



## 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.

*East Side Coastal Resiliency (ESCR) is creating a 2.4 mile flood protection system that consist of floodwalls and floodgates that are designed to blend into the fabric of the community by integrating with local streets, the elevated East River Park, and the new landscape surrounding Corlears Hook Park, Murphy Brothers Playground, Stuyvesant Cove Park, and Asser Levy Playground. The project also involves significant investments in underground interior drainage improvements that will increase the capacity of the sewer system.*

### ESCR Highlights

The end of 2022, marks the two-year anniversary for Project Area 2 (PA2) and one-year anniversary for Project Area 1 (PA1). The ESCR team would like to thank you for your understanding and patience as we continue to construct this important flood protection system. In this newsletter, we will summarize the ESCR construction activities and community events of 2022. We will also briefly introduce the next portion of the Lower Manhattan Coastal Resiliency (LMCR) flood protection system, the Brooklyn Bridge-Montgomery Street Coastal Resiliency (BMCR) project.

## Project Area 1

East River Park and adjacent areas

### Construction in East River Park continues

*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 the times. The [PA1 Construction Approach](#) aims to provide full flood protection for the community as quickly as possible and maintain public and worker safety during construction. The most up to date [PA1 Construction Timeline](#) can be found at the ESCR website [Project Update page](#).*

Currently East River Park from Montgomery Street north to Stanton Street including a small portion of Corlears Hook Park is closed for construction (see map on next page). East River Park north of Stanton Street is open and visitors can access open areas of the park at E. Houston Street, E. 6th Street and E. 10th Street pedestrian bridge. In early January, a temporary partial closure went into effect for East River Park





Corlears Hook Bridge East Abutment, January 2023

Ballfield #3 to complete a critical sewer bypass and soil stabilization operations for the project. See the [Advisory](#) for the pedestrian detour (This area is marked with a yellow star on the PA1 Construction Progress Map below). The northern portion of the park is also accessible from the PA2 Greenway, however, please note that early this year access from PA2 will close for construction activities.

### PA1 Construction Update

- 1 Soil stabilization activities are completed for Phase 1.** Esplanade removal and deep sewer improvement work are approximately 50% complete, and floodwall (Comb-wall) installation has recently started.
- 2 Barges are in use for material transit. Over 6,000 trucks (50 trucks/day) have been removed from local streets,** reducing local truck traffic in the community
- 3 Building Back the Bridges:** In 2022, the team successfully dismantled both Delancey Street Bridge (DSB) and Corlears Hook Bridge (CHB) and constructed a temporary Corlears Hook pedestrian bridge in three overnight FDR Drive closures. We are now working hard to rebuild these connections to the community. Pile and abutment installation are in progress for both bridges which are scheduled to be completed in 2023 (CHB) and 2024 (DSB). See the [Advisory](#) for the sidewalk closures related to Delancey Street Bridge work activities.

- 4 Floodwall Progress: Sheet pile installation is complete along the Greenway from Montgomery Street to Cherry Street!** Next steps include constructing the foundation, steel reinforcement, and then pouring concrete for the actual wall. The team is doing their best to complete this work during the daytime to minimize the impact at night (see [2021 Q2 newsletter](#) for more details on floodwall construction). The Montgomery Street Parking Lot with floodwall construction on Montgomery and South Street to follow.

- 5 Utility Update:** Con Edison utility upgrades will continue throughout the project area for the duration of the project. This includes the Montgomery Street / South Street intersection and E. 10th Street between Avenue D and FDR Drive. The Greenway between E. Houston Street and E. 10th Street remains closed for the ongoing Con Edison utility work and preparation for additional work to begin in 2023. The E. Houston Street retaining wall construction is scheduled to start in the next quarter. See the [PA1 Access Map](#) for detailed pedestrian circulation, and please follow posted signage in the open park.

- 6 Open Space Goals:** Open Space availability for park users has averaged about 52% for 2022!

Visit the new [PA1 Construction Gallery](#) for construction progress photos.



Deep Sewer Excavation and Construction, January 2023





## Archaeology at Corlears Hook



View to east, of sugar refinery/iron foundry walls. The north foundation of the factory is at left. The rectangular area at top is an apparent chimney base. A bluestone walkway is exposed at right.

In December of 2022, the project's archaeological team started exposing building remains at Corlears Hook Park as part of the East Side Coastal Resiliency contract for Project Area 1. The Scope of Work for the archaeologists calls for test excavations to better understand the site, and the work is being done in coordination with DDC, the NY State and Tribal Historic Preservation Offices, the NYC Landmarks Preservation Commission, and the NYC Parks Department.

Based on historic maps, some of the foundations unearthed belonged to the North River Sugar Refining Company. The sugar refinery was established on the site of an iron foundry that was listed in 1851 as Pease & Murphy iron founders. In the area north of the sugar refinery/iron foundry, archaeological fieldwork has concentrated on a row of residential/commercial structures that fronted on Cherry and Corlears Streets. Corlears Street no longer exists, but its former alignment runs beneath the park. Houses were built on these lots in the 1820s and 30s, and stood into the mid-1890s, at which time the entire block was razed for the construction of Corlears Hook Park. When the park was first created, fill soils were brought in for landscaping, and later the park was re-landscaped when the FDR Drive was built.

As of January 2023, remains of the factories have been recorded by the archaeologists and LPC and SHPO concurred that this portion of the site can be backfilled. Archaeological investigations now focus on the former yard areas within the house lots to determine whether the exposed privy pits and cisterns contain artifact deposits. Archaeologists have traced the deeds for the early properties and are researching sewer installation dates as well as censuses and directories for information on occupants. The site is also being tested for traces of earlier 18th-century use and Native American occupation. Archaeologists are in consultation with the Stockbridge-Munsee Band of Mohican Indians Tribal Historic Preservation Office (THPO). Future updates will be provided as the work continues.

## Project Area 2

### Asser Levy Playground/Stuyvesant Cove Park/Murphy Brothers Playground

The ESCR team made huge progress in PA2 construction in 2022. To date, over 1,400 linear feet of floodwall have been installed! Asser Levy Playground opened in May 2022, and Gates 14 & 18 were also installed. Did you know, Gate 18 is the largest gate in the project weighing 45 tons.



Stuyvesant Cove Park planting, furnishings and sea-rail, December 2022

Site restoration for Stuyvesant Cove Park north of E. 20th Street is underway and scheduled to reopen in 2023, after the sea-rail and pipe-rails are installed. Murphy Brothers Playground closed on September 26, 2022 to facilitate floodwall and floodgate construction. Work in this area will continue through late spring of 2024. Please visit the [PA2 Construction Gallery](#) for more images.

**The Greenway bike lane north of E. 20th Street has reopened!** Stuyvesant Cove Ferry terminal access will remain open throughout construction. Please review the [revised detour map](#), which was presented at the [September 2022 Community Advisory Meeting](#), and visit the [PA2 Construction Notice web-page](#) for further updates.



Stuyvesant Cove Park planting, furnishings and sea-rail, December 2022



## Parallel Conveyance (PC)

In the [last newsletter](#), we introduced Parallel Conveyance (PC), the last piece of the ESCR integrated flood protection system. Mobilization and early pre-construction activities have started in the southern portion of the project between Montgomery Street and Delancey Street. Please check the ESCR website: [PC Construction Notices page](#) for more detailed information.

## Brooklyn Bridge-Montgomery Coastal Resilience (BMCR)

In the Two Bridges neighborhood, the Department of Design and Construction (DDC) will install a combination of flip up gates, roller gates & swing gates and deployable barriers to protect the neighborhood from a 100-year storm surge in the 2050s, while also maintaining access and visibility to the waterfront. New York City Economic Development Corporation (NYCEDC) led the design for the project, which will extend along the waterfront from the Brooklyn Bridge to Montgomery Street. EDC completed design in fall of 2021 and mobilization and pre-construction activities are currently in progress.

This project will reduce flooding risk – from both sea level rise and storm surge – for thousands of residents, while continuing to preserve views and access to the waterfront. These deployable barriers will be permanent infrastructure, hidden until they are flipped up in the event of a storm. The location of the flood walls and posts has been designed to minimize conflict with subsurface infrastructure and to maximize integration of public space amenities such as open-air seating, fitness equipment, and athletic courts.

Want to learn more about BMCR? Visit the [BMCR website](#) which is under the greater [LMCR Coastal Resiliency Program](#).



BMCR, Rendering of Catherine Slip Esplanade

### Questions? Preguntas? 问题?

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

**Marsha Guido:** 347.538.4266

**Email:** [bmcr.ccl@gmail.com](mailto:bmcr.ccl@gmail.com)

## 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. Water service will be restored at the end of each night.

### Environmental Monitoring

- Air, noise, and vibration monitors are active 24 hours/day, 7 days/week.
- Air monitoring summaries are available on the [ESCR Environmental Monitoring web-page](#), with verbal updates provided at [Community Advisory Group Meetings](#).
- The project follows all federal, state and local guidelines. To date construction activities have not exceeded National Ambient Air Quality Standards.
- The [ESCR Environmental Fact Sheet](#) and PA1 and PA2 Areas Monitoring reports can also be found on the [ESCR Environmental Monitoring web-page](#).

## ESCR in the Community

### ESCR W/MBE firm Spotlight



[Atlas Evaluation and Inspection Services \(AEIS\)](#) is an MWBE/DBE firm providing inspection and material testing services for ESCR PA1 and PA2 as a subconsultant to the PMCM. AEIS's mission is to create a safer world by providing inspection, testing and certification solutions to uncover and resolve critical issues to increase safety

and improve long-term project and product reliability. AEIS wants to change the perception of the inspector from a “necessary” entity to a true business partner that assists in leveraging inspection findings for the client’s long-term benefit. Thank you AEIS for being a trusted W/MBE firm on the ESCR Project!

## Call for Art

The ESCR sponsored community Call for Art features K-12 students and local artists in NYC. Artwork was judged on its creativity and responsiveness to given artwork themes centered on community and resiliency. The artwork is currently displayed on fencing within the East River Park. Please check the [Call for Art web-page](#) for updated locations and a digital gallery. Visit East River Park to see the selected artwork on-site.

## 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 web-page](#). We encourage individuals and local M/WBE and Section 3 firms to review the opportunities and resources, as well as the factsheet outlining the [ESCR Subcontracting and Hiring Goals](#).

The ESCR project team hosts quarterly virtual information sessions on subcontracting resources and opportunities for Minority/Woman-Owned Business Enterprises (M/WBE) and Section 3 Business Entities as well as hiring resources for individuals. In 2022, we successfully hosted three information sessions:

- **02/16/2022 Winter Virtual Information Session:** where attendees learned about the project, training, hiring and subcontracting opportunities related to the ESCR project from the project team and local career support leaders.
- **05/25/2022 Spring Virtual Information Session:** Upgrade your resume package. This event focused on creating or upgrading your resume package with one-on-one sessions open to all community members, from entry-level to experienced individuals.
- **10/19/2022 In-person Quarterly Information Event:** Career Pathways Exploration within the ESCR Project. The ESCR team explored the career pathways within the ESCR project and construction industry with attendees.

The PMCM and Contractor hiring teams also participated in the following events not hosted by ESCR:

- **9/28/2022 NYCCDC East Side Coastal Resiliency Forum: Meet the Teams**
- **10/4/2022 Henry Street Settlement Job Fair**

We extend our gratitude to the following local employment resources for their collaboration in 2022 and moving forward:

- [NYC Department of Design and Construction, Office of Diversity and Industry Relations](#)

- [NYC Department of Small Business Services, Workforce 1](#)
- [Lower East Side Employment Network \(LESEN\)](#)
- [Henry Street Settlement Employment Services](#)
- [Good Old Lower East Side \(GOLES\)](#)

The ESCR Team is continually working to make our hiring events helpful and relevant to the community. Please submit an inquiry on the [Work With Us web-page](#) if you have any questions or want to submit your resume.

## ESCR Community Information Delivery

The project team provides regular construction updates at various [community events](#) and meetings, including local community boards and the [ESCR Community Advisory Group \(CAG\)](#). You can view past community presentations and check upcoming meetings on the [ESCR website](#).



ESCR Community Notification Board at East River Park E. Houston St. overpass

A new ESCR Community Information Bulletin Board has recently been installed at the East River Park E. Houston St. Overpass! Our Community Construction Liaisons (CCL) update the weekly bulletin, new advisories and event flyers regularly. The advisories and event flyers are available in English, Spanish and Chinese. We also encourage you to visit our web-page to click through the [decorative construction fencing panels](#), which share information on the ESCR project goals and benefits.



ESCR Decorative Fencing Panels



## Spring/Summer Tabling

This year, the ESCR Community Engagement team actively held tabling events in the project's surrounding community:

- April 22, Seward Park – Earth Day Event
- May 24, NYCHA Riis – Family Day
- June 30, Gouverneur Gardens
- July 26, Abrons Art Center
- August 25, Corlears Hook Park
- September 20, Abrons Art Center
- October 18, Houston Street and Columbia St.

Email [ESCRCCCL1@ddccr.com](mailto:ESCRCCCL1@ddccr.com) if you are interested in having the ESCR Community Outreach Team table in your neighborhood or building. We are here to provide ESCR project information and respond to questions or comments in-person. Subject to availability.

## Park Opening Update

Please check the table below for the opening update of East River Greenway, Park, Amenities, Bridge & Entrance, and NYC Ferry. (A graphic reference on page 3: PA1 construction area map)

### For More Information:

Visit the ESCR website, [www.nyc.gov/escr](http://www.nyc.gov/escr), to sign up to receive 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: [www.nyc.gov/escr/contact](http://www.nyc.gov/escr/contact)

### Questions? Preguntas? 问题?

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

#### **Project Area 1 CCLs:**

**Joyce Xin** (欢迎中文咨询): 929-844-0407

**Email:** [ESCRCCCL1@ddccr.com](mailto:ESCRCCCL1@ddccr.com)

#### **Project Area 2 CCL:**

**Nadine Harris:** 347-572-3057 & [ESCRCCCL2@ddccr.com](mailto:ESCRCCCL2@ddccr.com)

#### **Parallel Conveyance CCL:**

**Tannia Wokoun:** 914-313-6863 & [sandrespc.ccl@gmail.com](mailto:sandrespc.ccl@gmail.com)

<b>East River Greenway</b>	Between Montgomery Street to E. 10 <sup>th</sup> Street	<b>Closed</b>
	Between E. 10 <sup>th</sup> Street to E. 18 <sup>th</sup> Street	<b>Open</b>
	Between E. 18 <sup>th</sup> Street to E. 20 <sup>th</sup> Street	<b>Closed</b>
	North of E. 20 <sup>th</sup> Street	<b>Open</b>
<b>Open Space</b>	<b>Corlears Hook Park:</b> Dog Run, Playground, Ball field	<b>Open</b>
	<b>Corlears Hook Park:</b> Flagpole area	<b>Closed</b>
	<b>East River Park:</b> Passive Lawn	<b>Partial Open</b>
	<b>East River Park:</b> South of Stanton Street: Amphitheater, Ball Fields #1 to #4, Tennis Court	<b>Closed</b>
	<b>East River Park:</b> Ballfield #3	<b>Temporary Closed</b>
	<b>East River Park:</b> North of Ballfield #3: Ball Fields #5 to #8, Track & Fields, BBQ, Playground, Basketball Court	<b>Open</b>
	<b>East River Park:</b> 12 <sup>th</sup> Street Lawn	<b>Closed</b>
	Murphy Brother Playground	<b>Closed</b>
	Stuyvesant Cove Park	<b>Closed</b>
Asser Levy Playground	<b>Open</b>	
<b>Bridge &amp; Entrance</b>	Corlears Hook Bridge	<b>Closed</b>
	Corlears Hook Temporary Bridge	<b>Open</b>
	Delancey Street Pedestrian Bridge	<b>Closed</b>
	Houston Street Entrance	<b>Open</b>
	E. 6 <sup>th</sup> Street Pedestrian Bridge	<b>Open</b>
	E. 10 <sup>th</sup> Street Pedestrian Bridge	<b>Open</b>
<b>NYC Ferry</b>	<b>Corlears Hook Ferry Terminal:</b> Access @ Temporary Bridge	<b>Open</b>
	<b>Stuyvesant Cove Ferry Terminal:</b> Access @ E. 18 <sup>th</sup> St.	<b>Open</b>