

FLUSHING WEST

Public Meeting
Thursday, February 11th, 2016



AGENDA

- Presentation Overview
 - Flushing West Project Background & Timeline
 - Preliminary Strategies to Improve Community Resources- includes parks & open space; waterfront; transportation
 - Preliminary Affordable Housing & Preservation Strategies
 - Preliminary Economic & Workforce Development Strategies
- Interactive Discussions with Agency Staff

Builds upon a long history of previous planning work in Downtown Flushing

Create a Comprehensive Neighborhood Plan to improve quality of life and diversity that:

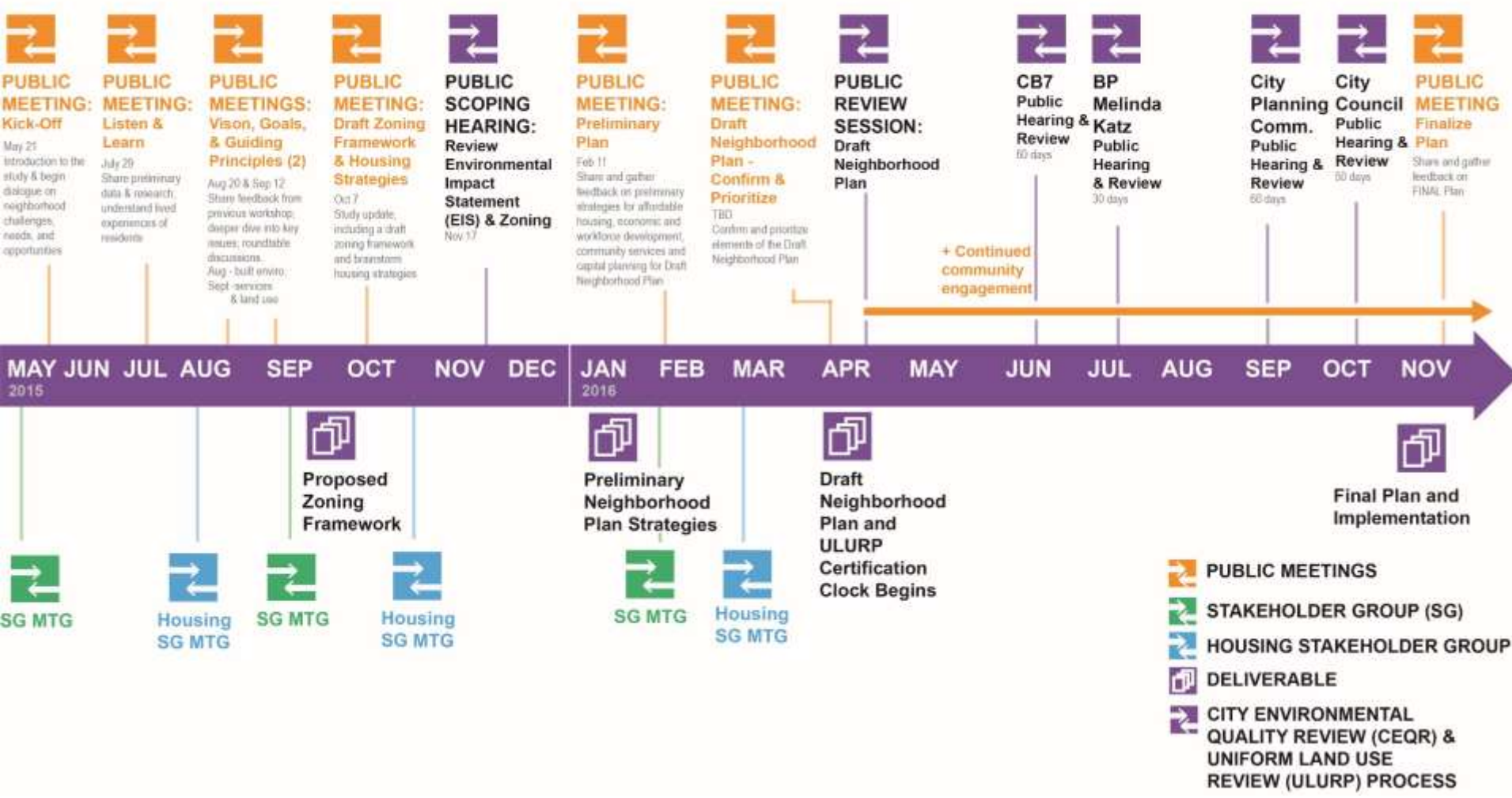
- **Identifies community resources & key capital projects that can contribute to achieving a more livable neighborhood**
- **Includes an affordable housing component which will incorporate mandatory affordable housing and preservation strategies**
- **Includes an economic development component to support current small business and workforce needs & future growth**



- Zoning Study Area
- Downtown Flushing Neighborhood Boundary
- Housing Study Area

FLUSHING WEST PLANNING PROCESS OVERVIEW (02-03-2016)*

*Timeline is tentative and subject to change



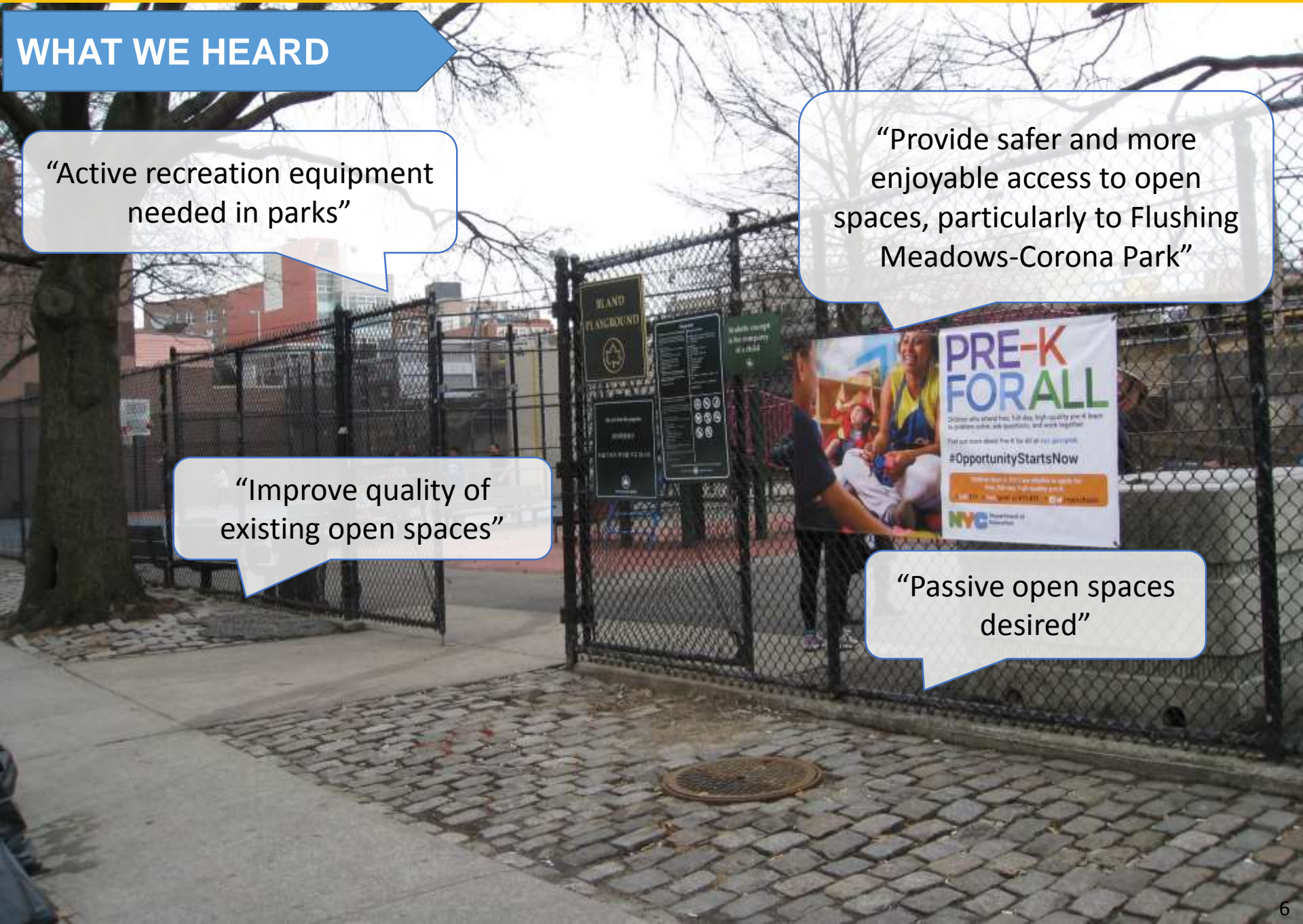
WHAT WE HEARD

“Active recreation equipment needed in parks”

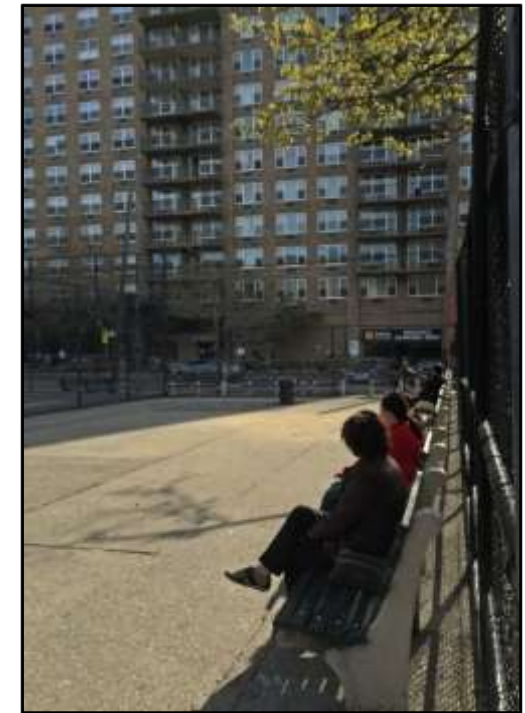
“Provide safer and more enjoyable access to open spaces, particularly to Flushing Meadows-Corona Park”

“Improve quality of existing open spaces”

“Passive open spaces desired”



GOAL: INCREASE QUALITY OF OPEN SPACE & AMENITIES WITHIN EXISTING PARKS AND ACCESS



Bowne Playground

- Complete ongoing upgrades to existing parks
- Improve quality of open spaces and amenities
- Improve access to open space to parks and recreational resources by improving walkability, adding signage



Avery Street entrance to
Flushing Meadows-Corona Park



Margaret I. Carman Green



Bland Playground

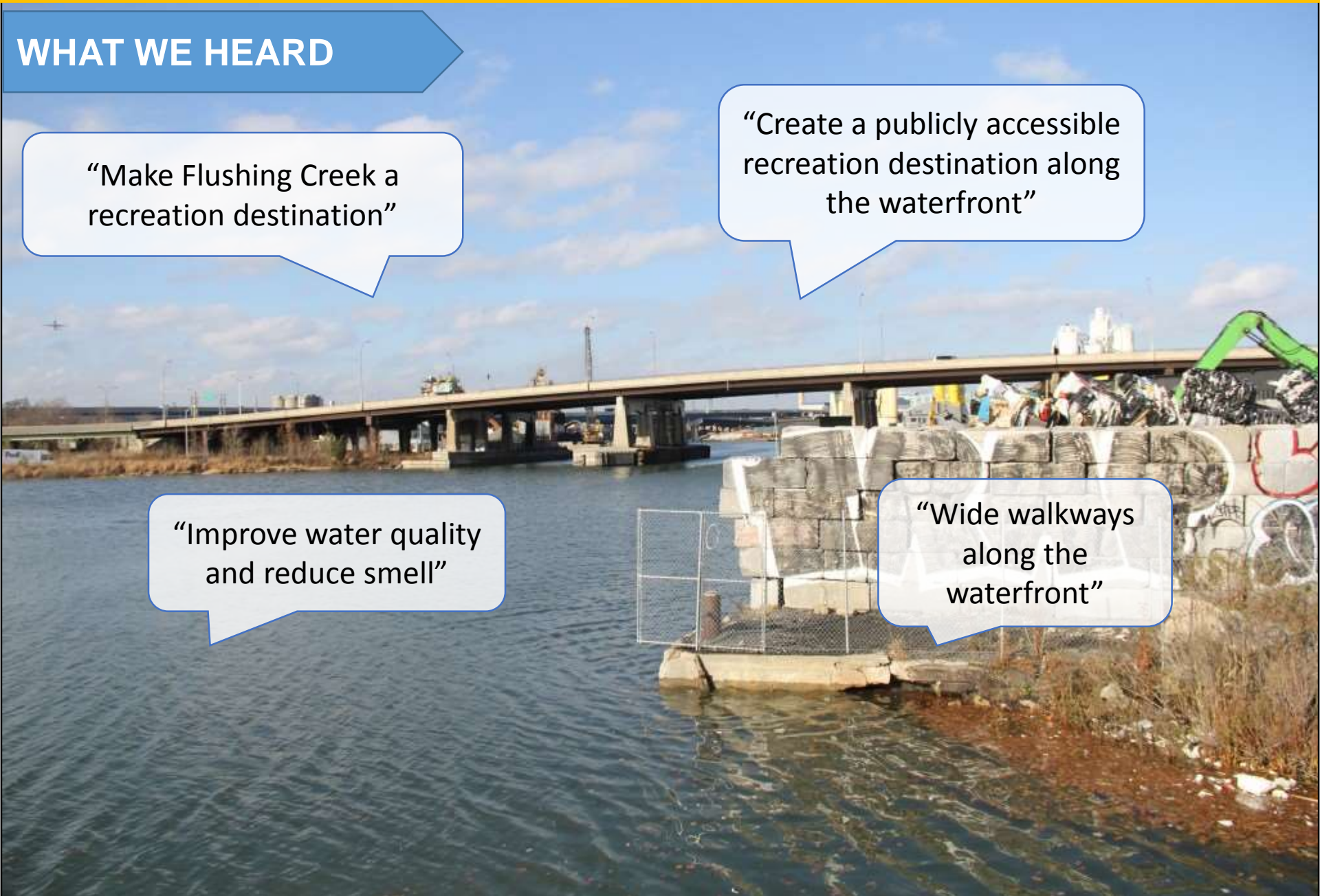
WHAT WE HEARD

“Make Flushing Creek a recreation destination”

“Create a publicly accessible recreation destination along the waterfront”

“Improve water quality and reduce smell”

“Wide walkways along the waterfront”



GOAL 01: IMPROVE FLUSHING CREEK WATER QUALITY

Strategies to improve water quality will build upon existing and planned projects:

- Flushing Bay and Creek restoration activities
- Flushing Creek's Watershed has been identified as a green infrastructure priority area by DEP

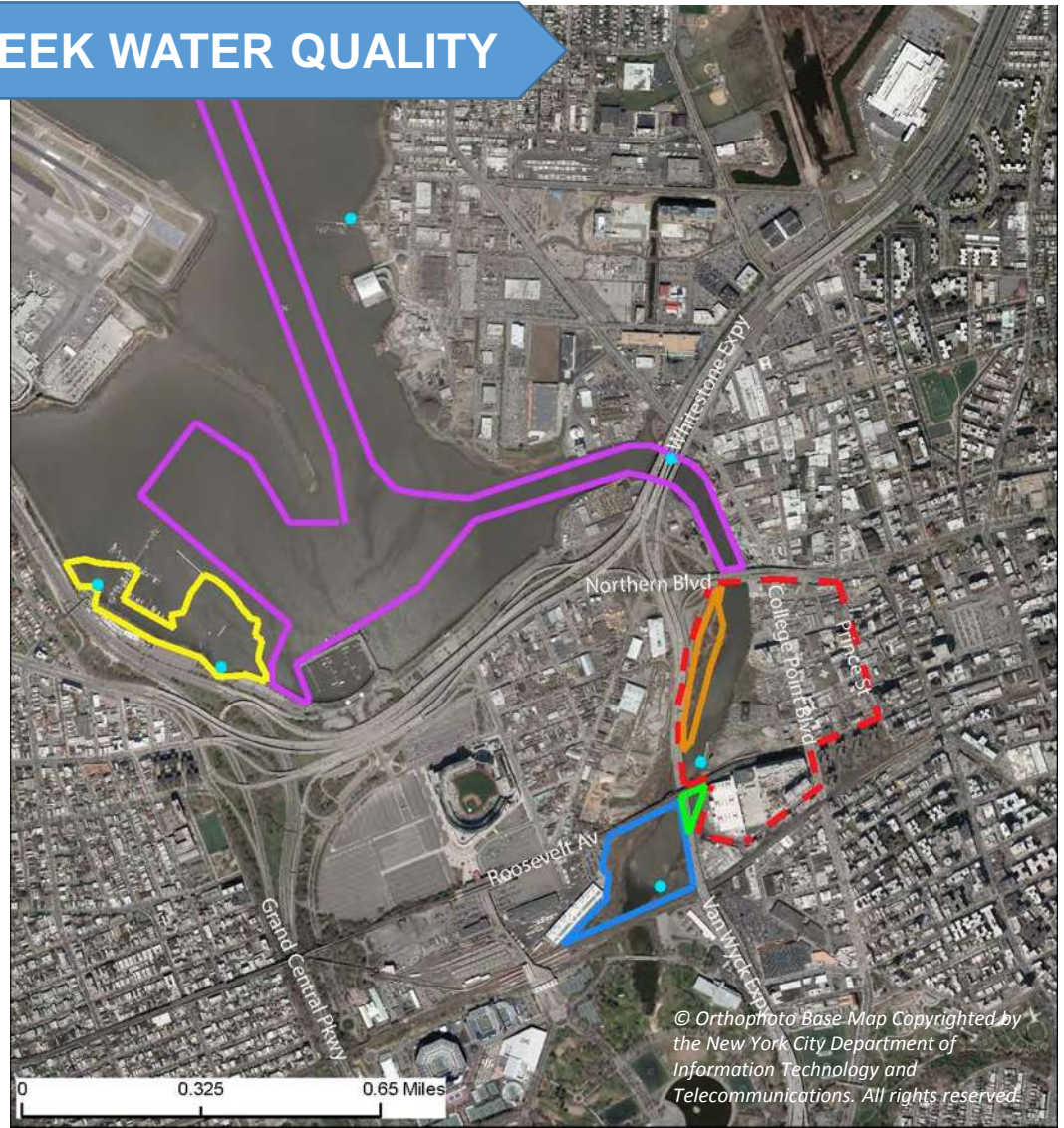


Image: NYC DEP

Green Infrastructure - Bioswale

 <p>USACE Navigation Channel Maintenance Dredging 150,000 cubic yards of material to be removed \$21M, Funded Dredging Completed January 2016</p>	 <p>DEP Environmental Dredging and Wetland Planting 17.5 acres, 91,600 cubic yards of material to be removed \$38.8M, Funded Complete Dredging and Planting: 2019</p>	 <p>NYS DOT Wetland 2.5 acres Completed in 2008</p>
 <p>USACE/DEP Feasibility Study 32 acres \$2.9M for study, Funded; Implementation, Unfunded Complete Study: Spring 2016; Complete Dredging: TBD</p>	 <p>Con Edison Creek Remediation 0.4 acres, 2,500 cubic yards of material to be removed Complete Dredging: 2016</p>	 <p>Flushing West Study Area</p>

NYC Department of City Planning - Queens Office *Dredging areas and CSO outfalls are approximate

GOAL 02: IMPROVE SHORELINE CONDITIONS & WATERFRONT ACCESS



Existing Shoreline



Proposed Waterfront Public Access



Marginal Street



Proposed Street Network

WHAT WE HEARD



“Streetscape improvements to enhance and support walkability”

“Transit center needed to direct bus layovers away from downtown area”

“Improve station accessibility for 7 train”

“Need separated bike lanes, connections, and racks”

“Would be nice to have public plaza with seating in the center”

GOAL: IMPROVE PEDESTRIAN SAFETY & INTERMODAL NETWORK

- Pedestrian safety improvements along Main Street and College Point Boulevard
- Prince Street Triangle Plaza improvements
- College Point Blvd. + Roosevelt Avenue intersection study
- #7 subway station access improvements
- Provide relief from bus layovers



Sidewalk Congestion on Main Street

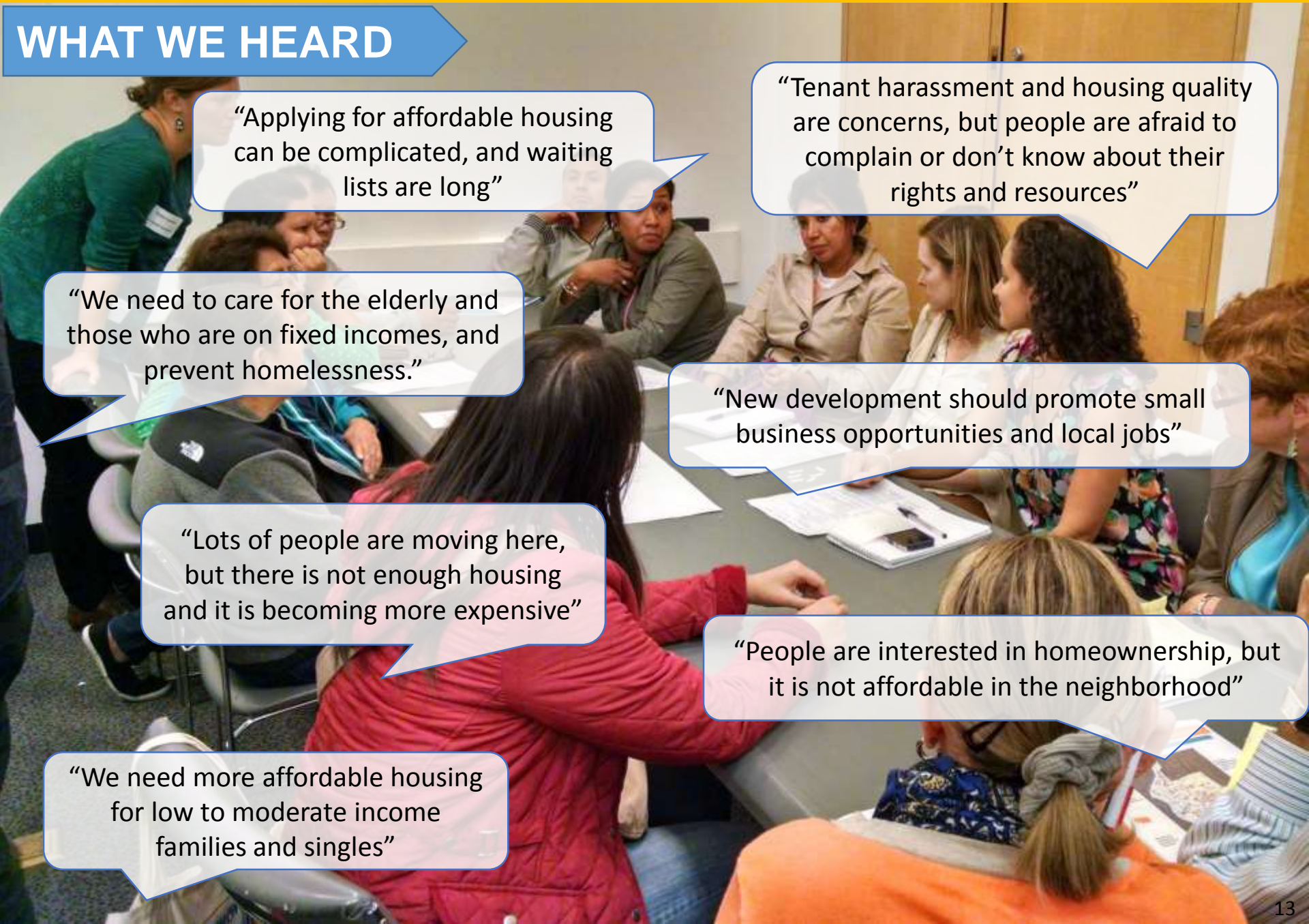


College Point Blvd. and Roosevelt Ave.



Prince Street Triangle

WHAT WE HEARD



“Applying for affordable housing can be complicated, and waiting lists are long”

“Tenant harassment and housing quality are concerns, but people are afraid to complain or don’t know about their rights and resources”

“We need to care for the elderly and those who are on fixed incomes, and prevent homelessness.”

“New development should promote small business opportunities and local jobs”

“Lots of people are moving here, but there is not enough housing and it is becoming more expensive”

“People are interested in homeownership, but it is not affordable in the neighborhood”

“We need more affordable housing for low to moderate income families and singles”

GOAL 01: PROTECT FLUSHING TENANTS FROM DISPLACEMENT

- Deploy recently enhanced [anti-displacement programs and services](#), including code enforcement, free legal services, Tenant Support Unit, Tenant Harassment Task Force, programs for seniors, at-risk families, homeowners, and more



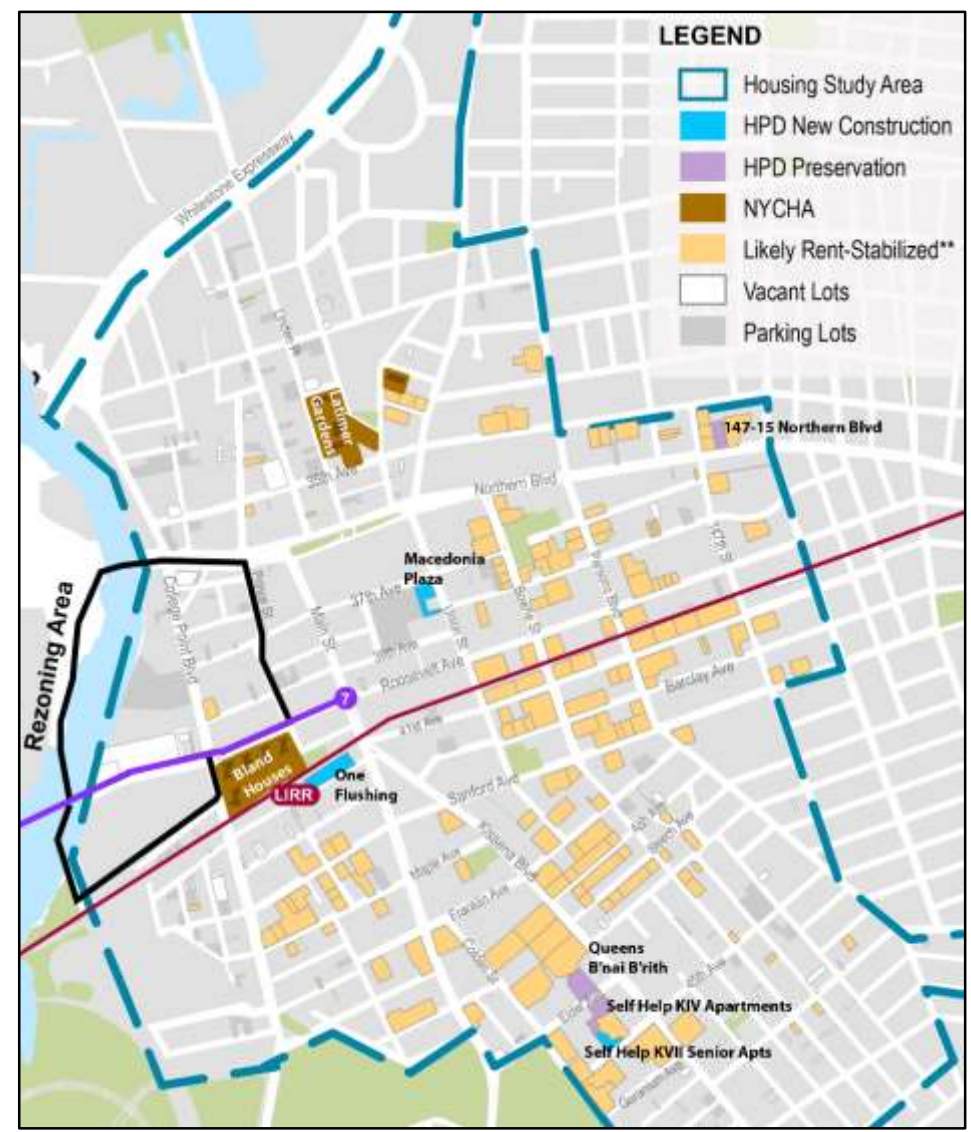
GOAL 01: PROTECT FLUSHING TENANTS FROM DISPLACEMENT

- Work with community groups & elected officials in Flushing to enhance tenants' access to information
- Make it easier to apply for HPD affordable housing by expanding range of credit and background eligibility, and by working closely with community on the application process



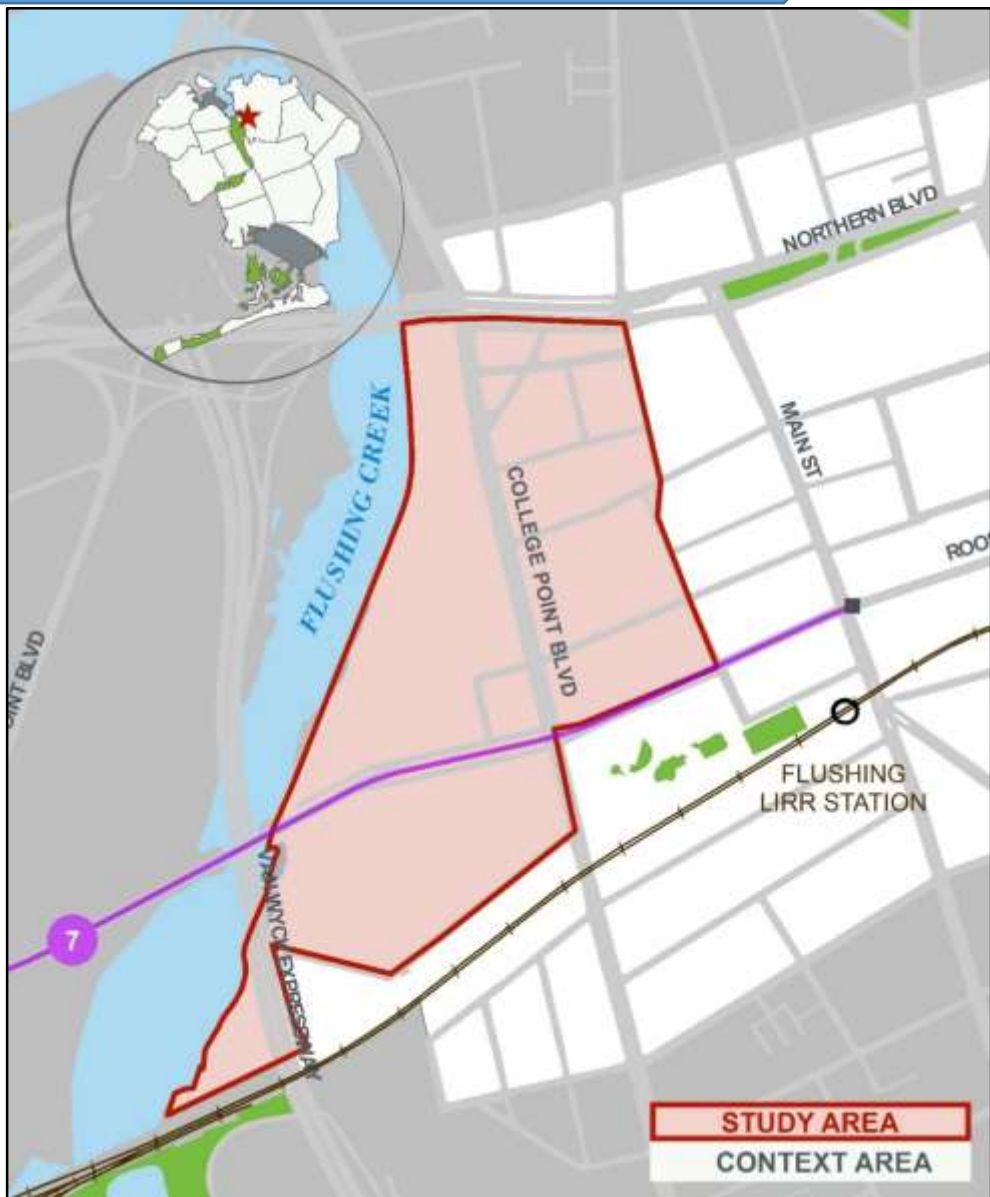
GOAL 02: PRESERVE EXISTING AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN FLUSHING

- Enhance marketing and outreach efforts in the area to owners of buildings that are not currently government assisted/regulated
- Implement the new **Green Housing Program** to encourage energy efficiency, conservation, and to keep rents affordable
- Work to **preserve existing regulatory agreements** for affordable housing in the area



GOAL 03: DEVELOP NEW AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN FLUSHING

- Implement the [Mandatory Inclusionary Housing](#) program within the rezoning area
- Encourage private and mission-driven developers to build affordable housing on [public and private sites with HPD subsidy](#)



GOAL 04: PROMOTE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN FLUSHING

- Leverage new affordable housing developments to strengthen small businesses and create local jobs by expanding opportunities for **minority and women-owned businesses**; implementing **HireNYC**; and integrating new housing with **spaces for small business and retail**



WHAT WE HEARD



“Need additional sanitation services to maintain thriving Flushing commercial corridors”

“Need more job training programs”

“Need greater access to business and workforce resources”

“Need M/WBE certification assistance”

“Need legal assistance for lease negotiations”

GOAL 01: STRENGTHEN COMMERCIAL CORRIDORS

- Work with local business organizations to conduct [Commercial Needs Assessments](#) on major commercial corridors, and implement recommendations



GOAL 02: SUPPORT EXISTING BUSINESSES & BUSINESS GROWTH

- Conduct workshops to help business owners negotiate **commercial leases** and obtain **M/WBE certification** for doing business with the City
- Implement the **Small Business First Initiative** to assist business owners with navigating City regulations
- Provide **FastTrac GrowthVenture** business education training



GOAL 03: CONNECT RESIDENTS TO CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

- Connect local residents to [career training and job opportunities](#) in City-funded developments
- Provide additional resources to the existing [Workforce1 Satellite Center](#)



Image: NYC SBS

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