BUILDING INNOVATION: TRANSFORMING NYC'S BUILDINGS TOWARDS **CLIMATE RESILIENCE**

NYC'S BUILDINGS MUST TRANSFORM OVER THE NEXT 30 YEARS

Consume less energy
 Emit less greenhouse gas
 Resilient to a changing climate

WE NEED YOU!



TO HELP RETROFIT BUILDINGS!



Mayor's Office of
Climate Policy and ProgramsMayor's Office of
Resiliency

Mayor's Office of Sustainability

+ many city departments

Buildings City Planning New York City Housing Authority Citywide Administrative Services School Construction Authority Economic Development Corporation Housing Preservation & Development Design & Construction Health & Hospitals

TOPICS FOR TODAY

What climate vulnerabilities threaten NYC's buildings?

What is the scale of NYC's building stock transformation?

What are the challenges facing climate retrofits in NYC?

What are some promising opportunities to accelerate retrofits?



1 million buildings



Median building age citywide is 90 years

Many predate the city's first building code in 1938, with major updates in 1968, 2008 and 2014



BRONX

82,736 new building & major alteration permits since Oct 2012 (Hurricane Sandy)

= 291 million sq ft of floor area= 411,700 new dwelling units





Source: NYC Department of Buildings

520 miles of coastline; more than Miami, Boston, San Francisco, Los Angeles combined





HURRICANE SANDY CAUSED UNPRECEDENTED DAMAGE....

51 sq mi flooded (17% of NYC)

44 lives lost

\$19 billion in damage and lost economic activity

2 million New Yorkers left without power for several weeks



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...AND EXPOSED A BROADER VULNERABILITY

Area flooded was **1.5x** the 100-year floodplain defined on flood insurance maps.

30,000 damaged single-family homes 25,000 damaged two-family homes 5,000 damaged 3-5 family homes 100-year floodplain in FEMA 2007 Flood Insurance Rate Maps

Sandy Inundation Area beyond 100-year floodplain

STATEÑ ISLAND BRON

BROOKLYN

QUEENS

THE INTENSITY AND IMPACTS OF MAJOR STORMS WILL INCREASE

By the 2050s, a Sandy-like storm could cause \$90 billion in damage and economic loss – nearly five times Sandy's impact.

COASTAL STORMS ARE NOT THE ONLY CLIMATE HAZARD WE MUST PREPARE FOR



VULNERABILITY INCREASES AS SEA LEVELS RISE

400,000 New Yorkers live in the floodplain, about the same population as New Orleans or Tampa.

2,400 buildings built in the current floodplain since Oct 2012



COMMERICAL AND INDUSTRIAL USES ARE ALSO VULNERABLE

3,900 retail businesses, employing 67,000 people, are in the floodplain.



BLUE-SKY TIDAL FLOODING OCCURRING IN SOME COASTAL NEIGHBOHOODS ALREADY









PART OF THE CITY'S COASTLINE WILL EXPERIENCE DAILY FLOODS BY 2050

Tidal flooding impacts streets and basements, weakens wood-frame structures, interferes with building systems, and impacts the habitability of coastal neighborhoods.

| | Miles of coastline at risk |
|---------------|-------------------------------|
| Bronx | 6.2 |
| Brooklyn | 11.5 |
| Manhattan | 1.3 |
| Queens | 21.4 |
| Staten Island | 2.6 |
| Total | 43 |

520 miles total coastline





EXTREME RAIN RISK IS A YEAR-ROUND THREAT IN NYC

Cloudbursts can overload storm drainage systems, causing inland flooding.





Islip, NY 2014 after two hours of intense rain

HIGH TEMPERATURES POSE THE GREATEST IMMEDIATE RISK TO LIFE AND SAFETY





Source: NOAA National Weather Service, 2016 Cool Neighborhoods NYC, 2017 \bigcirc

NEIGHBORHOOD AND BUILDING CHARACTERISTICS EXACERBATE HEAT WAVES

Physical environment and demographics overlap in disadvantaged neighborhoods Heat Vulnerability Index
Non-residential
Low vulnerability

High vulnerability

HEAT WAVES ARE RISKIEST FOR THE ELDERLY, POOR AND SICK

Indoor temperatures can be 20°F hotter than outdoor temperatures in the absence of air conditioning.

85% of heat-related deaths occur after exposure to heat inside the home.



GROUNDWATER TABLE IS RISING WITH SEA LEVEL

Dynamics of groundwater table rise on utilities and buildings is under study





CLIMATE SCIENCE AND CLIMATE ADAPTATION ARE DEVELOPING FIELDS, BUT WE CAN SAY WITH CONFIDENCE:

NEW YORKERS ARE ALREADY EXPERIENCING DISRUPTION AND HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS TODAY

THE POTENTIAL FOR DAMAGE, DISPLACEMENT, AND LOSS OF LIFE IN COMING DECADES IS SIGNIFICANT

OUR WORK IS URGENT, IMMEDIATE, AND LONG-TERM

CLIMATE UNCERTAINTY MEANS WE MUST CONTINUALLY PLAN, ACT, EVALUATE AND ADJUST



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NYC'S GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS



Fossil fuel combustion in buildings produces greenhouse gas and must be reduced

Source: One City Built to Last, 2016

NYC'S STRATEGY FOR REDUCING GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS IN BUILDINGS







~5.4billion ft²

2050 ~5.8billion ft²

RESILIENT CITIES 100

URBAN RESILIENCE The capacity of individuals, communities, institutions, businesses, and systems within a city to survive, adapt, and grow no matter what kinds of chronic stresses and acute shocks they experience.

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Shocks and stresses can bring opportunities for cities to evolve, and in some circumstances, transform.



RESILIENCE & SUSTAINABILITY



Less sustainable



1. MOST CLIMATE RESILIENCE RETROFITS LACK IMMEDIATE FINANCIAL INCENTIVE

Investments in climate resilience can facilitate avoided cost savings and several co-benefits, however these can be difficult to quantify and usually don't have immediate payoff (like investments in energy efficiency).

NIBS reports that society saves \$6 for every \$1 spent through federally-sponsored climate resilience retrofit programs.



Source: Natural Hazard Mitigation Saves: 2017 Interim Report. National Institute of Building Sciences, Dec 2017

2. MANY OWNER-OCCUPIED HOUSEHOLDS IN THE FLOODPLAIN FACE FINANCIAL BURDENS

Limited ability to undertake major retrofits or pay annual flood insurance premiums.

Urban heat increases air conditioner use and exacerbates energy costs.



Annual median income for households in owneroccupied homes in the floodplain



Source: Flood Insurance in New York City Following Hurricane Sandy, RAND, 2013 One City Built to Last

Median monthly utility costs per household

3. INSUFFICIENT AWARENESS OF CLIMATE CHANGE HAZARDS AND RISKS

BUILDING DESIGNERS/CONTRACTORS/SUBCONTRACTORS [SUPPLY]

- 1. Knowledge gaps regarding climate risks and implications on building design
- 2. Few resilience strategies address multiple climate risks that will occur during a building's lifecycle
- 3. Silos prevent information transfer regarding climate risks and retrofit strategies

HOMEOWNERS/RENTERS/INSURANCE INDUSTRY [DEMAND]

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HOMEOWNERS/RENTERS/INSURANCE INDUSTRY [DEMAND]

- 1. Many homeowners remain uninformed about present or future climate change risks and don't purchase flood insurance.
- 2. Insurance premium credits often **don't offset construction costs or reflect avoided losses** enabled by climate resilience retrofits.
- 3. Property sellers lack sufficient incentive to disclose climate risks to buyers.

4. DIFFERENT CLIMATE CHALLENGES REQUIRE DIFFERENT RETROFIT PATHWAYS



Coastal Storms: Surge + Wind

Sea Level Rise: Tidal Flooding



Cloudburst Storms: Inland Flooding



Extreme Temperatures: Heat Waves + Cold Snaps



Groundwater Table Rise: Coastal + Inland Flooding

5. DIFFERENT TYPOLOGIES REQUIRE DIFFERENT RETROFIT PATHWAYS



Share of the 71,500 residential buildings in the floodplain Staten Island 17% Brooklyn 38% Queens 35% 71,500 residential buildings in the floodplain, 85% built before 1983

532 million sq ft interior space

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Source: Retrofitting Buildings for Flood Risk, 2014

5. DIFFERENT TYPOLOGIES REQUIRE DIFFERENT RETROFIT PATHWAYS

~ 37% of buildings in the floodplain are 1-4 family, detached buildings on lots wider than 20 feet.

Generally these can benefit from flood insurance credits for:

- 1. Installing food vents/wet flood proofing
- 2. Raising machinery and equipment
- 3. Infilling basement
- 4. Elevating structure



5. DIFFERENT TYPOLOGIES REQUIRE DIFFERENT RETROFIT PATHWAYS



~ 63% of residential buildings in the floodplain require retrofits that are generally not eligible for flood insurance credits.

Many suffer from deferred maintenance.



OPPORTUNITIES FOR CLIMATE RESILIENCE

- 1. NYC's regulatory framework
- 2. FloodHelpNY.org
- 3. RetrofitNY
- 4. NYC Retrofit Accelerator & Carbon Challenge

1. NYC's REGULATORY FRAMEWORK: CLIMATE RESILIENCE









National Flood Insurance Program sets insurance rates depending on building elevation and other requirements

1. Flood Insurance Rate Maps

regulations apply

determine where floodplain





- 1. Building Code requires new buildings and substantial improvements to meet FEMA standards
- **2. Zoning** accommodates these regulations and improves neighborhood character



Flood Insurance Manual

3. Construction Standards (ASCE 24) mandate special requirements for flood hazard areas

CLIMATE RESILIENCY DESIGN GUIDELINES

NYC-specific guidance for climate-resilient design in new city capital projects, including buildings, infrastructure, and landscapes.





2. FloodHelpNY

Flood risk education and information website, with address search tool that locates users on the flood insurance map and a rate calculator. Launched Oct 2016.

Portal for a Home Resiliency Audit program which offers eligible owners a free on-site engineering consultation, a customized menu of resilience retrofit options, and flood insurance counseling.

Resilience benefits targeted to properties vulnerable to coastal storms and tidal flooding.







FloodHeipNY by the Center for NYC Neighborhoods

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Español About Us Resources *

Sandy 2012: 14.05

Irene 2011: 9.5'

Today at 4:19PM -2.01

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NYC's flood risk is on the rise

See how to keep your home and finances safe from flooding.

Discover Your Risk

Are you a homeowner in NYC? See if you're eligible for a free personalized plan to keep your home and finances flood-safe.

Learn More





FloodHelpNY by the Center for NYC Neighborhoods



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Español About Us Resources *

Home Resiliency Audit Program

Protect your home and finances from floods.

See If You're Eligible

WHAT THE PROGRAM DOES

If you own a home in one of NYC's flood-prone neighborhoods, your flood insurance rates may already be on the rise. The Home Resiliency Audit Program brings together surveyors, engineers, master plumbers, and resiliency counselors to get you an accurate flood insurance quote as well as advise you on how to retrofit your home to keep insurance costs down. Depending on which flood zone you live in, you may qualify for additional free programs, such as a backwater valve installation.



Program provided by Governor's Office of Storm Recovery



YOU MIGHT BE THINKING:

Who is providing these services?

Who is this program funded by?

Why were these neighborhoods chosen for the program pilot?

How are homeowners selected to participate in the program?

How many homeowners does this program serve?

Are there any financial benefits?

What's an elevation certificate?

Who are the counselors?

What if I own or am living in a multifamily building?

I believe I am in a neighborhood that is eligible for Home Resiliency Audits, but I can't sign up.

Ask a Question

WHAT YOU'LL GET



Resiliency Report

After we inspect your home and assess its flood risk, we'll send you a detailed technical report, complete with measurements and information on which retrofits (i.e., raising your mechanical systems) can make you more



Elevation Certificate

We'll also send you a document that certifies your home's elevation. If you live in a high-risk flood zone, the elevation certificate can keep your flood insurance rate from skyrocketing. Program provided by





1. FloodHelpNY RISK AWARENESS CAMPAIGN



2. FloodHelpNY

From 2012 - 2018, National Flood Insurance Policy enrollments in NYC grew 58 percent, from 32,725 to 54,978.

57 percent of 2018 policies are in the X zone (in the 500-year floodplain without flood insurance requirements), indicating that awareness is spreading.







Cost-effective, deep energy retrofit of multifamily buildings with residents in place

Potential resilience benefits for extreme temperatures



3. RetrofitNY

Air sealed & high performance building envelope

Panelized construction Site applied façade High performance windows & doors

Efficient mechanical & ventilation systems

Electrified buildings Heat pump technology Energy recovery ventilation

On-site energy generation

Solar PV







Energie Sprong

PER-











Netherlands



United Kingdom



Germany

France





New York

3. RetrofitNY

Six stories (21 units)

Four stories (46 units)



3. RetrofitNY

Human habitability in temperature and humidity extremes

Could this retrofit facilitate "passive thermal survivability" during extended periods of temperature extremes with no/minimal power?





Source: NASA

4. NYC RETROFIT ACCELERATOR/CARBON CHALLENGE

Public-private partnerships to advance retrofits of NYC's building stock, with advice for energy efficiency retrofits and consideration for heat and flood vulnerabilities.



Free Help. Simple Fixes. Big Results.

NYC Retrofit Accelerator's Efficiency Advisors will:

- Work with you one-on-one to understand your needs
- Connect you with qualified contractors to do the job
- Find cash incentives and financing to help pay for your upgrades
- Train your building staff so your building continues to run efficiently
- Support you every step of the way from project start to finish

4. NYC RETROFIT ACCELERATOR/CARBON CHALLENGE

Initiated Sept 2015. Expanding in 2019.

As of October 2018:

- 5,193 buildings engaged (mainly large multifamily buildings, including those with heat and flooding risks)
- 1,934 retrofits under construction or completed

Top retrofits include:

- Lighting
- Fuel switching
- Heating distribution system
- Water conservation
- Building envelope



4. NYC RETROFIT ACCELERATOR/CARBON CHALLENGE

- Major building owners/tenants commit to reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 30% or more in ten years
- Launched 2007 with 2018 progress report
- Participants represent 510 million sq ft of real estate, 9% of city-wide built floor area:
 - 18 universities
 - 9 hospital organizations
 - 41 commercial tenants
 - 13 commercial building owners
 - 22 residential management firms
 - 19 hotels





WE NEED YOU!



TO HELP RETROFIT BUILDINGS!