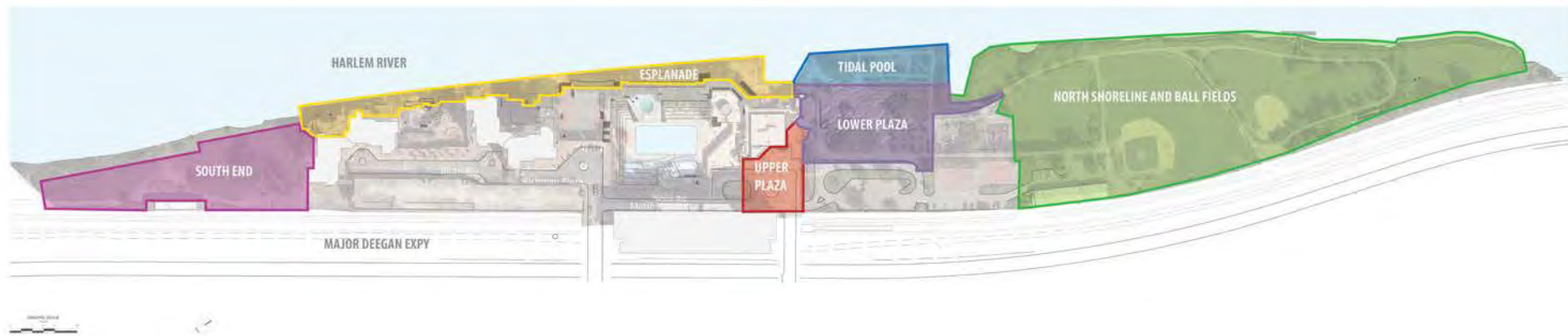


# Roberto Clemente State Park Revitalization Plan



Public Information Meeting  
June 19, 2014

# Meeting Agenda

- Park Overview
- State Parks Goals & Priorities
- Overview of the Plans
- Break Session –Viewing of Plans
- Public Comment
- Next Steps

# Park Overview - History



- 1973 – Opened as Harlem River Park
- 1974 – Renamed Roberto Clemente State Park
- 2006 – Public Meeting to discuss Park Masterplan
- 2008 - Rehabilitation of the aquatics facility and basketball courts, building of green roof for gym
- 2013 – Opening of new playground
- 2014 – Rehabilitation of baseball field, building heating

# Park Overview - Facilities

- 1 million+ visitors per year
- 25-acre,  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile long waterfront park along Harlem River
- Facilities include
  - Multi-purpose recreation building
  - Olympic-size pool complex with water play areas
  - Ball fields with night lighting
  - Basketball courts
  - Picnic areas
  - Playground
  - Waterfront esplanade



# OPRHP Goals & Priorities

- Keep state parks and historic sites open, safe, affordable, and accessible.
- Increase, deepen, and improve the visitor experience.
- Fix aging infrastructure; convert and transform the Park System with aesthetically compelling, energy and operationally efficient, and “built to last” facilities.

# OPRHP Goals: Plan for Park

- Build an understanding of the issues
- Revitalize the Park in a thoughtful manner
- Better meet the needs of the Park's patrons



# Waterfront Overview

- 3,700 linear feet (0.7 miles) of waterfront
  - 2,000 linear feet of bulkhead
  - 1,700 linear feet of rip rap/revetment
- However, Park is not oriented toward the water
- Trees and fences block view of water in many places



# Superstorm Sandy

- 3 feet of water throughout Park
- 13" of water inside the building
- Damage to bulkhead and electrical infrastructure
- Erosion of northern shoreline of Park





# Superstorm Sandy



# Upper Plaza

# Upper Plaza - Aerial



# Upper Plaza



- Absence of entry presence
- Lack of park aesthetic / identity / character
- Predominance of hard landscaping elements
- Structural Issues below

# Upper Plaza

- Transitions



# Upper Plaza

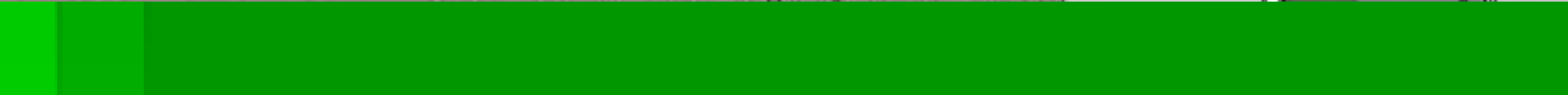
- Structural damage



# Upper Plaza - Site Plan



# ROBERTO CLEMENTE STATE PARK









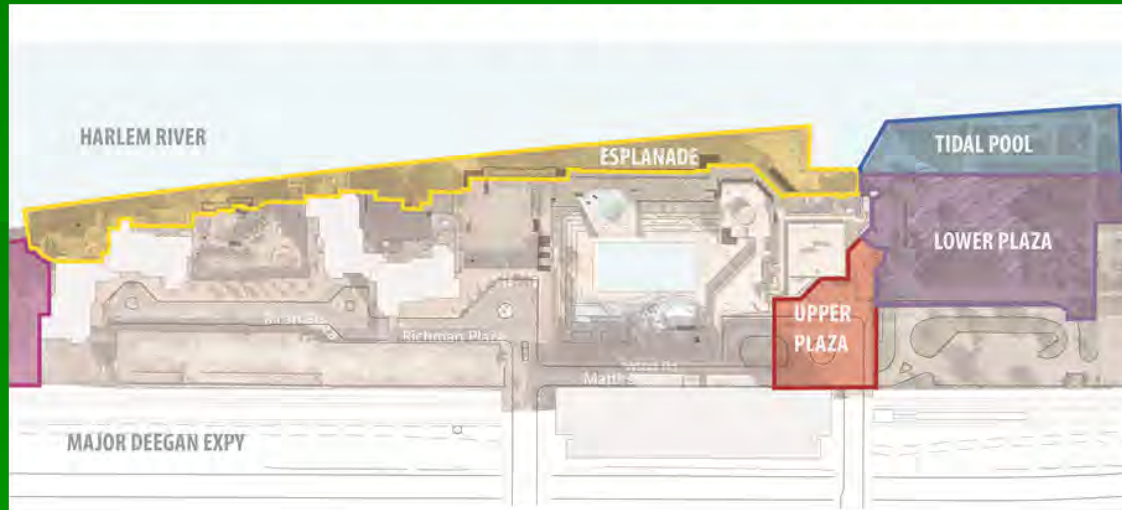
BULKHEAD

Esplanade

Tidal Pool

Lower Plaza

# Bulkhead Rehabilitation

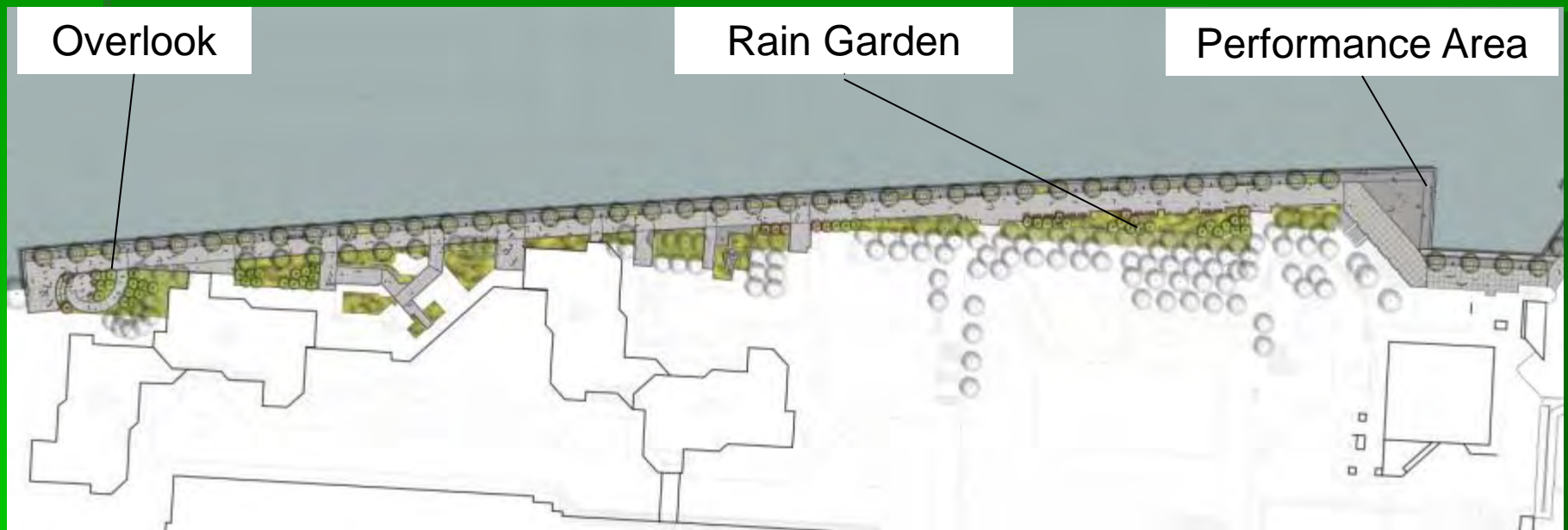


- Goals
  - Protect adjacent uses - Park, housing, school, and Metro-North lines
  - Provide flood protection and storm resilience
  - Improve Park's connection to water
  - Enhance programming in spaces adjacent to waterfront
  - Create environmental education opportunities
  - Allow bikes

# Esplanade - Existing



# Esplanade - Proposed



# Esplanade

Existing Conditions- Near Rain Garden



# Esplanade

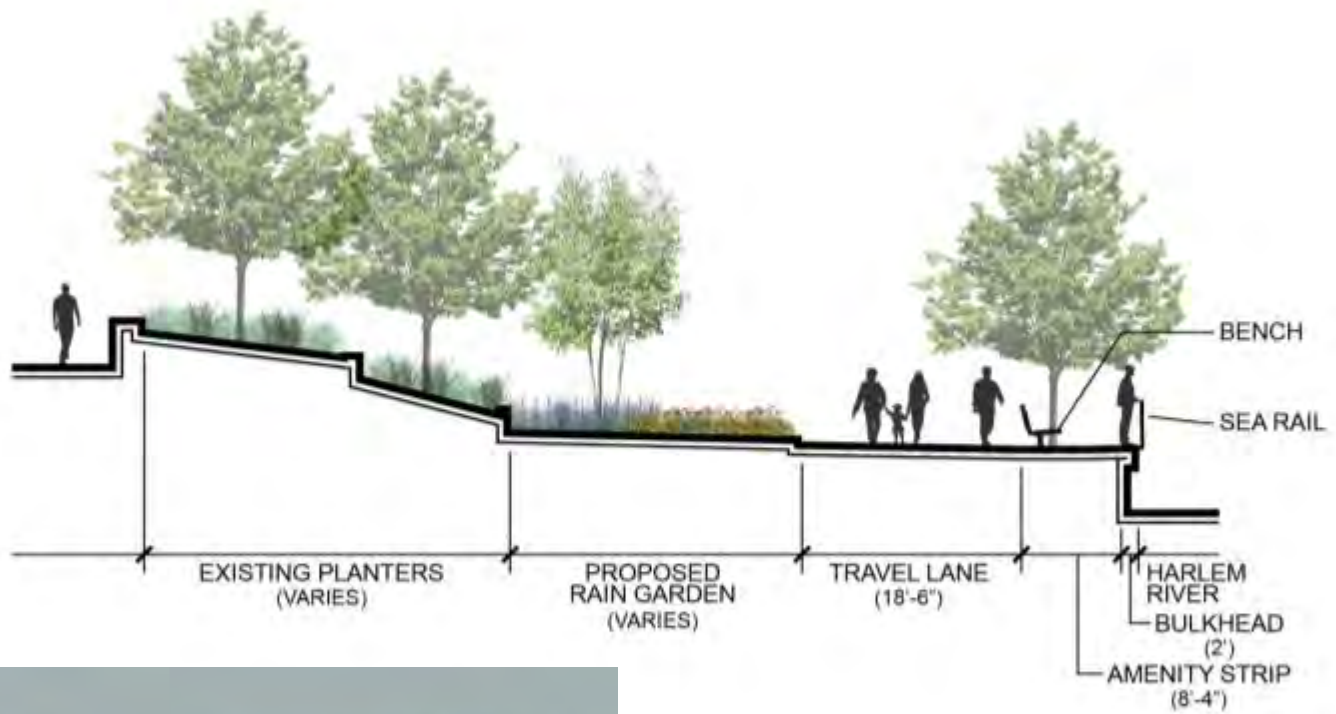
Near Rain Garden





# Esplanade

## Rain Garden Section



# Esplanade

Existing Conditions – Overlook Area



# Esplanade

Overlook



# Esplanade

Overlook



# Esplanade

Existing – Performance Area



# Esplanade

Existing – Future Performance Area



# Esplanade

Future Performance Area



# Lower Plaza - Existing





# Lower Plaza - Existing

- Oversized and underutilized plaza with 600 linear feet of waterfront



Lower Plaza



Waterfront Next to Lower Plaza



BBQ Areas of Lower Plaza



Waterfront Next to Lower Plaza

# Lower Plaza - Existing

- Too much asphalt
- Very underutilized – aside from BBQ areas it is often empty
- Central plaza is too big for performances held at the park
- Not much to do in most of the plaza when there is no performance
- No connection to the river



# Lower Plaza - Proposed

- Activate the Lower Plaza with better mix of activities
- Incorporate an “Intertidal Area” into the area adjacent to the River
- Rehabilitate and expand very successful existing barbeque areas
- Create enhanced performance space
- Continue bike path through the Plaza in a safe manner
- Reduce impervious surfaces
- Capture stormwater for use in the Intertidal Area
- Preserve views from the Upper Plaza to the Intertidal Area and Harlem River

# Lower Plaza - Proposed



# Lower Plaza - Proposed



# Intertidal Area - Proposed



## PATRON EXPERIENCE

- Invite Harlem River into Park in a safe and controlled manner
- Create habitat for marine and terrestrial species
- Establish a different experience within the Lower Plaza
- Experience area on elevated and getdown platforms
- Provide environmental educational opportunities

# Intertidal Area - Proposed



## GREEN SHORELINE INFRASTRUCTURE

- Flood protection for the Park
- Storm resiliency
- Stormwater capture from Lower Plaza is used to flush the Intertidal Area

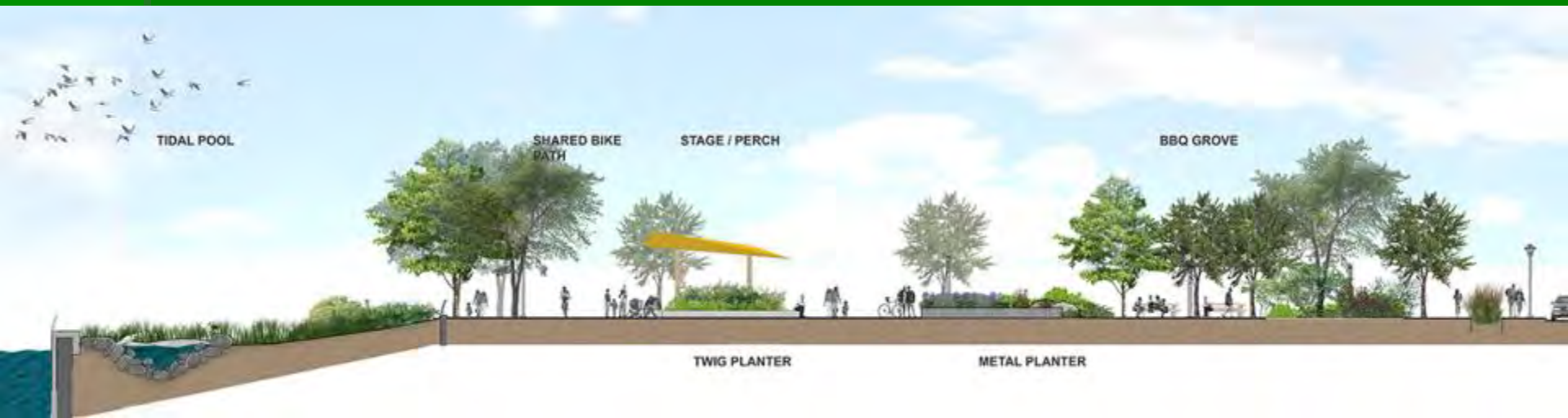
# Lower Plaza/Intertidal Area





# Lower Plaza/Intertidal Area

Section – West/East



# Lower Plaza & Tidal Pool

Bird's Eye View



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# North Shoreline & Ball Fields

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# Shoreline & Fields - Existing



Shoreline



Picnic Area



Multipurpose Field



North End

# Shoreline & Fields-Proposed



- Stabilize shoreline
- Open up the views to the river
- Maximize area for athletic fields and programming
- Create quality passive spaces for patrons
- Continue shared waterfront path north

**South End**

# South End - Existing



South End lawn



South End looking from Bridge Park

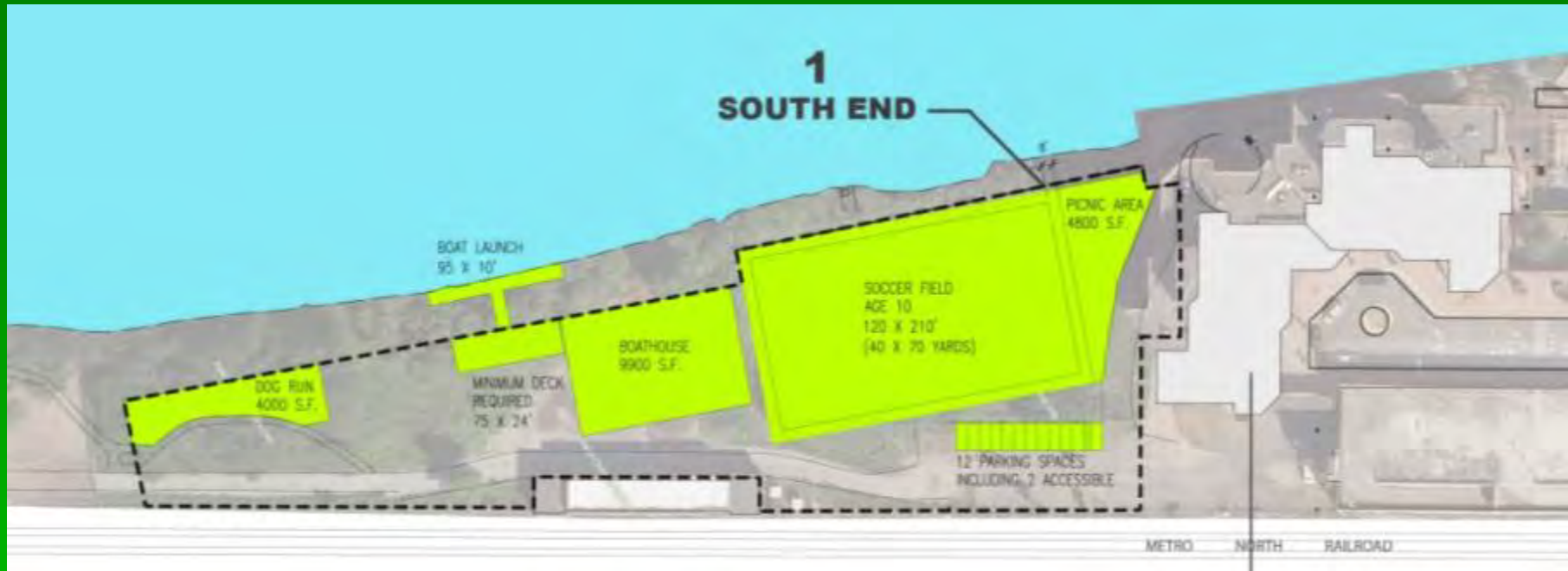


Bridge Park (under construction)



South End shoreline

# South End – Initial Ideas



- Create new activity – boat house, bike park, etc.
- Relocate soccer program
- Accommodate dog owners
- Improve landscaping



# Project Timelines

# Project Timelines (estimated)

- Upper Plaza
  - Construction: Fall 2014 – Summer 2015
- Bulkhead/Esplanade/Intertidal Area
  - Construction: Winter 2014 – Winter 2016
- Lower Plaza
  - Construction: 2015
- North Shoreline
  - Construction: 2015
- South End
  - Construction: TBD

# Public Comment

# Public Input

- ALL ideas / suggestions are welcome
- Questions to help define or understand input are OK
- Written statements will be accepted

# Public Input

- Listen to understand
- Respect each others' viewpoints
- Be fair with time
- Be concise
- Minimize “side bar” conversations

# Public Input: Timeline

- Comments Due – July 3, 2014
- Meeting Summary – July 25, 2014

# Thank You!

- Written Comments to:  
[RobertoClemente.Plan@parks.ny.gov](mailto:RobertoClemente.Plan@parks.ny.gov)  
Elisabeth Draper, Park Planner  
NYS OPRHP  
Planning Bureau  
625 Broadway  
Albany, NY 12238
- Due by: Thursday, July 3, 2014
- For more information: [www.nysparks.com](http://www.nysparks.com)

