

# Flushing Bay Promenade Community Advisory Committee Kickoff

March 4, 2021



NYC Parks



# House Rules

- Please note this Kickoff Meeting is being recorded.
- Please keep your microphone muted during the presentation.
- Feel free to turn your camera on when you are introducing yourself. Otherwise, please keep your cameras off during the presentation.
- There will be time for Q&A at the end of the presentation.

# Agenda

- Welcome
- Introduction of PANYNJ and NYC Parks Staff
- Purpose of the Community Advisory Committee
- Introduction of CAC Members
- History of the Flushing Bay Promenade
- Promenade Improvements / AirTrain LGA
- CAC Member Roles & Responsibilities
- Public/Community Engagement for Promenade Improvements
- Design Consultant – Marvel
- Next Steps
- Q&A

# Introductions

## The Port Authority of NY & NJ

- Larry Gallegos
- Shanel Thomas-Henry
- Michelle Cohen
- Matthew DiScenna
- John Francescon
- Hersh Parekh
- John Vicinanza

## NYC Department of Parks & Recreation

- Chris Ameigh
- Meira Berkower
- Mike Bradley
- Nate Grove
- Janice Melnick
- Adrienne Weremchuk

# Community Advisory Committee

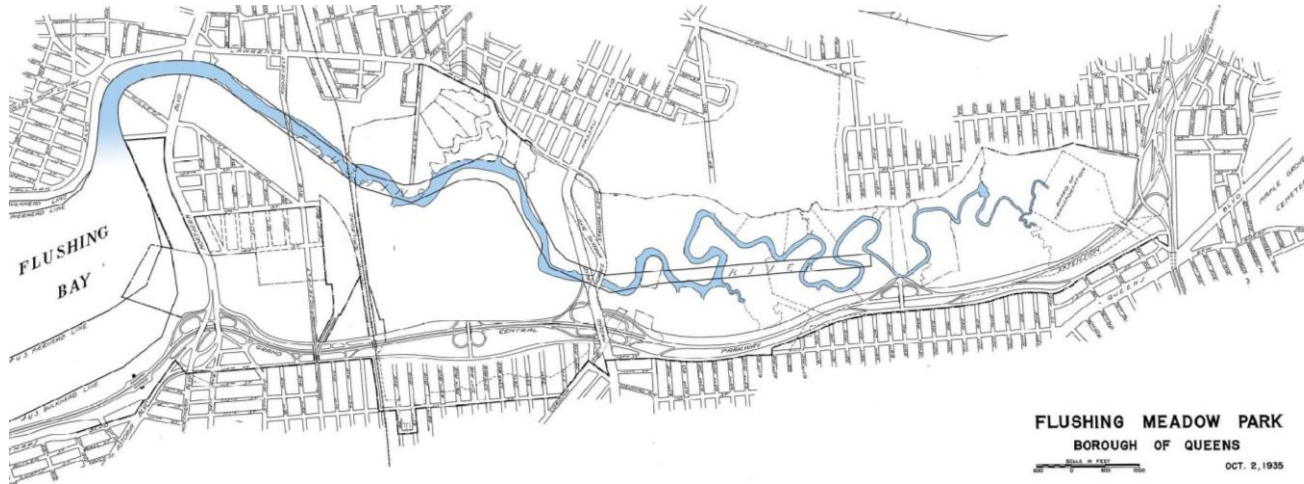
## Purpose

The Community Advisory Committee will participate in the development of the design for the proposed improvements to the Flushing Bay Promenade. The CAC will help share information and solicit community input in the development of a uniform and cohesive plan for the full scope and detailed design of the proposed improvements to the Flushing Bay Promenade and the Ditmars Blvd. entrances to the pedestrian bridges at 27th Ave. and 31st Dr. that provide access to the Promenade.

## Membership

- Alliance for Flushing Meadows Corona Park
- Community Board 3, Queens
- Community Board 7, Queens
- Delta Air Lines
- Ditmars Boulevard Block Association
- East Elmhurst Corona Civic Association
- Elmcors Youth & Adult Activities
- Flushing Meadows Corona Park Conservancy
- Flushing Willets Point Corona LDC
- Guardians of Flushing Bay
- LaGuardia Gateway Partners
- NAACP – East Elmhurst Corona Branch
- Queens Chamber of Commerce
- Queens Development Group
- Queens Economic Development Corp.
- New York League of Conservation Voters
- New Yorkers for Parks
- Skyline Cruises (Representative of Boat Owners)
- Transportation Alternatives
- Trust for Public Land
- US Tennis Association – National Tennis Center
- Waterfront Alliance
- World’s Fair Marina Restaurant & Banquet

# History of the Flushing Bay Promenade



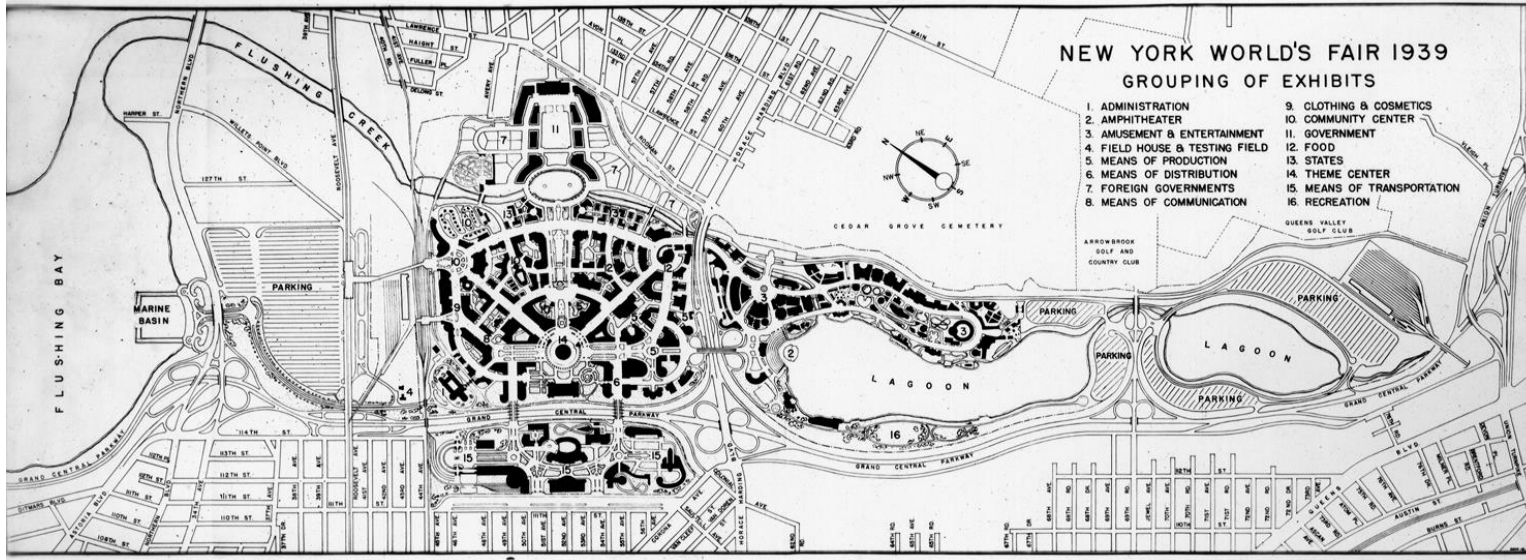
Before 1900: Tidal Estuary



Early 1900's: The Infamous Ash Dumps



# History of the Flushing Bay Promenade – World's Fairs



1939- 1940

1964-1965



# Flushing Bay & Promenade





# AirTrain LGA



The proposed AirTrain LGA will impact the Flushing Bay Promenade, which is part of Flushing Meadows Corona Park. To mitigate these impacts, the Port Authority will complete improvements\* to the Promenade, the design of which is subject to the approval of NYC Parks.

\*The proposed improvements would not be undertaken unless and until the FAA completes its NEPA review and issues a ROD approving the project, and the Port Authority commences AirTrain LGA construction.

# Community Advisory Committee

## Roles & Responsibilities

- Meet periodically with the Port Authority and NYC Parks throughout design and construction.
- Serve as a feedback forum and focus group to review design ideas.
- Assist with community engagement and serve as a bridge to assist in the sharing of information between the Port Authority, NYC Parks, the Design team, and the broader community
- Note: The CAC will supplement, not limit or replace, other outreach to the broader local community, such as Community Board consultations and public Promenade improvements scoping sessions.
- **Time commitment.** While at times it may be necessary for you to designate a replacement, we expect that the principal members of the CAC will participate in as many of its meetings and activities as possible.
- **Entity (Not Individual) Membership.** Membership in the CAC will be afforded to the entity, not an individual. Thus, once a committee member is no longer affiliated with the stakeholder or organization, the seat on the CAC would pass to that person's successor or other representative from the organization.

# Community Advisory Committee

## Conflicts of Interest

- The Port Authority and NYC Parks seek impartial input regarding the improvement of the Flushing Bay Promenade. The willingness of CAC members to provide such advice could make it difficult, if not infeasible, for that organization and/or representative to later pursue contract opportunities related to the work contemplated. Entities/Members who would be interested in pursuing such work may be required to recuse themselves from specific discussions. Some prospective entities/members may find it advisable to decline membership if such conflicts are likely to arise frequently.

# **NYC Parks: Public Engagement Process for Capital Improvements**



# Design Consultant

- The Port Authority issued a Request for Professional Architecture & Engineering Design Services in August 2020.
- After reviewing several proposals, the Port Authority awarded the contract to Marvel, a NY-based, minority-owned architecture and landscape architecture firm with an impressive portfolio and over 20 years of experience in public and private projects.
- Marvel will work with the Port Authority and NYC Parks to create a plan that dramatically improves the green space and amenities of the Promenade based on input from the local community.



**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

**Professional Architecture & Engineering Design Services for the Flushing Bay Promenade**

**Deadline: Thursday 9/17/20**

The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey is accepting responses to a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a landscape architecture or engineering firm to design improvements to the Flushing Bay Promenade as part of the AirTrain LGA project.

The awardee of the RFP will assist the Port Authority in developing a concrete plan that improves the Promenade, including:

- Beautify a main gateway to Flushing Meadows-Corona Park
- Provide amenities for the local community and other park users
- Improve the Ditmars Boulevard entrances to pedestrian bridges at 27th Avenue and 31st Drive
- Alleviate disruptions to park resources

To submit proposals in response to RFP-61763: [tinyurl.com/y4j2mfqo](https://tinyurl.com/y4j2mfqo)

**Info Session: Thursday, 9/10/20 at 10AM**  
Register: [tinyurl.com/y46bv8jy](https://tinyurl.com/y46bv8jy)

A WHOLE NEW **LGA** PORT AUTHORITY NY NJ

**Marvel**

**MV**

# Next Steps

- **March-April** – Marvel interviews with CAC members
- **Tuesday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 pm** – (Virtual) Public Scoping Meeting  
Please help us spread the word – flyer forthcoming.
- **Mid-to-Late April** – Promenade Walkthrough with CAC members  
What works better – a weekday or weekend?

# Contact Us

- For more information: [www.anewlga.com/airtrain/flushing-bay-promenade-improvements/](http://www.anewlga.com/airtrain/flushing-bay-promenade-improvements/)  
(This PowerPoint presentation will be posted on that website.)
- Email:  
Shanel Thomas-Henry, [shtomas@panynj.gov](mailto:shtomas@panynj.gov)  
Larry Gallegos, [lgallegos@panynj.gov](mailto:lgallegos@panynj.gov)



# Q&A

Please enter questions in the Q&A or Chat box or select the Raise Hand button near your name. If you are dialing in via phone, dial \*3 to raise your hand.

