

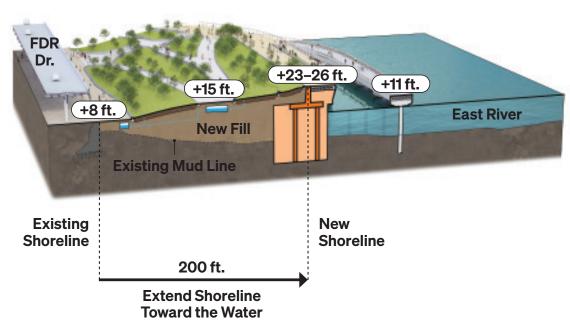
Protecting FiDi, Building the Future

The FiDi and Seaport Climate Resilience Plan

New York City's Lower Manhattan Coastal Resiliency (LMCR) initiative is delivering comprehensive protection through a series of interconnected projects along the waterfront. Most of these efforts are either underway or nearing the completion of their design phases. The Financial District and Seaport Climate Resilience Plan (shown in the conceptual renders throughout this newsletter) will bridge the existing gap in the LMCR system. We now need your support and advocacy to transform this vision into reality and secure a resilient future for Lower Manhattan.



Building Multilevel Flood Protection



This project will protect the Financial District and Seaport neighborhoods against sea level rise and coastal storms through 2100, when daily high tides could cause 2 to 5 feet of flooding and coastal storms could bring up to 15 feet of flooding.

The flood protection system involves a complex, large-scale engineering effort. This includes permanently raising the shoreline above the existing esplanade, constructing flood barriers and floodgates, and improving the drainage system. To accommodate the new flood protection, the existing shoreline will be extended into the East River by up to one city block (200 feet). This solution creates a continuous, integrated flood protection system that safeguards critical infrastructure while ensuring that all New Yorkers can continue to access the waterfront.

Creating New Public Open Space



The shoreline extension will add 8 acres of new open space, designed as a multilevel waterfront park. Here, people can enjoy views from upper terraces and get close to the water at the lower esplanade. Lawns and plazas will provide flexible opportunities for community programming, and biodiverse planting will enhance the waterfront ecology. In The Battery, integrating flood protection into the existing park will create new vistas while protecting what makes the park special today.

(Re)constructing Resilient Ferry Terminals



Without action, Lower Manhattan's bustling ferry terminals would face monthly flooding by the 2050s and daily flooding by 2100. Rebuilding these facilities with flood protection will better serve ferry riders and enhance civic spaces. The new Ferry Hub will integrate an electrified Staten Island Ferry, Governors Island Ferry, and U.S. Coast Guard offices into a single building. A new public plaza in front of the Battery Maritime Building will provide open space and manage pedestrian and bicycle traffic along this busy corridor. A few blocks north, the Wall Street/Pier 11 City and regional ferry terminal will be expanded to accommodate more vessels and passengers, support a fully electric fleet, and directly connect to the city's street grid.

Expanding Access to the Waterfront



New open spaces will preserve and expand public access to the waterfront. A continuous two-level waterfront esplanade will extend from The Battery to the historic South Street Seaport. Floodgates will provide street-level access to the piers, while universally accessible pathways will provide access from the street to the upper-level esplanade. Along the South Street corridor, improved bicycle and pedestrian connections will create a smoother route along the tip of Manhattan, with plazas and shaded areas offering places to rest and gather.

Integrating Sustainable Strategies



The scale of this project offers a chance to advance sustainability practices and help the City achieve its emissions goals. This can be accomplished by selecting low-carbon construction materials, utilizing renewable energy and zero-emission fuels, and moving goods via waterways, cargo bikes, and zero-emission vehicles. We can further boost environmental performance by integrating green infrastructure into stormwater systems, supporting biodiversity with climate-resilient planting, and reducing urban heat by providing shade and using cool materials. Throughout the design and construction process, ambitious third-party certifications like Envision, SITES, WEDG, and LEED will guide the project.

