Greenpoint Environmental Benefit Projects Program

-- Preliminary List of Community Project Ideas --

-- 6/29/12 Update--

The State of New York is collaborating with the residents of Greenpoint, Brooklyn in investing $19,500,000, obtained by the State of New York in a 2011 settlement with the ExxonMobil Corporation, in "Environmental Benefit Projects" (EBPs) in the community. These EBPs will be designed to provide significant environmental improvements in Greenpoint and address environmental areas of concern for the community, such as water quality, groundwater, open space, reduction of toxic pollution, and air quality.

On March 21, 2012, the State, its Community Outreach Consultant, Enviro-Sciences Engineering (ESE), and the Greenpoint Community Advisory Panel (CAP) joined with over 100 members of the Greenpoint community to discuss, among other things, ideas for potential projects to be funded from the settlement monies. As a follow-up to the meeting, the State compiled a list of the project ideas offered by community members at the meeting. The State has continued to welcome additional project ideas from the community, and the below reflects the current list of community project ideas to-date.

The State will review this list to ensure that all proposed projects are consistent with the 2011 settlement with ExxonMobil and NYS Department of Environment Conservation's policy on EBPs. Consistent project ideas will be used in developing a Request for Proposal (RFP) that attracts project proposals addressing as many community ideas for improving Greenpoint's environment as possible.

Clarifications or additions to the preliminary list of project ideas are welcome and should be forwarded to Laura Truettner at ltruettner@aol.com.

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STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

<u>Green roof projects/programs</u>

1. Roof top gardens and farming
2. Green roof program and garden at 370 Greenpoint Ave
3. Green roofs and solar panels on a) community facilities and schools, b) residences, and c) park facilities. Project to include metering, where appropriate, to allow revenue sharing with community and one year of professional training (possibly at McCarren Park) for building owners
4. Program for green roofs and solar panels for small businesses
5. Small business program to adopt a school and construct green roofs

6. Green roof on boathouse
7. Green roof on GMDC buildings
8. Business/job retention program: green roofs stormwater management in industrial areas

Combined Sewer Overflows (CSOs)

1. Stormwater management related to CSOs, specific locations TBD
2. Rainwater alert for overflow prevention

Street improvements

1. Permeable paving program
2. Porosity improvements to streets/curbs to improve drainage; curbside water infiltration
3. Bio-swales for stormwater capture and filtration

Resurfacing improvements

1. Remove concrete from Greenpoint backyards to increase infiltration of stormwater
2. Convert schoolyards to green infrastructure playgrounds
3. "Green" park spaces – install trench drains and permeable surfacing

COMMUNITY FACILITIES

1. Off grid community center for environmental education programs and shared tool space using stacked containers
2. Science museum with focus on environmental projects via art
3. Creation of public environmental science school, K-12, such as a NYC magnet school
4. LEED-certified Environmental Science center covered with moss/grass, roof top gardens; use building at Transmitter Park, McGolrick Park, or on Newtown Creek, or at Maspeth tank site
5. Science-technology-culture center; film/art/horticulture
6. Writers' community workspace on waterfront with solar panels, green roof, teaching garden
7. Greenpoint Monitor Museum with environmental programs, solar lighting and new bulkhead/dock on museum-owned waterfront property at Bushwick Inlet and Quay Street.
8. Expand Greenpoint Gallery to add environmental education program, community garden, green roof and clean energy adaptations
9. Expand and green Greenpoint Library: include environmental history and education program and/or alternative energy and film industry training program, achieve LEED certification with clean energy adaptations.
10. Renovate Greenpoint Shul.
11. Expand food distribution program at GIFT (Greenpoint Interfaith Food Team) garden
12. Children/Family Environmental Center in Transmitter Park
13. Renovate and upgrade YMCA; achieve LEED certification

OPEN SPACE AND PARK IMPROVEMENTS

1. Community gardens, community gardens with farm space
2. De-map Commercial Street from Franklin to water for parkland
3. Homeless task force for parks; funds for clergy coalition to rent space for the homeless
4. Greenpoint Ave street-end "pocket" park, Newtown Creek side
5. Community gardens on Greenpoint Avenue
6. Improvements to McGolrick Park Playground
7. Re-surface Barge Park softball field at Commercial and Franklin
8. McGolrick Park improvements including: drainage improvements, greening around monuments; preserve the pavilion; repair foundation and perimeter fence, improve restrooms and pathways, install solar lighting, hire dedicated gardener
9. Tree health maintenance program at McGolrick Park
10. Fund for maintenance of/improvements to Newtown Creek Nature Walk
11. Develop industrial lot on south side of McGuinness Blvd (between Green and Freeman) into a community garden
12. Assist in acquisition of Motiva property on Bushwick inlet;, use funds to leverage city commitment to purchase property and turn into a park
13. Ice skating rink at McCarren Pool/Park
14. Lighting on dog runs
15. Construct playground at Sgt Dougherty Park on Cherry Street
16. Purchase lot between Calyer Street and Greenpoint Ave for community garden
17. Street end park at Oak Street
18. Provide start-up funds to develop open space on MTA lot

CLEAN ENERGY

1. Wind turbine on Newtown Creek
2. Gym in which exercise machines create energy ("energy gym")

ENERGY CONSERVATION

1. Paint roofs white
2. Grant program for homeowners to install new locally-made windows for energy efficiency
3. Energy retrofits of municipal buildings

WATERFRONT & WATERFRONT INFRASTRUCTURE

1. Public docks, especially at Bushwick inlet
2. Enhance pier at Transmitter Park and Kent Street
3. Waterfront access at Noble Street
4. Boat access at Transmitter Park
5. Acquisition of waterfront lands for public access
6. Esplanade around Greenpoint
7. Additional funding for North Brooklyn boat club on Newtown Creek
8. Acquire land between Noble and Quay streets
9. Dog runs on waterfront

WATER ACCESS

1. Kayaking program for Bushwick Inlet
2. Enviro-barge for Bushwick Inlet
3. Fund purchase of boats for, or building of boats at, boathouse being constructed with Newtown Creek EBP funds at GMDC

URBAN FORESTRY

1. Smart greening program: trees/stormwater management on Greenpoint Ave and Manhattan Ave
2. Smart Green corridor/canopy from Bushwick inlet to McCarren Park
3. Tree-planting in residential areas
4. Tree pit expansion for mature trees
5. Personnel to care/manage urban forest
6. Tree planting, maintenance and education; create whole canopy of trees over Greenpoint
7. Locally-made ornamental tree guards for residents
8. Backyard planting program for homeowners/tenants
9. Replicate and expand Borough President's "Neighborhood Beautification Fund" which allows block associations and civic groups to apply for tree pit expansions, wrought-iron tree guards and new street trees
10. Provide free enrollment in NYC Street Trees citizen tree pruner courses for Greenpoint residents

TRANSPORTATION

<u>Pedestrian/bike paths</u>

1. Greenpoint Ave bike path, widen and improve safety
2. McGuinness Blvd pedestrian walkway
3. Improve Pulaski Bridge bike lane
4. Bike and pedestrian bridge to Manhattan
5. Build a pedestrian bridge to Queens

<u>Traffic</u>

1. Air quality improvements via changed traffic pattern at BQE and Apollo Street
2. Program to enforce use of designated truck routes
3. Traffic calming on McGuinness Blvd

<u>Transportation Service</u>

1. Solar powered streetcar for waterfront
2. Green Bus – mobile education center
3. Ferry service to Manhattan

<u>Other</u>

1. Placement of sound barriers, especially around bridges under construction

AIR QUALITY IMPROVEMENTS/MONITORING

1. Program to assist business with "process optimization" to reduce carbon footprint
2. Community air monitoring program with locally placed equipment
3. Retro-fit oil boilers in schools
4. Pollution prevention program for factories
5. Install planters with air-filtering plants identified in NASA Clean Air Study
6. Retrofit large truck fleets with particulate filters

ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION/WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENTS

1. Water remediation and wetland restoration outside area impacted by ExxonMobil spill
2. "Green Eggs" wetlands on North Henry Street and Newtown Creek, i.e., vegetative digesters for stormwater treatment
3. Opflex sorbent usage for stormwater and oil (can be combined with other projects)
4. Plant oyster beds to filter water; especially at Bushwick Inlet
5. Habitat restoration at Bushwick Inlet Park

SOIL TESTING AND REMEDIATION

1. Bio-remediation of surface soils in Greenpoint residents' backyards
2. Soil remediation program at McGolrick Park
3. Bio-remediation of soils with mushrooms (mycoremediation)

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS

1. Enviro-mobile
2. Environmental education programs at McGolrick Park
3. Park ranger program for environmental/nature education programming and education
4. Basic community education/information materials for community residents on water quality and other topics
5. Education program around actions to take if Newtown Creek floods
6. Exhibit of land pictures at Community Board
7. Environmental organizing program with children
8. Volunteer water quality monitoring program with Citizen Science, connection to Nature Walk
9. Citizen Science project – soil testing in back yards across Greenpoint

YOUTH ENVIRONMENTAL EMPLOYMENT

1. Environmental training summer program for youth
2. Expand boathouse to create youth employment via boat-building
3. Program for high school students to support wetlands

WASTE MANAGEMENT/COMPOSTING

1. Composting at McGolrick Park
2. Solar powered recycling bins
3. Pneumatic garbage tubes

4. In-vessel composting system; business assistance program for composting/recycling; compost facility, perhaps on NYC Dept of Sanitation property, using $150,000 American-made containers
5. Construction debris material exchange – re-use center
6. Public art with recycled materials from local artists
7. Recycling and waste management plan for Greenpoint

FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY OF ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

1. Property Investment program to create ongoing revenue for future environmental projects
2. Endowment to pay park worker salaries in event of future NYC budget cuts
3. Program to monetize filming in area to benefit Greenpoint
4. Create a reserve fund for future use
5. Land trust/easement to restrict use (no further details provided)

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMS

1. Greenest block competition
2. Incentive program for block by block greening

ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING

1. Coordination of environmental planning in Greenpoint – Superfund activities, Brownfield Opportunity Area Program, and Environmental Benefit Projects
2. Implementation resources for Newtown Creek Brownfield Opportunity Area
3. Community conservancy and health think tank