

JAMAICA BAY: ELEMENTAL ADAPTATION

In the face of a dramatically changing climate, Jamaica Bay will achieve resiliency only when its natural and human systems are united. Five ideals will inform interventions in the area. These ideals inform our design strategies, which will strengthen ties between environment, community, and economy as Jamaica Bay changes through 2080, and beyond.

Specific interventions are considered in terms of their ecological impact, their inclusion of the community, and their ability to generate economic activity. The ability of the human and ecological communities to adapt, both physically and socially, is integral to this process. Changes must be self sustaining, informative, and cohesive for the good of the people living beyond the rising water, and for the ecosystem throughout.

REGULATING FLOWS

Design strategies seek to facilitate the movement of storm water, rising sea levels, human information and local participation networks, as well as foster local production and economic stability.

ENRICHING LIFE

Components of the design strategy will provide new spaces for humans and biota to live in harmony. Partnerships among local organizations afford new economic and social opportunities for residents.

MAINTAINING QUALITY

Biodiverse landscapes will help restore the environment and bring balance and variety to a healthy estuarine system. Involvement in remediation and education will provide transferable skills and local generation of remediation materials support a healthy economy throughout a period of dynamic change.

ADJUSTING TO CHANGE

Green infrastructure, wetlands and oyster restoration can allow for a guided inundation of areas experiencing sea-level rise. Community engagement and participation keep local stakeholders informed and able to shape remediation efforts based on their own preferences.

PLAN-TING AHEAD

Ecological interventions will be especially flexible in order to allow for the dynamism of climate change. Research institutions and community foundations will provide the public with updated information. Temporary manufacturing provides local materials for adaptation efforts, and then can move on to the next adapting community.

ECOSYSTEM FUNCTIONS AND METRICS

The adaptations to Jamaica Bay benefit its environment, its communities, and the economy by utilizing metrics with tangible results. These are informed by the synergy of natural growth and human innovation. Research and data will be determined and collected by the local government through public and private institutions, and organizations. Each scenario over time seeks to strengthen and connect within the framework of the five major themes. On a more micro scale, each individual component does not exist apart from the other factors, and design metrics have been rated for their impact in the five themes of flow, enrichment, quality, change, and planning for the future.

LEGEND

METRICS + WEB DIAGRAMS



