Our Coast, Our Future
A roadmap to resilience in New York and New Jersey

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Waterfront Alliance
Who we are

The Waterfront Alliance inspires and effects resilient, revitalized, and accessible coastlines for all communities.
Scope
Our Priorities

Strong

Healthy

Open

Managed

WATERFRONT ALLIANCE
1,000,000+
In the floodplain
TODAY
$20,000,000,000
In National Flood Insurance Program
DEBT
6:1
Return on investment for flood risk reduction

You’re telling me... you want me to invest in a building that’s not flood resilient? That’s bad business...
Public Housing Developments in the Floodplain
IN THE RED
Storms and sea level rise widen wealth gaps

INVESTIGATIONS
How Federal Disaster Money Favors The Rich
March 5, 2019 · 5:00 AM ET
Heard on All Things Considered

REBECCA HERSHER  ROBERT BENINCASA
106 mi$^2$ wetlands at risk by 2100
And it’s not just numbers...
It’s getting to work
It’s playing outside
It’s our culture
It’s home
What is the future that we want?
We need consensus and a galvanized constituency
Our process

We are here

2020 Action Agenda & Campaign
But we agree that a resilient future is…

- Risk-informed
- Managed
- Equitable and Just
- Funded
- Green
There are solutions! No silver bullet or scale.
What can we do at a federal level to adapt and ensure green and equitable approaches?

- Fund them
- Improve cost-benefit analyses
- Invest in/ask communities
- Reform FEMA and NFIP
- Build awareness
- Facilitate efficiencies
A simultaneous federal project: NY/NJ HATS

NY&NJ HATS Interim Report

Main Report
Cost Analysis
Economics
Engineering
GIS Report
Plan Formulation
Public Engagement

NY & NJ Harbor & Tributaries Focus Area Feasibility Study (HATS)

Coastal storms have severely impacted the north Atlantic coast of the United States, including the New York-New Jersey Harbor region. In response to these storms, the US Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) is investigating measures to manage future flood risk in ways that support the long-term resilience and sustainability of the coastal ecosystem and surrounding communities, and reduce the economic costs and risks associated with flood and storm events. In support of this goal, the Corps completed the North Atlantic Coast Comprehensive Study, which identified nine high-risk, focus areas on the north Atlantic Coast for further in-depth analysis into potential coastal storm risk management measures. One of the nine areas identified was the New York-New Jersey Harbor and Tributaries study area.
But if we can’t figure it out, Ron will
Thank you!

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