



# GOWANUS CANAL COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP (CAG)

*your local voice for Superfund*

For more information: [www.GowanusCAG.org](http://www.GowanusCAG.org)

*The following CAG resolution requests formal consideration by the indicated parties to conduct activities related to the Gowanus Canal Cleanup with regard to the concerns and interests of the Gowanus community.*

**TITLE:** 4th Street Turning Basin Archaeological Artifacts and the Need for a MOA/Programmatic Agreement

**TO:** U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 2  
NYC Landmarks Preservation Commission  
NY State Historic Preservation Office

**DATE:** January 22, 2019

**Resolved:** EPA and the PRP's pursuant to Section 106 be responsible for maintaining all cultural material recovered and retained from the 4th Street Turning Basin Pilot Project and currently stored on a privately-owned space. The EPA indicated the cultural materials must be removed by the end of January 2019.

**Resolved:** These cultural materials are of interest to the Gowanus community and the CAG members as tangible remnants of the community's past, therefore the cultural materials recovered from the 4th Street Basin Pilot Project and cultural materials removed subsequently during the cleanup of the Gowanus Canal as the project proceeds, be addressed in the Programmatic Agreement (PA).

**Resolved:** The Archaeology Committee and the Gowanus community enough time to find a temporary or permanent repository for the cultural materials recovered from the 4th Street Basin Pilot Project, therefore, it is the EPA's responsibility to secure a location and find the monies to relocate these items and store the collection until the disposition of cultural material excavated from the Gowanus Canal channel is resolved through a PA.

**Resolved:** The Archaeology Committee asks that EPA follow the guidelines set by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation regarding community input, consultation and review of documents, including the PA, relating to historic properties within the project's Area of Potential Effect (APE) and cultural material recovered from the Gowanus Canal project.

**Resolved:** Members of the Gowanus Community, including CAG members shall be the custodians and trustees of all artifacts recently discovered and all artifacts discovered in the future in the Gowanus Canal Corridor during the remainder of the Gowanus Canal Superfund cleanup.

**Gowanus CAG Resolution: 4th Street Turning Basin Archaeological Artifacts and the Need for a MOA/Programmatic Agreement (page 2 of 2)**

**Background:**

Gowanus CAG Archaeology Committee Mission Statement:

- To protect, preserve and document and to memorialize, the cultural and natural history of the Gowanus Canal.  
To restore the community memory of the working canal and make this unique heritage
- publicly accessible.  
To raise awareness of the historic landscape without hindering the canal cleanup.
- To share the history of the Canal with the larger community and ensure the historic
- investigation and research are public and accessible.

**MOA/Programmatic Agreement**

A Programmatic Agreement (PA) is a document prepared under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, documenting the path forward on a specific federal undertaking that an agency or agencies, will take regarding historic properties. The PA is developed in consultation with consulting parties such as State Historic Preservation Office, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, local community groups and other interested parties. The PA shall address known historic properties with the APE, both in-channel and on- shore, including but not limited to bulkheads and bridges; address additional cultural resources studies, as needed, to identify historic properties as project plans are developed and as the project proceeds as well as address unanticipated finds. The PA will address cultural materials (artifacts) that has been removed from the Gowanus Canal through the 4th Street Turning Basin

**Cc:**

Olivia Brazee, New York State Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation  
Sarah Carroll, Chair, NYC Landmarks Preservation Commission  
Christos Tsiamis, USEPA Gowanus Canal RPM  
Brad Lander, NYC City Council Member  
Jo Anne Simon, Assembly Woman  
Natalie Loney, USEPA Gowanus Canal CIC  
Walter Mugdan, USEPA Region 2

***Please direct responses and inquiries to [gowanuscag@gmail.com](mailto:gowanuscag@gmail.com).***