



GOWANUS CANAL COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP (CAG)

your local voice for Superfund

For more information: www.GowanusCAG.org

The following CAG resolution requests formal consideration by the parties to which it is addressed, as well as a written response. The CAG advises the EPA on the Gowanus Canal Cleanup with regard to the concerns and interests of the Gowanus community.

TITLE: Process and Design of Gowanus Canal CSO Facility - Owls Head

TO: Vincent Sapienza, Commissioner, NYC Department of Environmental Protection

DATE: June 22, 2021

Resolved,

In recognition of the current ULURP (Uniform Land Use Review Procedure) underway for the Site Selection and Acquisition of property by the City and change to the City Map to facilitate a new combined sewer overflow (CSO) facility (aka "Gowanus Canal CSO Facility - Owls Head") that is being sought by the City adjacent to the Gowanus Canal west of 2nd Avenue and north of the 6th Street Turning Basin in Gowanus, Community District 6, Brooklyn, the CAG requests the following:

- **Conduct an in-person public input session with additional Zoom access in partnership with the Gowanus CAG as soon as possible to facilitate public input prior to finalization of site, tank, and headhouse design and an initial presentation of the project design to the community, supported by the CAG's Resolution, "[Requesting Public Engagement Regarding Mid-Canal CSO Tank Design](#)" dated July 2020. Following this, and taking community feedback into account, additional presentations will be made at four key milestones: 100% schematic design, 100% design development, 100% bid documents, and documents issued for construction;**
- Meet the EPA deadline for construction of the retention tanks described in the CAG's Resolution, "[Supporting EPA's Position on NYC's Request to Extend Deadlines for Construction of CSO Tanks](#)," dated January 26, 2021;
- Include safe access/egress to and from the canal in the design as described in the CAG's Resolution, "[Safe Emergency Access to, and Egress from, the Gowanus Canal](#)," dated October 23, 2018;
- Undertake ecological restoration opportunities as described in the CAG's Resolution, "[Preliminary Sites for NRDA Restoration Process](#)," dated September 26, 2017, and supported by the CAG's Resolution, "[Ecological Restoration](#)," dated May, 2012, and "[Design that is supportive of Marine Life](#)," dated June 2016

Background:

Each CSO retention tank facility offers the city and community a rare opportunity to leverage critical urban infrastructure to improve our environment while ensuring minimal disruption to local stakeholders. An integrated design approach with clear community input that improves canal access and egress, restores tidal estuarine ecology including habitat for key marine and bird species, and diverts harmful contaminants from the waterway is a benefit to the community and city.



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Cc:

Christos Tsiamis, Project Manager, Environmental Protection Agency
Brian Carr, Counsel, Environmental Protection Agency
Honorable Nydia Velazquez, Congresswoman, NY 7th District
Honorable Jo Anne Simon, Assemblymember, Assembly District 52
Honorable Jabari Brisport, Senator, Senate District 25
Honorable Eric Adams, Brooklyn Borough President
Honorable Brad Lander, Council Member, District 39
Honorable Stephen Levin, Council Member, District 33
Mike Racioppo, District Manager, Community Board 6
Marisa Lago, Chair, City Planning Commission
Susan Maresca, NRD Trustee, Department of Environmental Conservation
Anne Secord, NRD Trustee, US Fish and Wildlife
Ken Finkelstein, NRD Trustee, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Please direct responses and inquiries to doug@forumfg.com.