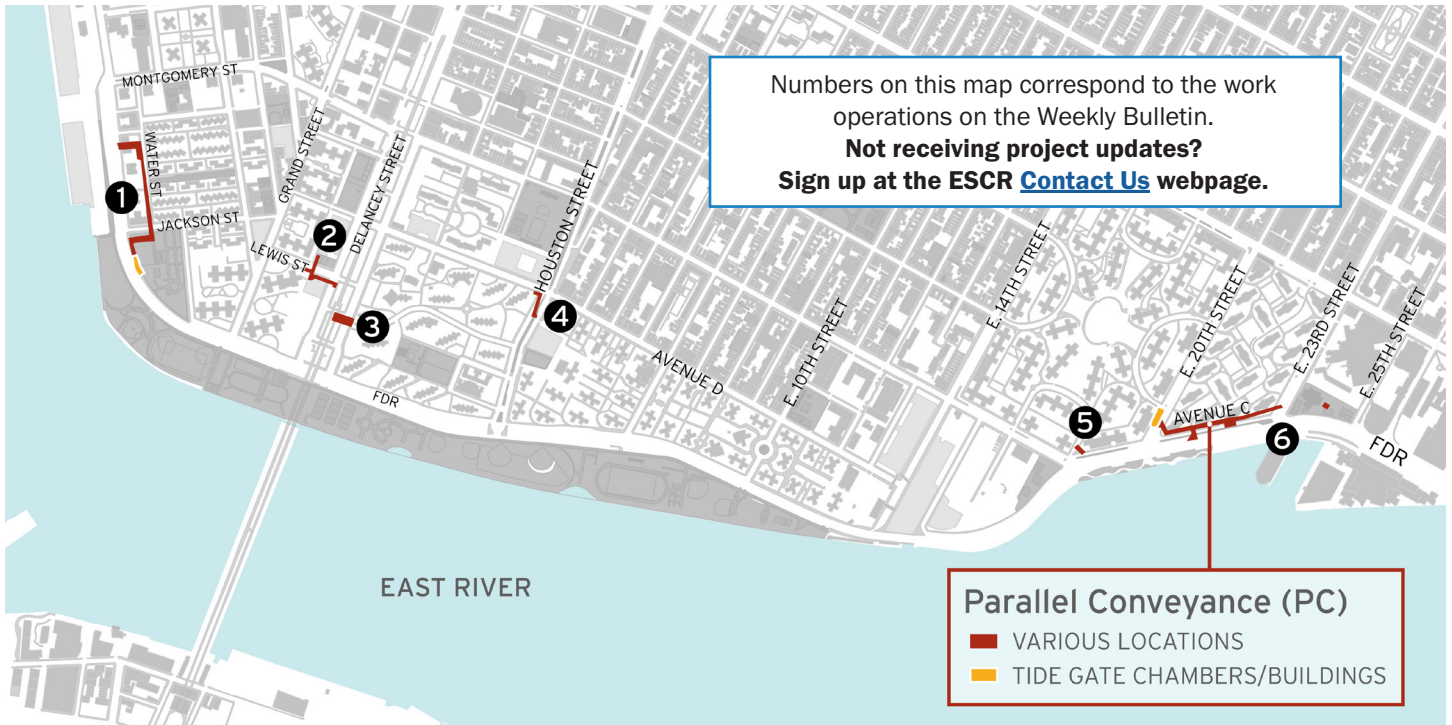
Work in Project Area 2 (PA2) is concentrated between E. 15th Street and E. 25th Street, including three neighborhood parks. Asser Levy Playground reopened to the public in 2022 with a new floodwall and floodgate, and a reconstructed, resilient playground and basketball court. Much of Stuyvesant Cove Park reopened to the public in 2023 with upgraded amenities, and new plantings that can withstand salt spray. In Murphy Brothers Playground, flood protection is being woven into the park, alongside new ballfields, dog runs, and landscaping.

To date, all 12 flood gates and 3,129 feet of floodwall have been installed in Project Area 2! The gates are designed to remain open for continuous access to the waterfront and close before future storm or flood events. In all, 18 gates will be installed across the ESCR project area.

While all ESCR-related portions of Stuyvesant Cove Park opened to the public last year, the northern park entrance at E. 23rd Street remains closed for the Solar One building construction, which is managed by the New York City Economic Development Corporation. Murphy Brothers Playground remains under construction, and we are looking forward to welcoming park users back to the playground in the fall!



Murphy Brothers Playground tee ball field construction, June 2024



Parallel Conveyance (PC)

Various locations from Montgomery Street to E. 25th Street

The Parallel Conveyance (PC) project is upgrading the sewer system to provide flood protection during storms. While PA1 and PA2 protect the community from coastal/tidal flooding and saltwater, the PC upgrades will protect the community during heavy rainfall events. The project optimizes the existing stormwater system by adding new drainage parallel to the existing infrastructure.

In the first half of this year, the PC portion of the project completed key water main installations on Baruch Drive and at Water Street and South Street. Subsurface investigations and test pits have continued throughout the PC project area, and deep sewer work will soon begin on Water Street between Gouverneur Slip East and Jackson Street. Be sure to check out our [previous newsletter](#) for more information on test pits.

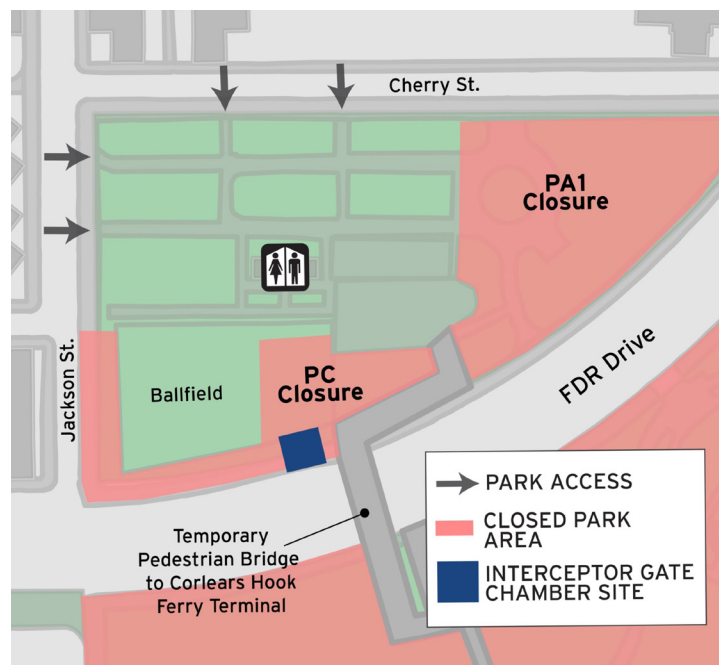
The project team will continue mobilization in Corlears Hook Park to prepare for construction of the interceptor gate chamber.



Mobilization of equipment in Corlears Hook Park, May 2024

In the weeks ahead, deep sewer work will begin on Water Street, followed by Gouverneur Slip East and Jackson Street later in the year.

The ESCR Community Engagement team continues to meet directly with tenant associations in the area, including Gouverneur Gardens and NYCHA Vladeck Houses. Community notifications are issued in the event of temporary, necessary water shutdowns or traffic detours. As with all road closures across the ESCR project, we coordinate closely with emergency services to ensure vehicles like ambulances and fire trucks can access impacted areas at all times.



Illustrative map of Corlears Hook Park closures, late-2023

ESCR in the Community

Community Outreach Events

The ESCR Community Engagement team will continue coordinating with the project's surrounding community to attend tenant/resident association meetings and Family Days, along with hosting our own tabling events. We also regularly present construction updates at CAG meetings and Community Board 3 Parks Committee meetings. Events during the first half of this year included:

4/4/24: NYU students visit PA2 through DDC's Neighborhood Infrastructure Curbside Education (NICE) program

4/9/24: NYCHA Riis House TA Meeting

4/10/24: PA1 field visit with Community Advisory Group

4/23/24: Alfred E. Smith Community Rec Center Pollinator Garden Planting with Parks Department for Earth Day

5/9/24: NYCHA Vladeck House TA Meeting

5/21/24: ESCR Tabling at E. Houston Street

6/13/24: Gouverneur Garden TA Meeting

6/27/24: NYCHA Vladeck House TA Meeting

Please email ESCRCL1@ddccr.com if you are interested in having the ESCR Community Engagement Team table in your neighborhood, or if you'd like the team to present construction updates to your building. We also deliver in-person and virtual presentations regularly. Subject to availability.



Planting pollinator garden at Alfred E. Smith Community Rec Center with Parks Department for Earth Day, April 2024

Work With Us

East Side Coastal Resiliency (ESCR) project is a public investment that will help drive the City's economy and create jobs in New York City neighborhoods. Information on training, careers and contracting opportunities are posted on the [Work With Us webpage](#). We encourage individuals and local MWBE and Section 3 firms to review these opportunities and resources, as well as the factsheet outlining the [ESCR Subcontracting and Hiring Goals](#).

At our in-person ESCR Work With Us Quarterly Information Session in June, attendees had the opportunity to hear directly from professionals on the ESCR project! These sessions included Q-and-A's with ESCR's PA1 Program Manager, a community construction liaison (MWBE), and the Construction Manager from PA1's contractor (IPC Resiliency Partners), allowing potential job-seekers to get in-depth insights into a variety of roles in construction.



ESCR Quarterly Information Session at Rutgers Community Center, June 2024

In the first half of the year, the ESCR Community Engagement and Hiring teams joined NYC DDC for career-oriented events and coordinated with NYC Small Business Services to bring the agency's Workforce1 Mobile Unit to communities near the ESCR project. Work With Us events during the first half of the year included:

2/1/24: NYC DDC Queens Construction Career and Training Resource Fair

2/28/24: ESCR Virtual Quarterly Information Session

3/13/24: ESCR Virtual Unions, Unions, Unions Information Session

6/12/24: DDC Bronx Construction Career Fair

6/18/24: ESCR Quarterly Information Session at Rutgers Community Center

The goal of these events is to provide residents with the latest construction updates, along with information on job and training opportunities. The ESCR Team is always working to make our hiring events helpful and relevant to the community. Please submit an inquiry on the [Work With Us webpage](#) if you have any questions or want to submit your resume.

ESCR W/MBE firm Spotlight

[SMARTEC](#), Architecture & Engineering P.C. is a New York based MWBE/SBE/DBE professionally certified firm primarily focused on providing Resident Engineering Inspection services on infrastructure projects throughout all five boroughs. With over forty years in design and construction of sewer, highway, watermain and green infrastructure projects, the principals of this company have sought to expand their knowledge and experience in resiliency and sustainability. The NYCDDC has provided an excellent opportunity for promoting small business via Requirements Contracts. SMARTEC was selected twice and has worked on award winning projects for the NYCDDC. On the ESCR projects, SMARTEC performs Engineering Audit services for both ESCR Project Area 1 and ESCR Project Area 2 as a prime consultant. They provide qualified, motivated, and knowledgeable staff who partner with the entire team, pre-empting issues before they arise, to meet the project's timelines. Thank you SMARTEC!



East River Greenway	Between E. 10th Street to E. 20th Street	Open
	North of E. 20th Street	Open
	Between Montgomery Street to E. 10th Street	Closed
PA2 Parks	Stuyvesant Cove Park	Open*
	Asser Levy Playground	Open
	Murphy Brothers Playground	Closed
Corlears Hook Park	Dog Run	Open
	Ballfield	Partially Open
	Playground & Flagpole area	Closed
East River Park	North of Houston Street: Ballfields 6 to 8, Track & Field, BBQ, Playground, Basketball	Open
	E. 12th Street Lawn	Closed
	South of Houston Street: Amphitheater, Ballfields 1 to 5, Tennis Court, Passive Lawn	Closed
Bridges & Entrances	Shared Use Path from Montgomery Street	Closed
	Corlears Hook Temporary Bridge	Open
	Corlears Hook Pedestrian Bridge	Closed
	Delancey Street Pedestrian Bridge	Closed
	Houston Street Entrance	North Ramp Open
	E. 6th Street Pedestrian Bridge	Open
	E. 10th Street Pedestrian Bridge	Open
	Greenway From Stuyvesant Cove Park	Open
	Stuyvesant Cove Park E. 23rd Street Entrance	Closed*
NYC Ferry	Corlears Hook Ferry Terminal (via Temporary Bridge)	Open
	Stuyvesant Cove Ferry Terminal	Open

*Stuyvesant Cove Park remains closed north of Peter Cooper Road due to Solar One construction

Park Opening Update

Please check the table above for current status of East River Park, Greenway, amenities, entrances, and NYC Ferry access.

Community Construction Information

Community Impacts

- Vehicular travel lane closures, detours and new traffic patterns will be required.
- Cyclists and pedestrian detours will be required.
- Signage will be posted in advance within the affected areas. Traffic Enforcement Agents and flaggers will be present when necessary to assist vehicles and pedestrians.
- Public transportation will be maintained at all times.
- Emergency vehicle and pedestrian access to sidewalks will be maintained at all times.

- Water Service Interruptions: During the project there may be some service interruptions. To allow for water line replacement, existing water service must be temporarily shut off. Advance notice will be provided before any service interruption.

Environmental Monitoring

- Air, noise, and vibration monitors are active 24 hours/day, 7 days/week at locations required for construction.
- Air monitoring summaries are available on the [ESCR Environmental Monitoring webpage](#), with verbal updates provided at [CAG meetings](#).
- The project follows all federal, state and local guidelines. To date, construction activities have not exceeded National Ambient Air Quality Standards.
- Check out the [ESCR Environmental Fact Sheet](#) for more!

For More Information:

Visit the ESCR website, nyc.gov/escr, to sign up for weekly Construction Bulletins, Community Advisories, and other project communications, as well as to learn more about community meetings and events, ESCR background, design, and construction, and opportunities to work with us. Or submit an inquiry: nyc.gov/escr/contact

Questions? Preguntas? 问题?

Please contact our **Community Construction Liaisons (CCLs)** for any project related inquiries/concerns you may have:

Project Area 1 CCLs:

Pauline Chan (欢迎中文咨询): 929-717-9015

Vanessa Gomez (para mas información llame): 347-628-8724

Email: ESCRCL1@ddccr.com

Project Area 2 CCL:

Nadine Harris: 347-572-3057 & ESCRCL2@ddccr.com

Parallel Conveyance CCL:

Tannia Wokoun: 914-313-6863 & sandrespc.ccl@gmail.com



ESCR Inquiry Tool