

Brooklyn Marine Terminal Advisory Task Force Meeting #4 Minutes Follow-up Items and Feedback Summary

The following document includes key follow-up items and feedback received during Advisory Task Force (ATF) meeting four for the Brooklyn Marine Terminal (BMT) planning process. The meeting was open for ATF Members to participate, and for members of the public to observe. The [full list of ATF members is available here](#).

The focus of the meeting was to review site-wide resilience, sustainability, and coastal protection strategies for BMT, including the drainage plan, the coastal protection concept design and updated floor barrier alignment, and decarbonization strategies such as electrification and on-site power generation. At the ATF's request, this session was held as a single full-group discussion. ATF member feedback will inform the project team's work to develop the Design Guidelines for the General Project Plan.

Note: Amanda Nichols has completed her term as Cobble Hill Association (CHA) President and has been succeeded by Louis Cox as the new CHA representative, with Bennett Kramer remaining as the CHA alternate.

Date: Friday, June 26th, 2026

Time: 10am – 12pm

Format: Zoom Webinar

Link to Presentation: [NYCEDC-BMT-ATF-Meeting-4-6-26-2026.pdf](#)

Meeting Attendees

Project Team

- Alexis Taylor, NYCEDC
- Ally La Pinta, NYCEDC
- Betty Cao, NYCEDC
- Betsy Daniel, NYCEDC
- David Lowin, NYCEDC
- Jennifer Sun, NYCEDC
- Lizette Chaparro, NYCEDC
- Maisie Jarrell, NYCEDC
- Michele Lamberti, NYCEDC
- Seth Ullman, NYCEDC
- Tali Goldman, NYCEDC
- Destiny Burns, ESD
- Bahij Chancey, WXY
- Adam Lubinsky, WXY
- Moon Mengqi He, WXY
- Alice Shay, Buro Happold

- *Somto Uyanna, Buro Happold*
- *Mat Staudt, OFTN*
- *Pippa Brashear, Scape*
- *Russ Dudley, Arcadis*

Agency Representatives

- *Steve Carrea, NYC DEP*
- *Kathryn Prybylski, NYC DEP*

Advisory Task Force

- Assembly Member Jo Anne Simon
- Assembly Member Marcela Mitaynes
- State Senator Andrew Gounardes
- Arif Sunmonu, Columbia Street Waterfront District Resident
- Bennette Kramer, Cobble Hill Association (alternate)
- Bryan Woll, Columbia Street Waterfront Association
- Carly Baker-Rice, Red Hook Business Alliance
- Emily Landis, Office of Assembly Member Jo Anne Simon
- Cristian Macario, Office of State Senator Kirsten Gillibrand
- Jacinta Chen, Office of State Senator Kirsten Gillibrand
- Jim Tampakis, Marine Spares International
- Karen Blondel, Red Hook Houses West Tenants Association
- Maulin Mehta, Regional Plan Association
- Michael Partis, Red Hook Initiative
- Melanie Kruvelis, Office of Council Member Alexa Aviles
- Nse Esema, Mayoral Representative
- Louis Cox, Cobble Hill Association
- Randy Peers, Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce
- Sabine Aronowsky, Office of Council Member Shahana Hanif
- Samantha Razook, Red Hook Resident Representative
- Sharon Gordon, Columbia Street Waterfront Association (alternate)
- Spencer Williams, Brooklyn Borough President's Office
- Susannah Pasquantonio, Office of Assembly Member Jo Anne Simon
- Thomas Barattini, Shipping Association of NY & NJ
- Tori Kelly, Office of State Senator Andrew Gounardes

Follow-up Items

The Project Team will address the following comments, questions, and requests for information from the ATF in writing and/or during future ATF meetings.

Drainage and Stormwater Infrastructure

- A request to provide a clear, itemized explanation of the specific dependencies between the BMT project and the neighborhood-wide drainage improvements, including whether

the enabling mechanism is City control of the property, developer financing, or specific buildings, along with the projected costs, timelines, and which elements of the greater Red Hook drainage plan are contingent on BMT.

- A request to ensure that stormwater modeling and drainage planning rely on up-to-date, post-Sandy rainfall data.
- A request to assess and, where warranted, facilitate sewer backflow-prevention devices for areas of Red Hook at risk of sewer backup, with accommodation for affected owners and businesses and attention to the need to manage roof water, informed by the ongoing drainage study.
- A request to ensure that discussions and public communications clearly reflect that the Red Hook Area drainage plan area extends beyond Red Hook to include Carroll Gardens, Cobble Hill, and Gowanus (the Gowanus watershed), so that residents in those areas understand they are affected by this effort.

Coastal Protection and Flood Defense

- A request to clarify the level of protection that BMT's resilience investments achieve on their own, in the event that no further peninsula-wide resiliency projects move forward, and explain how this relates to potential flood insurance benefits for existing residents and businesses.
- A request to share any floodgate failure-risk analysis conducted and the emergency response plan for the flood defense system once it's developed, including how potential in-water and on-land gate failures would be mitigated, and the emergency and evacuation circulation needs for the site in the event of failure.

Energy and Decarbonization

- A request to share the ConEd and consultant analyses and scenario planning behind the statement that ConEd can meet BMT's projected demand, including whether the existing grid can absorb the development or will need to be augmented, how the increased demand would be managed, and how capacity planning accounts for existing neighborhood conditions in light of recent grid-capacity concerns related to the pause in implementing the NYS All-Electric Buildings Act.
- A request to invite ConEd to a future ATF meeting and to present the power and grid-capacity analyses.
- A request to share the climate-resilience and adaptation measures being considered for the electric infrastructure serving the site and the adjacent Red Hook and Columbia Street neighborhoods, and to detail potential phasing and interim resilience infrastructure that could benefit those neighborhoods before and during construction.
- A request to evaluate whether the proposed microgrid could also serve the Red Hook and Columbia Waterfront neighborhoods to alleviate brownouts and provide emergency backup power.

- A request to provide ATF members and the public with a clear source for more detailed and concrete information on the proposed microgrid, on-site battery and energy storage, solar photovoltaic, and green roof strategies.

General and Process

- A request to reconsider the timing of the July public engagement sessions (July 7th, 9th, and 14th), recognizing summer availability and the community's interest in ample opportunities to participate.
- A request to post the full meeting recording/video, including the Q&A, to the project website alongside the slides. NYCEDC confirmed on the call that ATF recordings to-date have been posted and future recordings will be posted.

ATF Plan Feedback

General

- Request that project presentations surface open questions, trade-offs, and areas of uncertainty alongside project benefits, so that the ATF has a fuller basis for its review and feedback.
- A desire for public engagement to be paced to allow meaningful community involvement, with opportunities distributed throughout the year in addition to the July sessions.
- A request to minimize unexplained technical acronyms (e.g., HLSS, CSO, HATS, FBS), to pace and walk through the presentation for members and members of the public who are newer to these topics, and to clarify technical visuals such as the combined-sewer versus high-level-storm-sewer comparison.
- A suggestion that members of the public be invited to contribute questions or comments during ATF meetings when time allows, given the public nature of the process.

Drainage and Stormwater Infrastructure

- A note that Red Hook has longstanding, pre-existing DEP sewer capital investment needs (referenced as project HWK700B) that are independent of BMT, and a request that BMT-related drainage improvements be clearly distinguished from these pre-existing neighborhood needs.
- Concern about the broader Red Hook and Gowanus watershed beyond the immediate BMT drainage area — including the 72-inch main, the Bond Street bottleneck, and upstream flows from Park Slope, Grand Army Plaza, and the Gowanus watershed, which faces significant building pressure — and a reminder that stormwater crosses the boundaries drawn on planning maps.
- Concern about the day-to-day construction impacts of the new sewer infrastructure — including open-cut trenching, street disruption, and timing — on residents.
- A desire for open space and green-infrastructure benefits to be delivered as early as possible and with parity between the north and south portions of the site, extending benefits across the broader neighborhood rather than the BMT site alone.

Coastal Protection and Flood Defense

- A request to clarify the current status of the HATS (Army Corps) peninsula-wide system — including the status of its funding source and timeline, and the uncertainty around its advancement — and to ensure the project's descriptions of future peninsula-wide protection reflect that uncertainty.
- A request to clearly communicate the level of coastal protection the surrounding community will and will not receive from the BMT flood defense, and how that protection relates to the project's development program and to the broader peninsula-wide system.
- A request to share analysis conducted that shows how the marginal pier reconstruction planned for the Pier 9A and 9B performs differently for coastal protection than the existing finger pier geometry.

Energy and Decarbonization

- A request that BMT and Con Edison planning prioritize addressing grid reliability challenges faced by existing Red Hook and Columbia Street residents and businesses—including frequent brownouts and voltage fluctuations—while also planning for future development needs.
- Support for integrating battery storage along the waterfront, woven into the BMT port and Blue Highway planning and design.
- A desire for the plan to pursue sustainable building-design standards such as Passive House, and interest in whether prescriptive design guidelines can be set for future developers through the General Project Plan.
- A suggestion to incorporate a green-space performance metric, such as Seattle's Green Factor, into the RFPs issued by BMTDC.