

2003

ONGOING

MANUFACTURED GAS PLANT CLEAN-UPS

Three former manufactured gas plants, which are a source of coal tar contamination, surround the canal. These are scheduled to be cleaned up to reduce health and environmental risks and prepare land for redevelopment.

2007

ONGOING

GOWANUS GREEN

A plan to redevelop the Public Place site on the northwest side of the canal. The development will have over 950 units of housing—100% of which will be below market rate – a public school, and a public park.

2008

ONGOING

GOWANUS SUPERFUND SITE PLAN + CLEAN UP

A plan for cleaning up contamination in the Gowanus Canal, plus other improvements to keep water clean in the future. Some of the work has started, and cleanup is scheduled for completion around 2022.

2010

ONGOING

CANAL LONG TERM CONTROL + GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

What is it? A plan for creating infrastructure and making improvements to control stormwater and combined sewer overflows that discharge into the canal.

2003

NORTH PARK SLOPE REZONING

In 2003 and 2007, the city changed the zoning along parts of 4th Avenue to allow for bigger residential buildings. Since then, rents in the area have increased dramatically, and many low- and moderate-income renters have been displaced.

2007

SOUTH PARK SLOPE REZONING

2008-09

GOWANUS CANAL CORRIDOR FRAMEWORK

In 2008, the city studied the Gowanus Canal for a potential rezoning, in part to allow for more housing development. While the rezoning didn't end up happening, the study fueled developer speculation.

2013-15

BRIDGING GOWANUS

A community planning initiative focused on issues impacting the neighborhood, like environmental sustainability, preserving manufacturing jobs, and creating affordable housing. The plan was designed to shape a vision for the community before the city proposed a rezoning. DCP has said that ideas in Bridging Gowanus helped shape their rezoning proposal.

2016

ONGOING

GOWANUS NEIGHBORHOOD REZONING

A rezoning changes the rules about what can be built where, including what buildings can be used for and how big they can be. The Gowanus rezoning is one of several happening across the city as a part of Mayor de Blasio's plan to build more affordable housing. NYC Department of City Planning developed the rezoning proposal. The rezoning is currently going through the city's Uniform Land Use Review Procedure (ULURP), which includes public meetings, including a Community Board review.

ENVIRONMENTAL

PLANNING

HOUSING

Many of these plans are currently ongoing and subject to change. To read or share updates on major plans in the neighborhood, please visit vanalen.org

Content adapted from the Center for Urban Pedagogy's "What Is ULURP? Toolkit."

2014

ONGOING

NYCHA GOWANUS HOUSES COMMUNITY CENTER RENOVATION

The Gowanus Houses Community Center has been mostly closed to residents for more than a decade. With FUREE's organizing support, Council Member Levin set aside nearly \$500k in 2014 from his Participatory Budgeting process to pay for capital upgrades to re-open the center. In 2017, Mayor de Blasio publicly committed to re-open the center and offer programming for residents of all ages. With the release of the Gowanus draft zoning proposal in February 2019, the City has committed \$4 million to renovating and reopening the center.

2015

PAUSED

NYCHA WYCKOFF INFILL

As part of a plan to close its budget gap, NYCHA has proposed allowing private developers to build on public housing land. NYCHA chose Wyckoff Gardens as one of the first sites for a new residential development. Efforts to develop a mixed-income infill project at Wyckoff Gardens is currently paused.

2018

ONGOING

NYCHA PACT/RAD WARREN STREET HOUSES

As part of a plan to close its budget gap, NYCHA is participating in HUD's Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) program, which NYCHA calls Permanent Affordability Commitment Together (PACT). RAD/PACT brings private developers into the ownership and management of public housing. In 2018, NYCHA announced that Warren Street Houses would be included in the PACT/RAD program. In 2019 NYCHA put out a Request for Proposals (RFP) for Warren Street Houses, which is the first step in the process. Many residents are concerned about the oversight of private developers, especially around RAD relocation rules and their right to return to their homes.