



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**
New York District



New York - New Jersey
Harbor Estuary Program



Notice of
PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING
for the
Hudson-Raritan Estuary:
COMPREHENSIVE RESTORATION PLAN

Harlem River, East River, Western Long Island Sound Planning Region

July 7, 2011

Alley Pond Environmental Center*
228-06 Northern Blvd.
Douglaston, NY 11362

DAY SESSION

2 to 4 p.m. with a Presentation

EVENING SESSION

6 to 8 p.m. with a Presentation

The New York District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, in partnership with the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey and the New York / New Jersey Harbor Estuary Program (HEP), has developed a Comprehensive Restoration Plan (Plan) to restore the Hudson-Raritan ecosystem. A draft Plan has been prepared in collaboration with the region's states and federal agencies and non-governmental organizations as a part of the Hudson-Raritan Estuary Ecosystem Restoration Feasibility Study. The Plan also has been adopted by the HEP Partners as the "path forward" for future restoration in the Estuary. Public review and assistance is being sought to tailor the Plan to meet local needs and opportunities.

The Hudson-Raritan Estuary is a complex ecological system in the midst of a thriving metropolitan center. The estuary includes rivers, wetlands, coastline, and open waters spanning more than 1,600 square miles across New York and New Jersey. The Estuary ecosystem has been degraded from centuries of industrialization and urbanization throughout the watershed. This Plan provides the framework for an estuary-wide restoration program by identifying eleven specific habitat and ecological targets to focus restoration efforts on.

The Plan calls for the establishment of tidal wetlands, oyster reefs, eelgrass beds, islands for waterbirds and coastal and maritime forests, as well as the re-establishment of connectivity between habitats, such as tributaries and shorelines and shallows, and habitat complexes for fish and crustaceans.

The reversal of human-induced degradation (contaminated sediments and enclosed and confined waters) and increasing and improving public access throughout the estuary are also priority goals of the Plan. Restoring the Estuary will create a mosaic of habitats—where nature and people coexist and where the environment and economy receive balanced consideration—providing us with all the benefits the estuary can offer striving to be a World Class Estuary.

The purpose of these meetings is to introduce the Comprehensive Restoration Plan to the public and be an opportunity for stakeholders of each Planning Region to identify potential restoration actions that could implement the goals of the overall plan in their community. This information will aid in the revision and further development of the Plan.

Plan partners will present an overview of the Plan, with a special emphasis on restoration projects and opportunities specific to the local planning region and mechanisms for current and future input. Following the overviews, partners will be available to meet with participants to discuss existing conditions and restoration goals for the estuary as a whole, and how they can reflect local concerns/needs to be implemented within the region. The meeting will consist of display boards and a presentation which will provide the opportunity for the public to comment on the Plan.

To date, meetings have been held within the planning regions for *Jamaica Bay, Newark Bay/Hackensack River/Lower Passaic River, Upper Bay, Lower Raritan River, Arthur Kill/Kill Van Kull, Lower Bay, and Lower Hudson River.*

In preparation for the meeting, you are invited to review the draft Plan, which is available on the below websites:

<http://www.watersweshare.org>
<http://www.nan.usace.army.mil/harbor/crp/>

To provide comments or to request a hard copy of the Plan, please email:
HRE-PLAN-Comments@usace.army.mil

For questions about the Plan or the HRE Restoration Study, please contact:

Ms. Lisa Baron, Army Corps Chief, Harbor Programs Branch
E-mail: lisa.a.baron@usace.army.mil
Phone: 917.790.8306

Mr. Peter Wepler, Army Corps Chief, Coastal Ecosystem Section
E-mail: peter.m.wepler@usace.army.mil
Phone: 917.790.8634

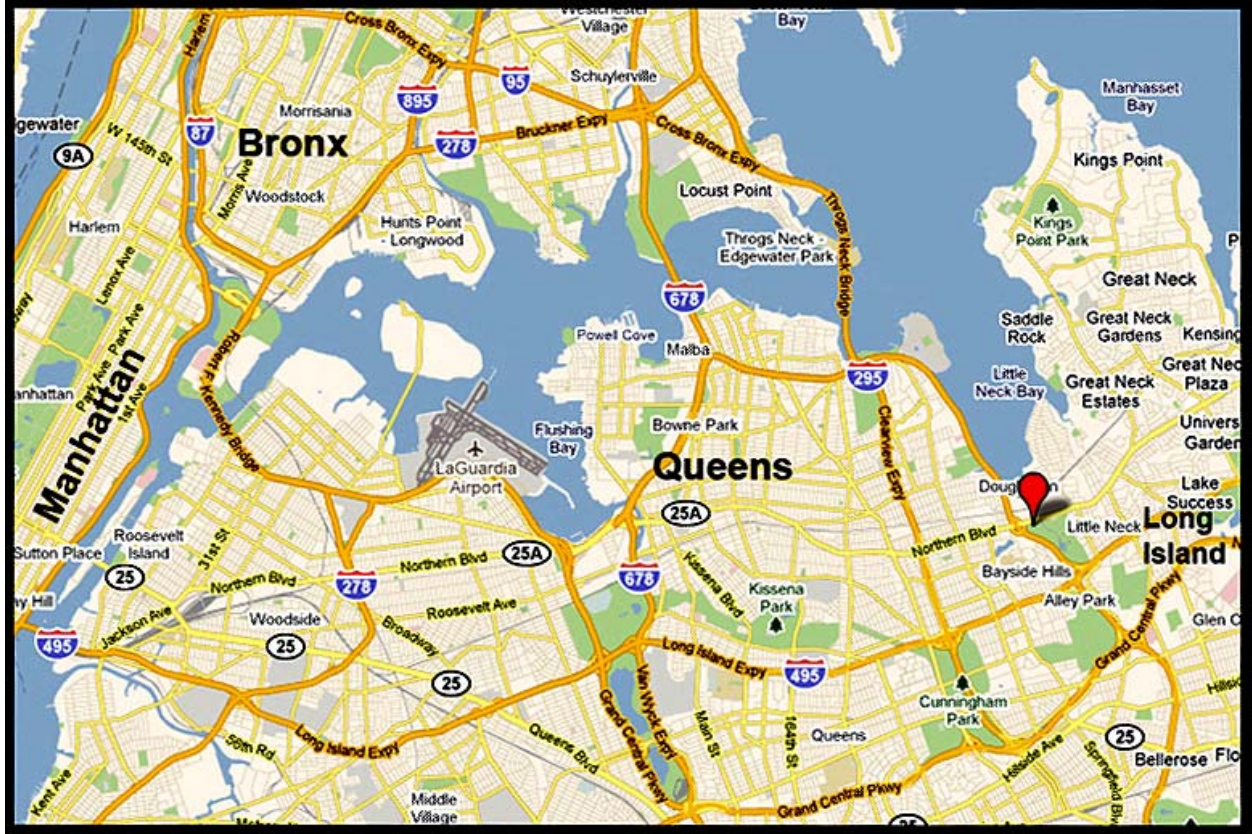
**Facility is fully accessible to persons with disabilities.*





Planning Region -- Harlem River, East River, Western Long Island Sound





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