Given the geology of Staten Island, an estimated 25 feet above sea level, the island is a low-lying, sandy outwash plain. Without a strong human effort, the site would naturally support a barrier island as sea levels rise and longshore drift alters the interface of land and water.

This 7.5 mile island will defend Staten Island better than any man-made structure. The island is programmatically connected upland via the Willowbrook Ravine, a former highway right-of-way along the degraded former course of the Great Kill. Combining Blue and Green Belts in a non-naturalistic form can provide miles of habitat, recreation, and storm defense.

**Barrier Phasing**

- **1890 - 1913**: Geopolitical & hydrologically, what the shore needs.
- **1919 - 1944**: Intercoastal waterway supporting human activities and animal habitat.
- **1950 - 2019**: shoreline accompanies the gradual retreat from the ocean.
- **2020 - 2070**: Building out Green Belt improves mobility across the shore.
- **2080 - 2090**: Non-naturalistic form can provide miles of habitat, recreation, and storm defense.

**Blue/Green Connections**

- Willowbrook Ravine: Highway right-of-way, active green belt trail and bluebelt.
- Fr. Capodanno Trail: Shore road — Shore stabilization
- Shoreline protection
- Restored maritime forest
- Stabilization dikes
- Groundwater trail

**Line of Fire**

- In the back of the Right