



Oct. 14th, 5:30 to 7 PM

















# WELCOME TO THE RESILIENT RARITAN RIVER AND BAY COMMUNITIES COMMUNITY MEETING

Please update your name by hovering over your name in the participant window, click "More," and "Rename." Provide your name and indicate what town you are from, if applicable.



## How will today's meeting work?

- Short presentation (30 min) Please stay on mute, respond to and ask questions in the chat
- Q&A (15 min) –
  Feel free to ask questions by raising your hand or in the chat
- Breakout Discussions (45 min) Please engage actively through voice and chat

We are live streaming the presentation portion of the meeting and will post on YouTube and Facebook.

We will record breakouts for use by the project team, but will not share publicly.

We will not reconvene as a group after the breakout groups.

How do you experience the Raritan River and Bay region? Are you a resident, do you work in the region, visitor, neighbor?



If you are watching on Facebook Live and would like to join the Zoom meeting, you can join by going to <a href="www.tinyurl.com/Oct-14th-2021">www.tinyurl.com/Oct-14th-2021</a> or by calling 646-558-8656.

Meeting ID: 824 9571 0441

## What we're here to share today:

- What is the Resilient Raritan River and Bay Project?
- What are the risks facing the region?
- What do we mean when we say resilience?
- How will the plan help the region become more resilient?
- What have we heard from the community so far?
- How will we continue to work with you?

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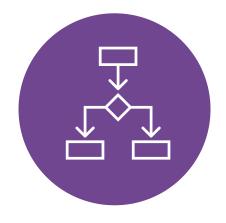
## What we want to hear from you:



What do you love about your community?



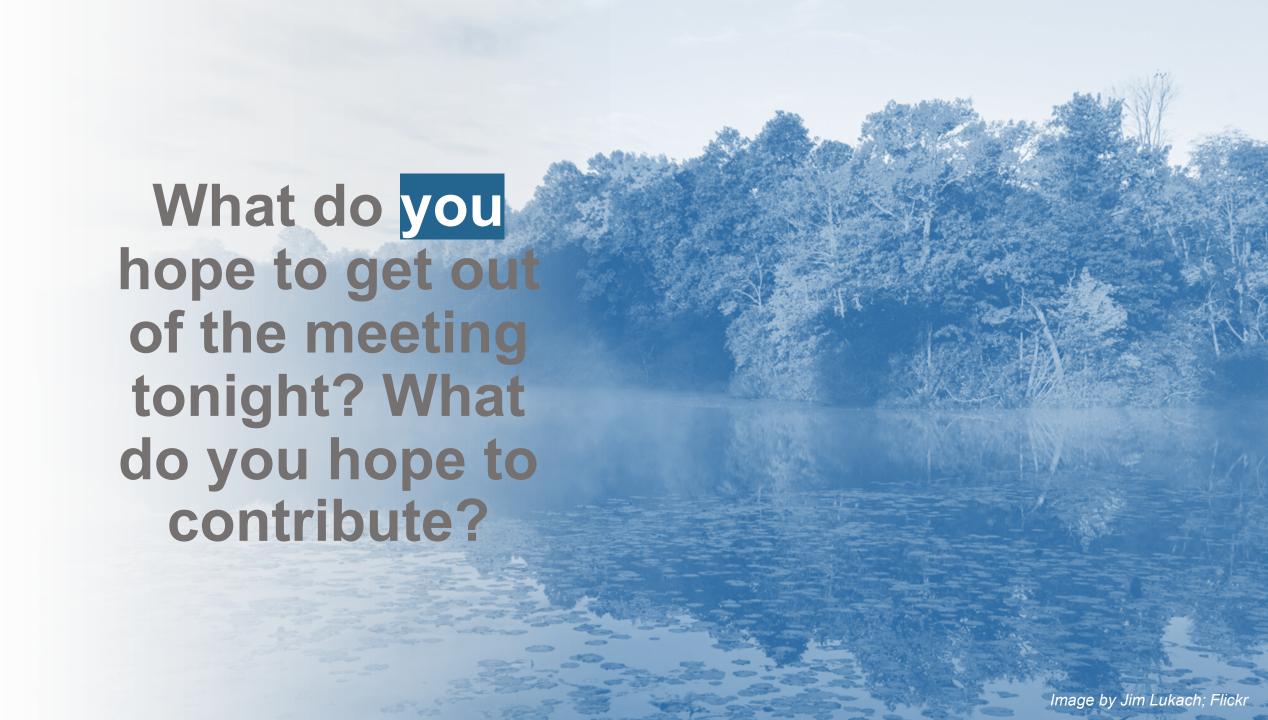
How have you been impacted by flooding?



What factors are most important when making decisions to reduce flood risk?



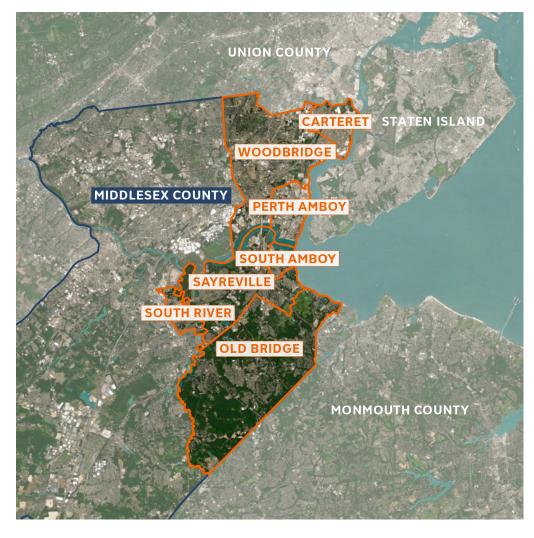
How can this process add value to and improve your quality of life?



#### PROJECT TEAM

#### RESILIENT RARITAN RIVER AND BAY COMMUNITIES

- The Resilient NJ (RNJ) Program, administered through the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP), includes initiatives in four regions of the state, including Raritan River and Bay Communities.
- Resilient NJ Raritan River and Bay Communities is a partnership between Middlesex County, Old Bridge, Woodbridge, Sayreville, South Amboy, South River, Carteret, Perth Amboy, and the YMCAs of Middlesex County.



Resilient Raritan River and Bay Communities Project Area







**SCAPE** 



## OPENING REMARKS



## **IDA IMPACTS**

#### SCENES FROM AROUND MIDDLESEX COUNTY



Source: The Lakewood Scoop

Carteret Flooding



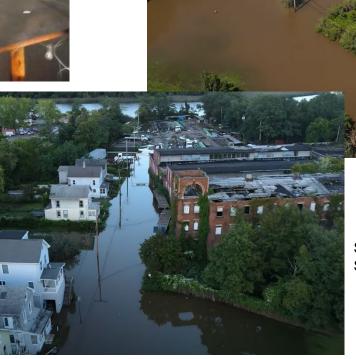
Source: News 12 Bronx Middlesex County Flooding



Source: News 12
Woodbridge Flooding



Source: <u>CBS New York</u> Middlesex County Flooding



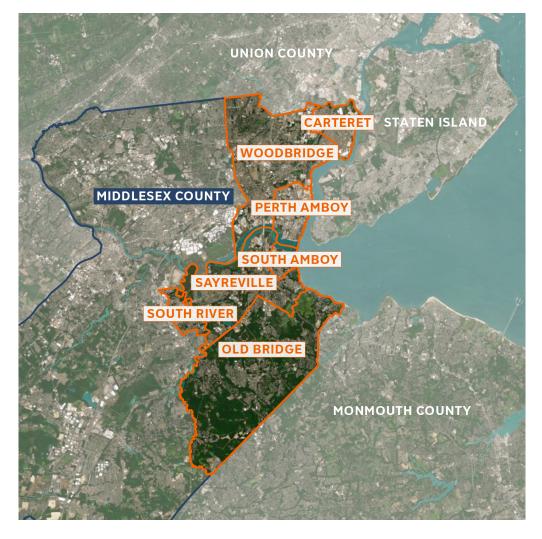
Source: <u>Youtube</u> South River Flooding



#### **PROJECT OVERVIEW**

#### RARITAN RIVER AND BAY COMMUNITIES

- The project is focused on developing a regional resilience action plan to address floodrelated hazards.
- Input from the people who live, work, and play in the region will be critical to the success of the program.

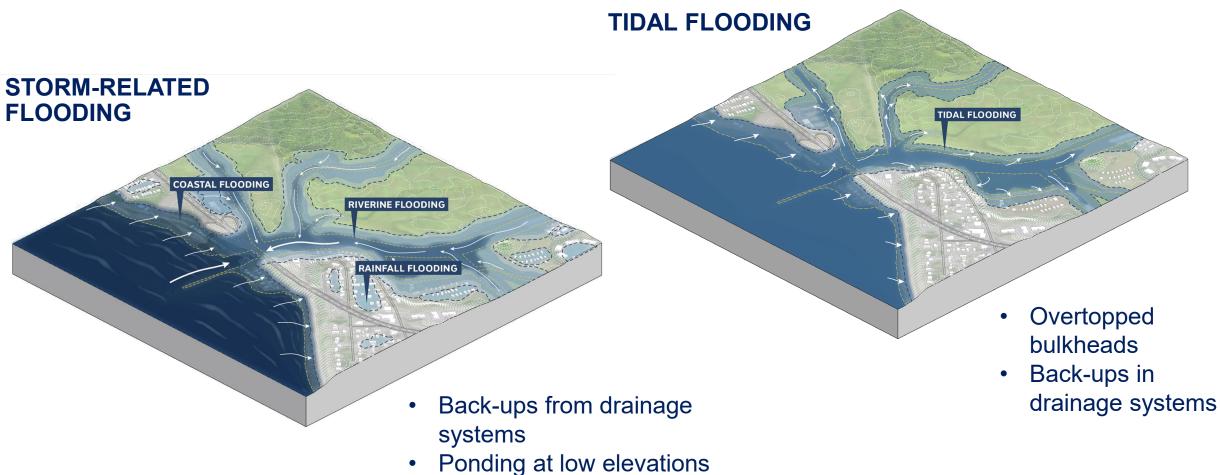


Resilient Raritan River and Bay Communities Project Area



# WHAT ARE THE FLOOD-RELATED RISKS THE REGION FACES?

Storm surge





### WHAT IS RESILIENCE?

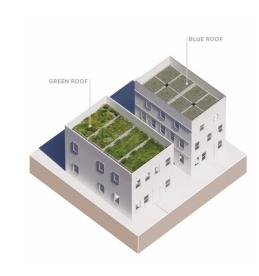
Resilience is the ability to adapt to changing conditions and grow in the face of challenges.

In the context of flooding, we mean shaping communities that have strong social fabrics and infrastructure that can bounce back after storms.

#### WHAT COULD THIS PLAN INCLUDE?



PHYSICAL AND NATURE-BASED INFRASTRUCTURE



POLICIES, ORDINANCES, AND GOVERNANCE



OUTREACH, EDUCATION, AND CAPACITY BUILDING

## **PROJECT GOALS**

#### **RARITAN RIVER AND BAY COMMUNITIES**



Build off ongoing resilience planning by identifying and addressing gaps and opportunities within the region



representation
and participation
from socially
vulnerable
populations to
address their
needs and risks



Develop
innovative and
implementable
solutions that
increase resilience
in both the shortand long-term



Enhance the value and integrity of the ecological, recreational, and economic resources in the region



Ensure

collaboration

among a wide

variety of

stakeholders



## **DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION**

#### **GOALS (CONSISTENT WITH MIDDLESEX DESTINATION 2040)**

- 1) **WELCOMING** marginalized groups, in particular Black and Brown people, and ensuring that they have access to the resources and opportunities necessary to connect, belong, grow and improve the quality of their lives;
- 2) ACKNOWLEDGING and eliminating disparities along race, class, gender, disability status and other dimensions of diversity;
- 3) **EXPANDING** choice and for Black and Brown people, recognizing a special responsibility to plan opportunity for the needs of those who have been historically discriminated against;
- 4) FOSTERING racial and economic integration;
- 5) ENSURING diversity and inclusion in decision-making processes.

#### SOME WAYS RNJ RARITAN RIVER AND BAY COMMUNITIES IS WORKING TO ACCOMPLISH THIS INCLUDE:

Reaching out to potential partner organizations to help us make our engagement more welcoming and reaching the people they serve to receive input

Providing as many different possible ways to engage as easily as possible

Providing ways to get and receive information in multiple languages

## PROJECT SCHEDULE

Spring 2021

**Summer 2021** 

Fall 2021

**Winter 2021** 

Spring 2022

Develop a Regional **Vision** and Identify Shared **Priorities** 

Analyze **Risk** and Evaluate Relevant **Tools** 

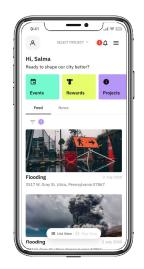
Develop Resilience **Scenarios** based on Vision, Risks, and Tools

WE ARE HERE Select a **Preferred Scenario** and Develop and Action Plan

Publish the Phase 1
Final Plan



## **ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES**



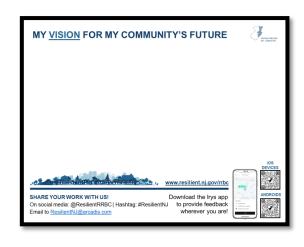
Download the IRYS APP



Share thoughts through the website: <a href="https://www.resilient.nj.gov/rrbc">www.resilient.nj.gov/rrbc</a>



**Complete the survey** 



Share your artwork through email or social media!

Stay tuned for more information on in-person workshops focused on local areas!

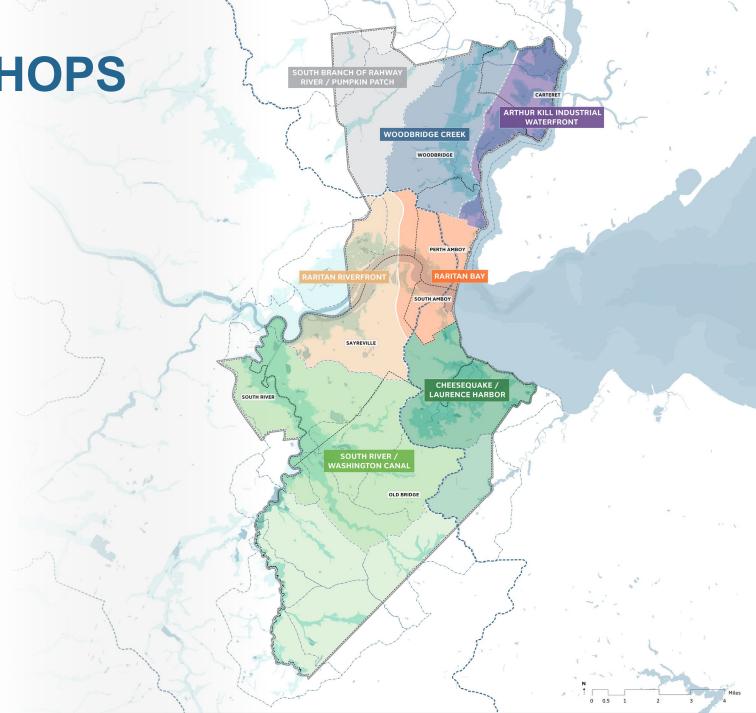


### **UPCOMING WORKSHOPS**

- Focus on specific geographic areas
- Explain causes of flooding
- Get input on critical community assets
- Share information on ongoing projects to reduce risk
- Discuss potential resiliency strategies

#### **STUDY AREAS**

- Arthur Kill Industrial Waterfront
- Woodbridge Creek
- South Branch of Rahway River / Pumpkin Patch
- Raritan Riverfront
- Raritan Bay
- South River / Washington Canal
- Cheesequake / Laurence Harbor / Raritan Bay Waterfront Park
- --- Watershed Management Areas
- ---- Subwatersheds
- ---- Municipal Boundaries



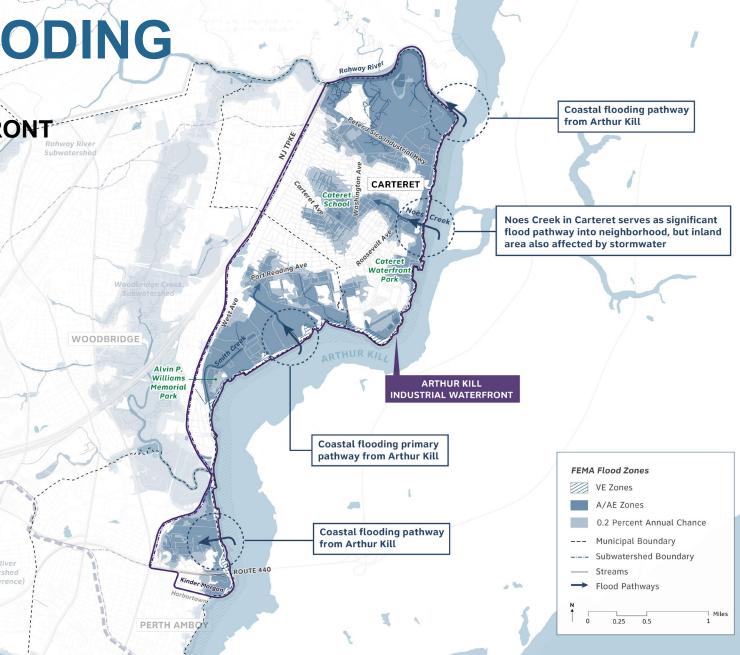
CAUSES OF FLOODING

**EXAMPLE** 

ARTHUR KILL INDUSTRIAL WATERFRONT

 Explain causes of flooding, types of flooding and flood pathways

 Hear from you about your experiences with flooding



## **VISION**

**EXAMPLE** 

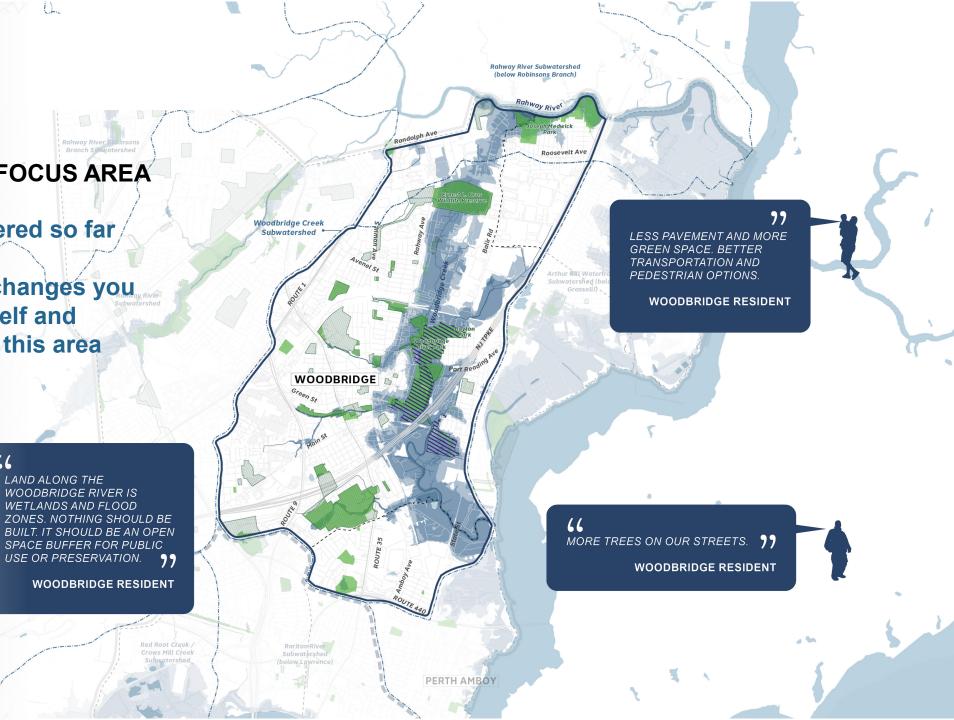
#### **WOODBRIDGE CREEK FOCUS AREA**

Share feedback gathered so far specific to this area

Hear from you what changes you want to see for yourself and future generations in this area

> LAND ALONG THE WOODBRIDGE RIVER IS WETLANDS AND FLOOD

SPACE BUFFER FOR PUBLIC



CRITICAL COMMUNITY ASSETS

**EXAMPLE:** SOUTH RIVER/WASHINGTON CANAL FOCUS AREA

- Share critical assets inventory gathered so far
- •Get input from you on critical community assets



#### **INFRASTRUCTURE**

Stormwater & Wasterwater, Power Generation, Communications, Waste Disposal



#### **TRANSPORTATION**

Rail, Bus, Bike Lanes, Airports, Ferry Terminals, Port Facilities



ECOSYSTEM & ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH



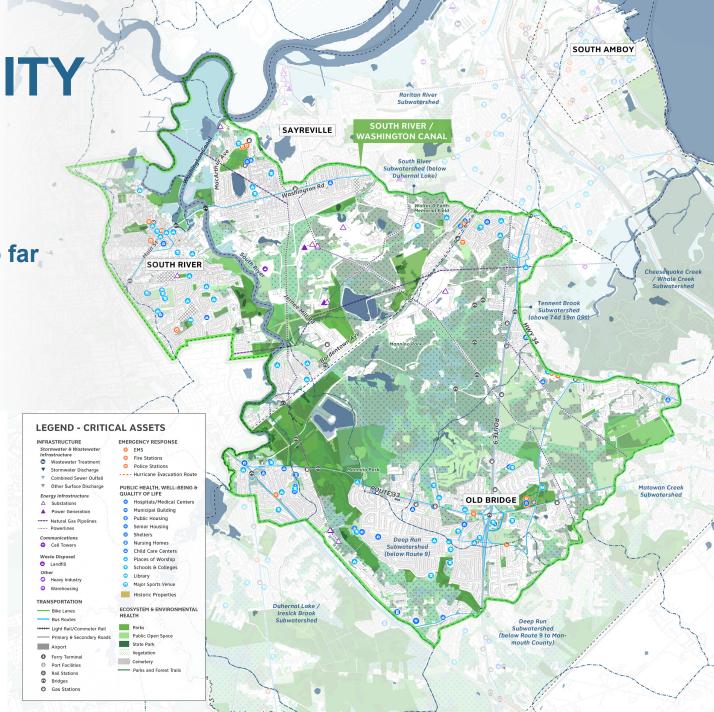
#### **EMERGENCY RESPONSE**

EMS, Fire Stations, Police Stations, Hurricane Evacuation Routes



#### PUBLIC HEALTH, WELL-BEING & QUALITY OF LIFE

Hospitals, Municipal Buildings, Public Housing, Shelters, Nursing Homes, Places of Worship, Schools, Libraries



## **ONGOING AND PLANNED PROJECTS**

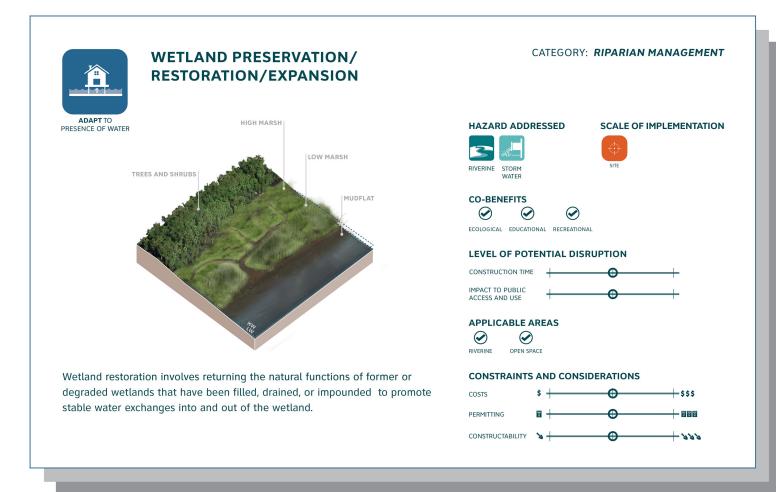
• Share information on ongoing projects to reduce risk region-wide **ARTHUR KILL WATERSHED** SAYREVILLE ARTHUR KILL WATERSHED LAWRENCE WATERSHED INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS LEGEND Resilience Projects - Infrastructure PA1. Perth Amboy High School (Emergency Shelter PA2. Rudyk Park Semi-permeable Plaza Redevelopment Areas Open space conservation/ MONMOUTH WATERSHED Planning / Construction INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS Conceptual / Unknown SA1. South Amboy Ferry Terminal FEMA FLOOD ZONES Municipal Boundary A/AE Zones — Study Area Boundary Watershed Boundary

### RESILIENCE TOOLKIT

#### **EXAMPLE**

Discuss potential resiliency strategies





## Q & A

## **BREAKOUT GROUPS**

#### WHAT WE'LL COVER TOGETHER



- Where / how do you currently experience flooding?
- How does flooding affect your life / community?

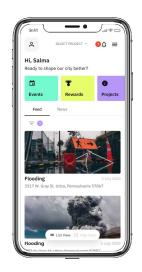


- What do you value most about your community?
- What changes do you want to see for yourself and future generations?
- What are distinguishing features of this region?



What is the most important factor to consider when choosing actions that could reduce flood risk in your community?

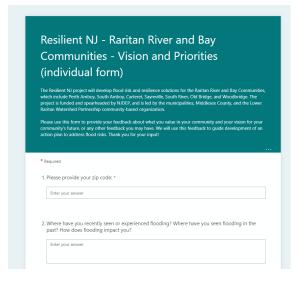
## **ANYTIME ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES**





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Complete the survey



Share your artwork through email or social media!

Share thoughts on the project hotline: 732-661-3808

(English, Spanish, Portuguese, Mandarin, Hindi, Polish)

**Engage on social media:** 

@ResilientRRBC

Share thoughts by email: ResilientRRBC@dep.nj.gov

