



## April/May 2016

During April and May the focus of the project has been on designing the urban amenities that may be possible with a protective storm surge barrier. Members of the public were invited to attend design-focused community meetings for the Rebuild by Design Hudson River project. For the convenience of residents, four meetings were held at different locations throughout the project area, including the Multi-Service Center, the Hoboken Housing Authority, and the Elks Club in Hoboken, and St. Lawrence Church in Weehawken. The purpose of these meetings was to elicit community members' input in order to work towards understanding the community's priorities. The meetings were focused on asking the community for input on design elements and amenities that may be incorporated into the project.

A video presentation from one of the community meetings on urban amenities can be viewed in its entirety [here](#).

The design toolkit developed for and used at these meetings can be viewed [here](#).

Please remember that the design concepts shown and developed as a result of these meetings are aspirational visions for what the project might look like, a part of a long term vision. It is important for residents to know that this is only the beginning of the design process and ongoing input will continue to be a very important part of creating the amenities associated with the final flood protection measure. Depending on the cost of the preferred alternative, we will then further develop these ideas in a way that can be realized by the community. Ultimately the Preferred Alternative will involve further in-depth design and engineering work.

The urban design ideas for each alternative will help NJDEP and their consultants with the ongoing alternatives analysis screening. Like the concept screening performed earlier this year to take the project from five concepts to three alternatives, the alternative analysis screening involves many of the same criteria. The major difference in the screening is that it will be a more quantitative screening of the criteria versus the qualitative screening performed on the five concepts. Other work being performed during the past two months includes work on computer modeling of flood conditions with and without the Resist structures for the three Alternatives. Dewberry has been working with Stevens Institute to calibrate and validate the results being obtained. We look forward to sharing these results with the public in the next month.

Dewberry also continues working on the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Feasibility Study. These two documents will allow the project to proceed through the NEPA process to obtain a Record of Decision. Once a Draft EIS is complete and released to the public, a public hearing will be scheduled to discuss the document. It is currently anticipated that this will happen late this fall.

If you would like to unsubscribe from the NJDEP list-serv and stop receiving notifications of additional website updates, please use the following link: <http://www.state.nj.us/dep/floodhazard/rbd-hudsonriver-unsubscribe.htm>.