Newtown Creek Superfund Community Advisory Group Steering Committee
Meeting with Newtown Creek Group (NCG)
21 November 2022

The CAG SC met with the NCG to cover the following topics.

- USACE Coastal Resilience study
- Project Schedule
- East Branch expedited cleanup
- Restoration projects

A summary of each discussion is below:

- **USACE Coastal Resilience study**
  - Their figure 617 in the engineering appendix is quite helpful to look at
  - NCG preliminary review suggests that the two structures attached to either side of the shoreline of the mouth of the Creek would only reduce the full breadth of the Creek from 300 to 250 feet, or about 20% of area. This should not necessarily have adverse impact on sedimentation, interaction with the East River, and so forth.
  - However, the NCG may use their detailed Newtown Creek models to investigate further
  - The Corps nor the current plan addresses the very real challenge of how to handle downstream flows during extreme storm events if a gate was placed on the Creek to protect from tidal surges.
  - *The NCG could present on this at a future meeting.*

- **Project Schedule**
  - The SC discussed frustration with the current schedule
  - The NCG noted that work on ebullition, groundwater seeps, and the current lateral GW study are all valuable to understand the Creek but have taken time
  - Several factors may be affecting the schedule from multiple agency review, COVID challenges, site complexity, site investigations to better understand issues
  - The East Branch expedited cleanup schedule holds great promise
  - *The CAG should ask for an update on the schedule in some detail at each meeting*

- **East Branch expedited cleanup**
  - East branch with many complexities will be a good place to explore alternatives
  - Follow up to the last CAG meeting on measuring GW flows
    - Basic flow is in cm/day, which only provides one dimension of flow (rate or distance/time)
    - Adding in area provides the volume of flow (cm^3 per day)

        - If one knows the concentration of contaminants, then that concentration times volume can determine loading of contaminants into the Creek per day

- **Restoration projects**
    - The NCG would like to explore with the CAG and appropriate member organizations restoration projects on the East Branch and elsewhere that might be possible as part of the clean-up.
    - *Hold a meeting with interested CAG members for an overview and detailed meetings with CAG membership organizations with expertise in this issue*