

The Future of Sunnyside Yard: **Green Building and a Transition to a Green Economy**

**New York Building Congress
February 10, 2020**

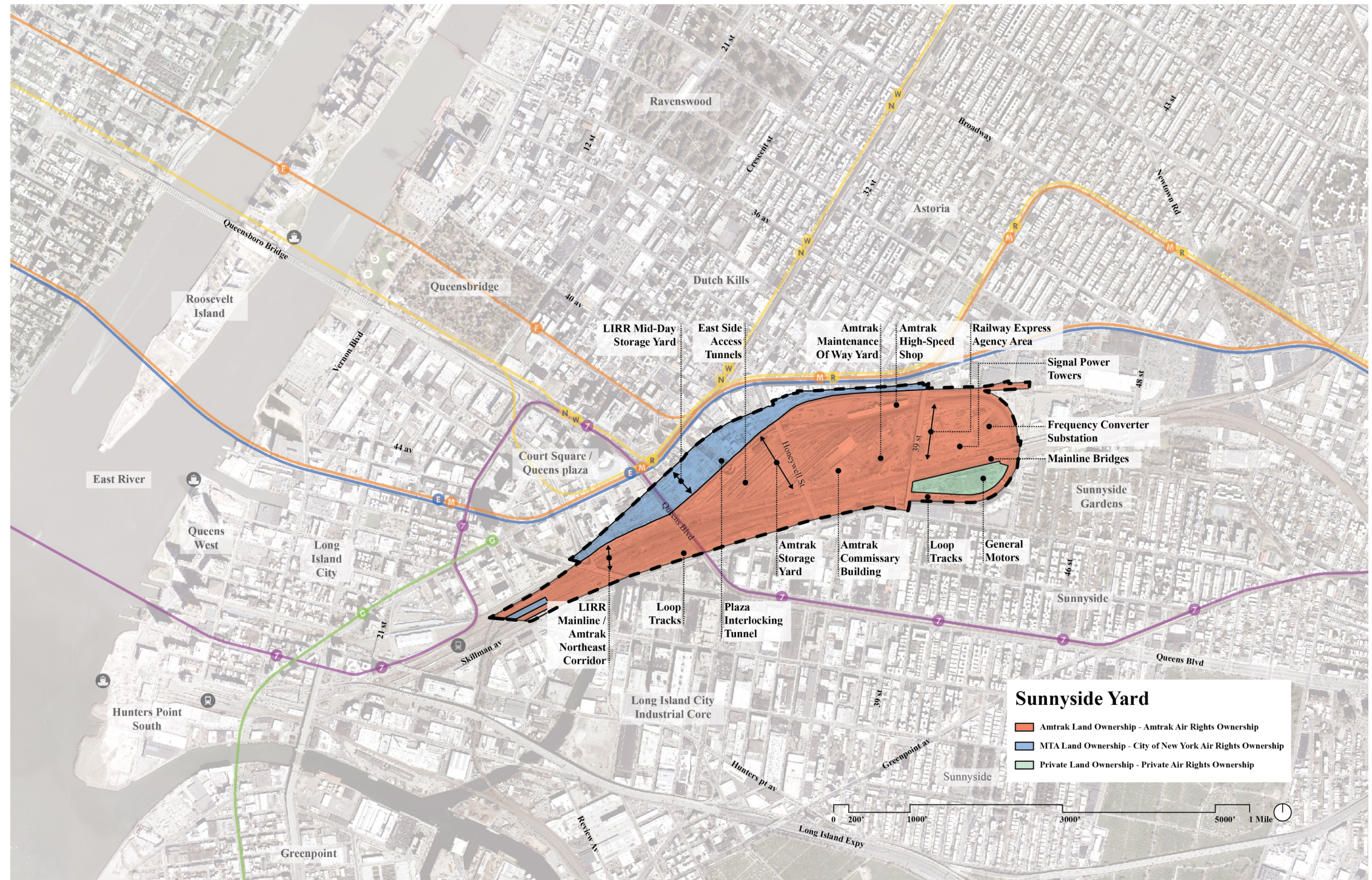


AMTRAK



What is Sunnyside Yard?

- 180-acre active railyard owned by **Amtrak** (142 acres), **MTA** (31 acres - **City air rights**), and small **private parcel** (7 acres)
- Critical piece of **regional rail infrastructure** since 1910
- One of the **busiest passenger railyards** in the nation
- Critical Main Line tracks, train storage, and maintenance facilities for **Amtrak's Northeast Corridor**
- Also tracks and servicing for **NJT** and **LIRR** trains; Metro-North trains will use Yard in future post-Penn Access



Phases of Sunnyside Yard Master Planning Process

Blue-Sky Listening

Workshopping Draft Concepts

Refining the Master Plan



Oct. 24

**First Public Meeting
400+ Attendees**



Mar. 26

**Second Public Meeting
200+ Attendees**



Sept. 16

**Third Public Meeting
175+ Attendees**



Dec. 4

**Digital Town Hall
100+ Attendees**

**Plan
Release**

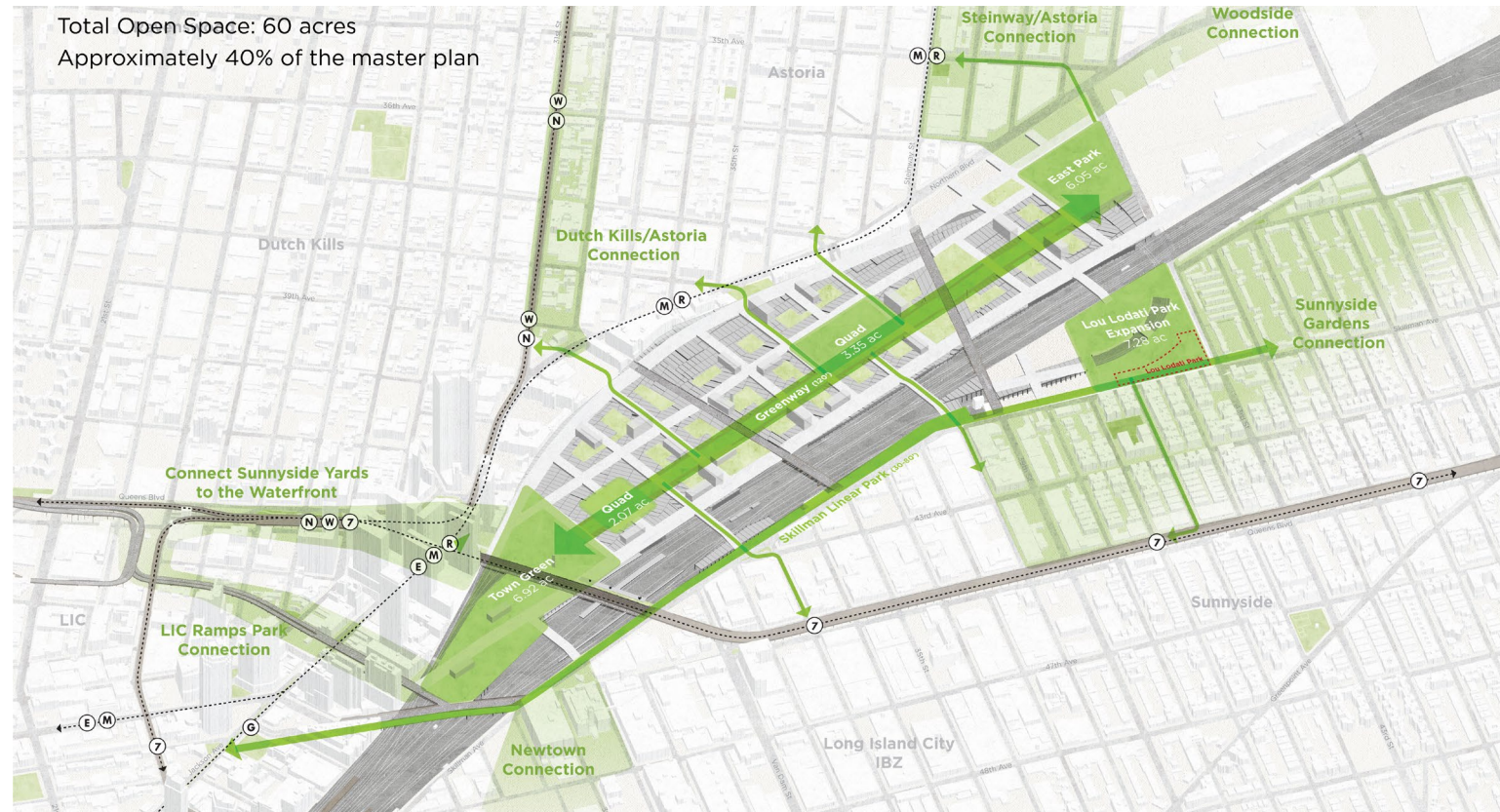
| 2018 | | | 2019 | | | | 2020 |
|--|---|--------|--|---|------|--------|------|
| Summer | Fall | Winter | Spring | Summer | Fall | Winter | |
| | Sept. 2018 - Feb. 2019 75+ One-on-one stakeholder interviews | | | June 2019 - Aug. 2019 Community Events | | | |
| | | | Feb. 2019 - May 2019 Stakeholder group interviews | | | | |
| Summer 2018 - Winter 2019 Quarterly Steering Committee Meetings | | | | | | | |

The Sunnyside Yard Master Plan is a framework to guide future decision-making, cementing public goods while maintaining flexibility to evolve over time.

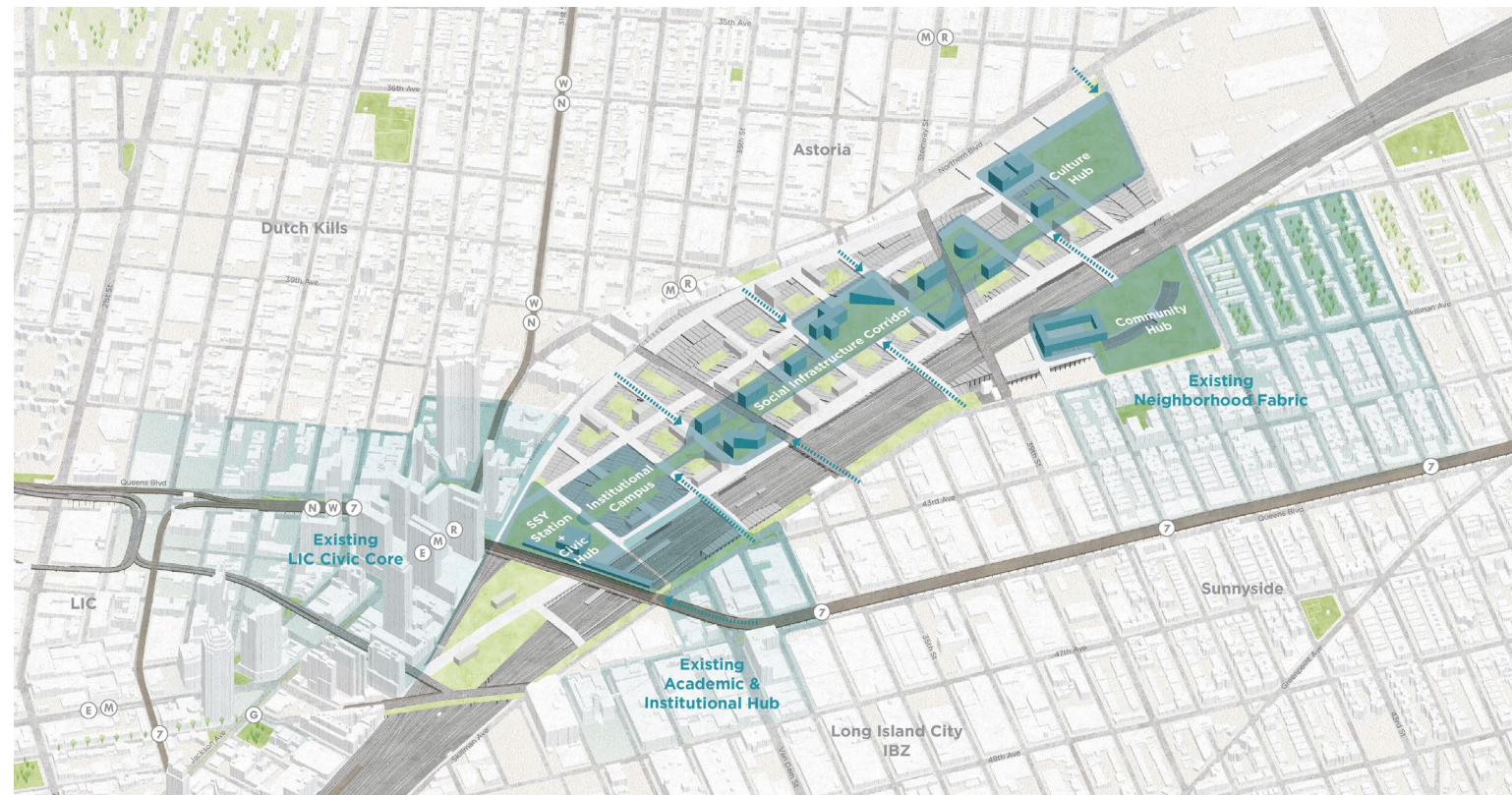


The Plan

Open Space and Social Infrastructure

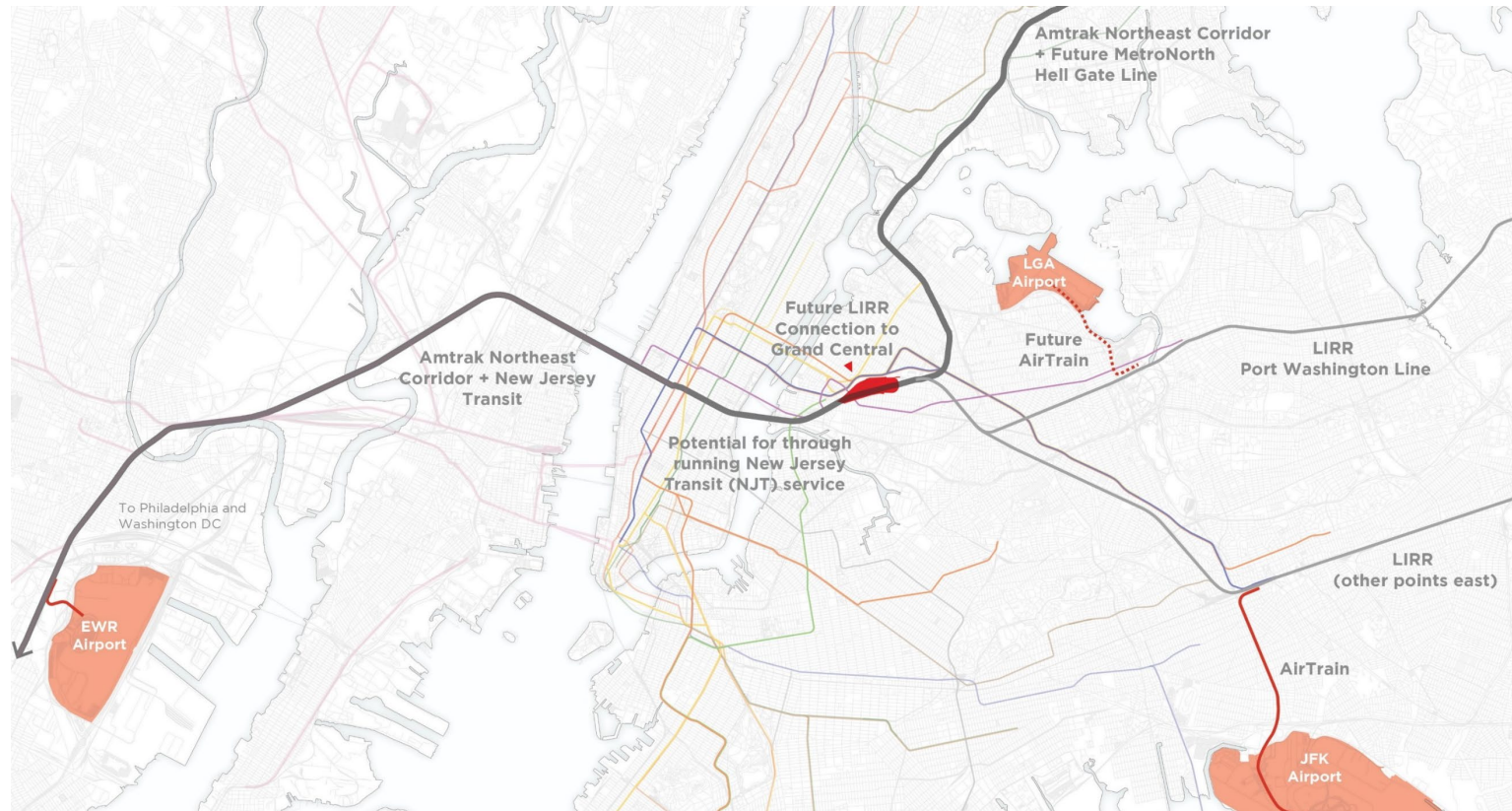


60 acres of open space, distributes across the Yard to ensure connectivity to surrounding neighborhoods

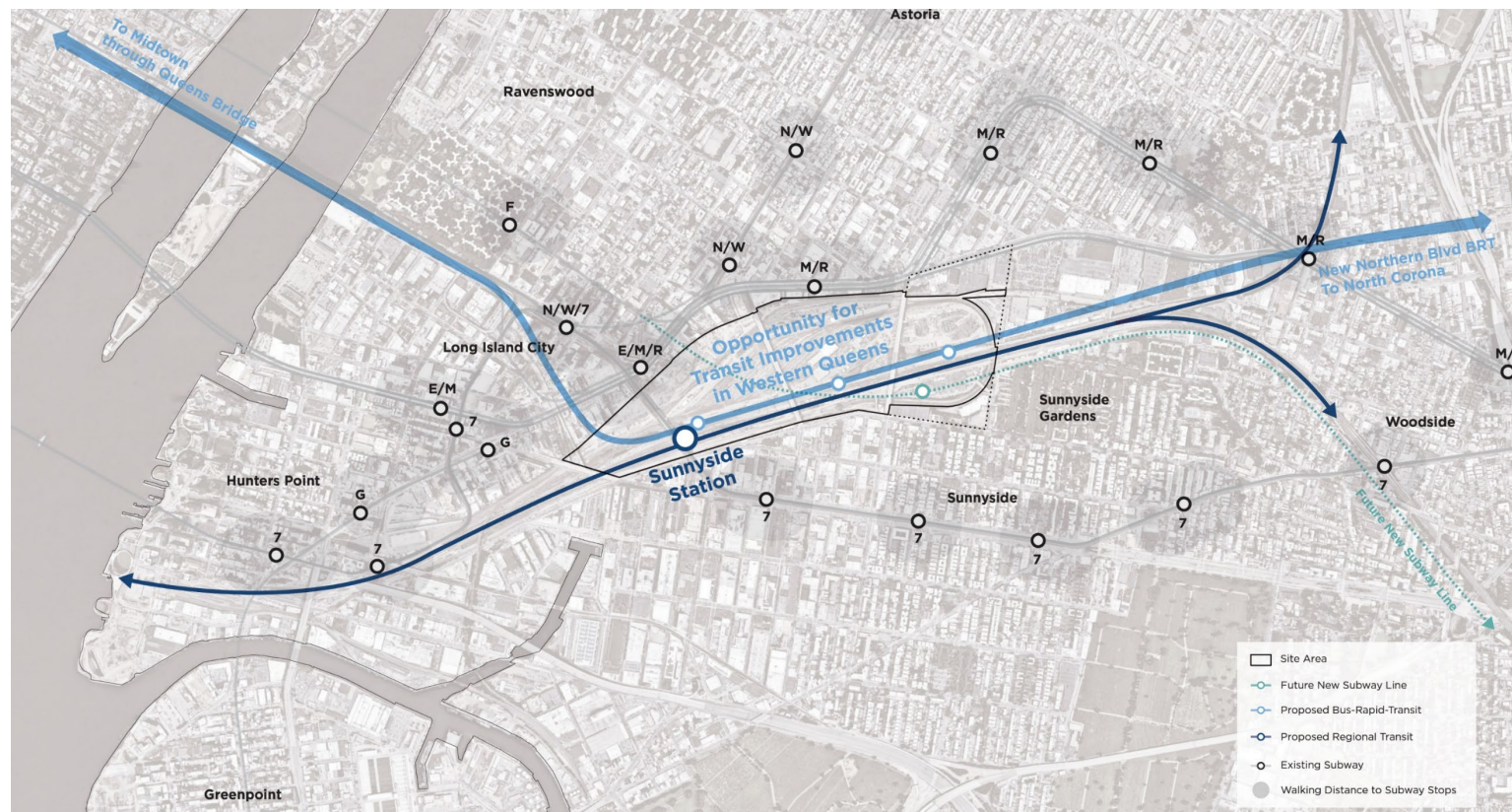


The “bedrock of civil society” distributed along open space network to cement the Plan in key community resources

Transportation



Sunnyside Yard's position within the regional rail networks gives it potential to connect to the entire Northeast.

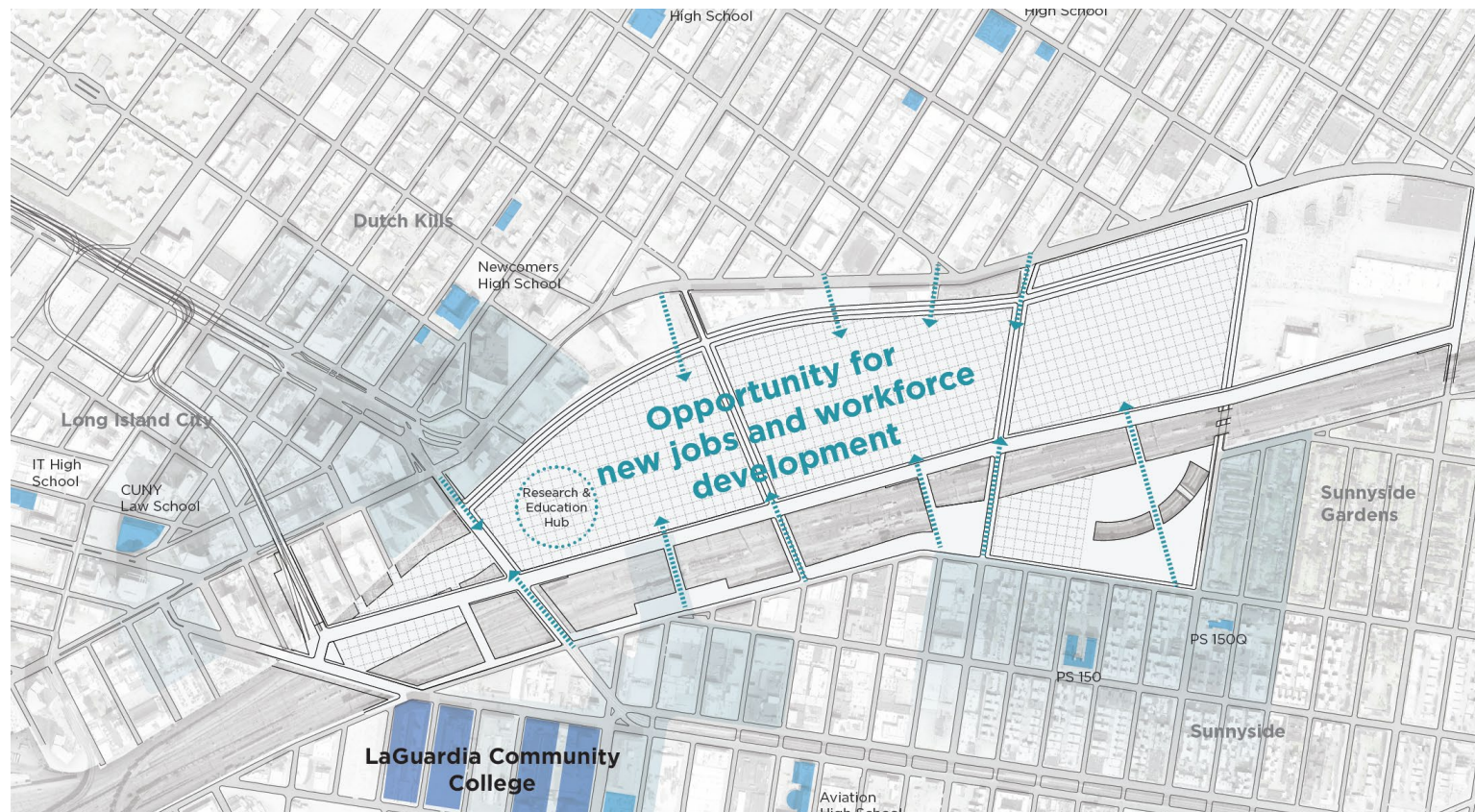


Capital investments like Sunnyside Station, BRT, and a new subway line can expand access to economic opportunities.

Jobs & Commercial Space



The Master Plan extends existing commercial hubs in western Queens to support businesses of various sizes.



The Master Plan augments Western Queens' rich landscape of trade and educational organizations with new institutional space.

Housing



Forest Hills Gardens (1917)
This enclave of Tudor-style houses and apartment buildings sits on 142 acres and was one of the first master-planned neighborhoods in the U.S.



Sunnyside Gardens (1928)
Sunnyside Gardens, located next to Sunnyside Yard, aimed to set a new standard for high-quality urban housing. It is famous for its private, communal green spaces and footpaths.



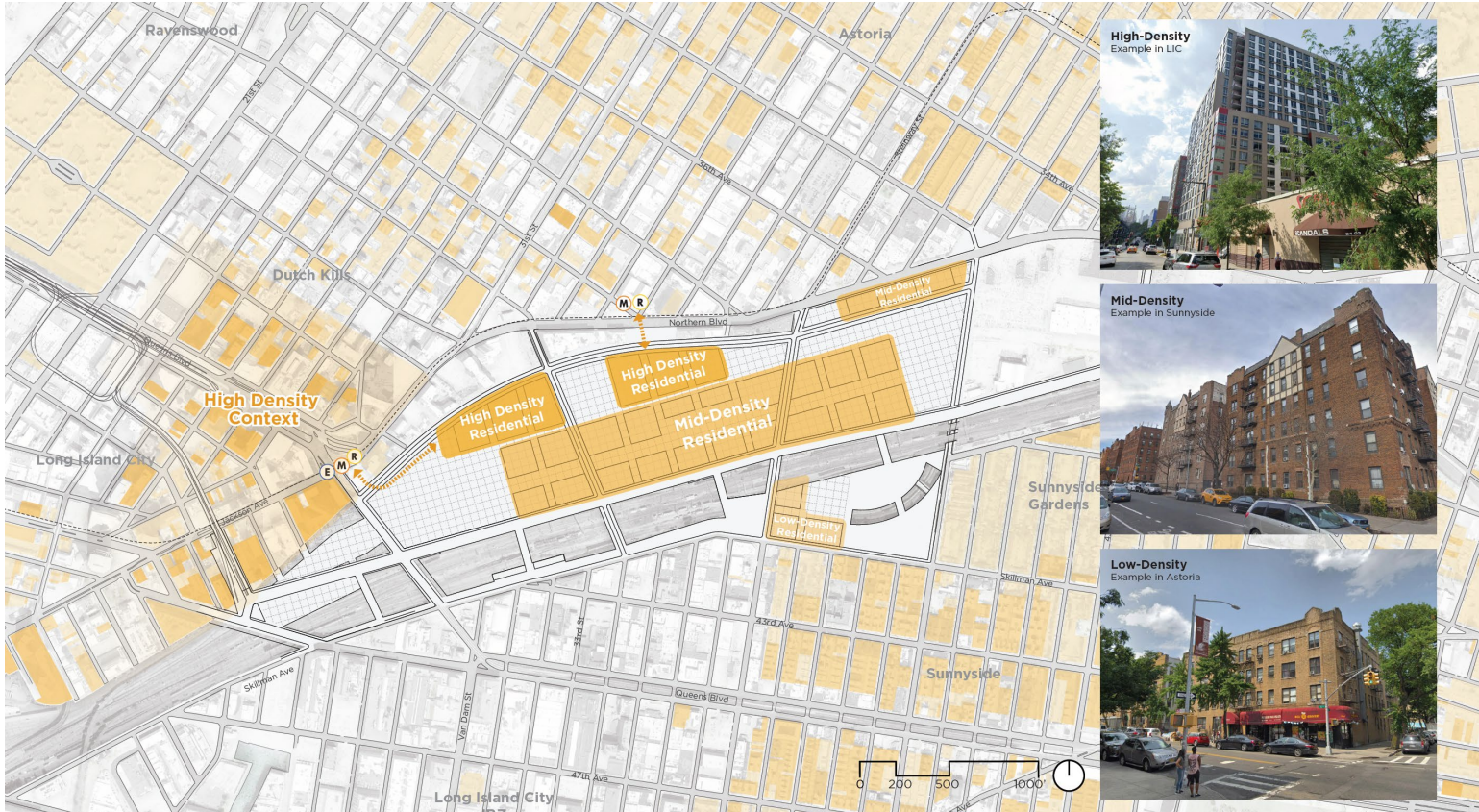
LeFrak City (1971)
LeFrak City is a 40-acre complex of rental housing and offices with its own public library, post office, and sports facilities. A recent renovation installed solar panels on the roofs of 20 apartment towers.



Queensbridge Houses (1940)
Queensbridge Houses is the largest public housing complex in the nation and was created through the Federal Housing Act of 1937. It replaced an industrial area on the East River waterfront.



Rochdale Village (1963)
This Mitchell-Lama co-op complex in Jamaica has almost 6,000 homes along with schools, a community center, and shops. It is the largest owner-occupied, Black-majority housing complex in the world.



Queens has a long history of affordable, planned communities.

Sunnyside Yard would be an integrated, inclusive, and affordable part of the western Queens fabric.

Green Buildings and a Transition to a Green Economy

What We've Heard

- Sustainability in everything
- Pilot cutting edge technologies at Sunnyside Yard
- Create a job creation pipeline for the future connected to sustainability technologies
- Support local businesses and workforce
- Incubation spaces and the upskilling of for major industries, particularly green industries
- Unions strengthen the sustainability of communities
- Community resilience through initiatives around education, public youth programs, and others that
- Diversity and inclusion of communities that reflect different demographics and income support community resilience
- Encourage more good jobs that lead to careers and workforce development strategies like union jobs, MWBE, local hiring, etc.



Green Building and a Transition to a Green Economy

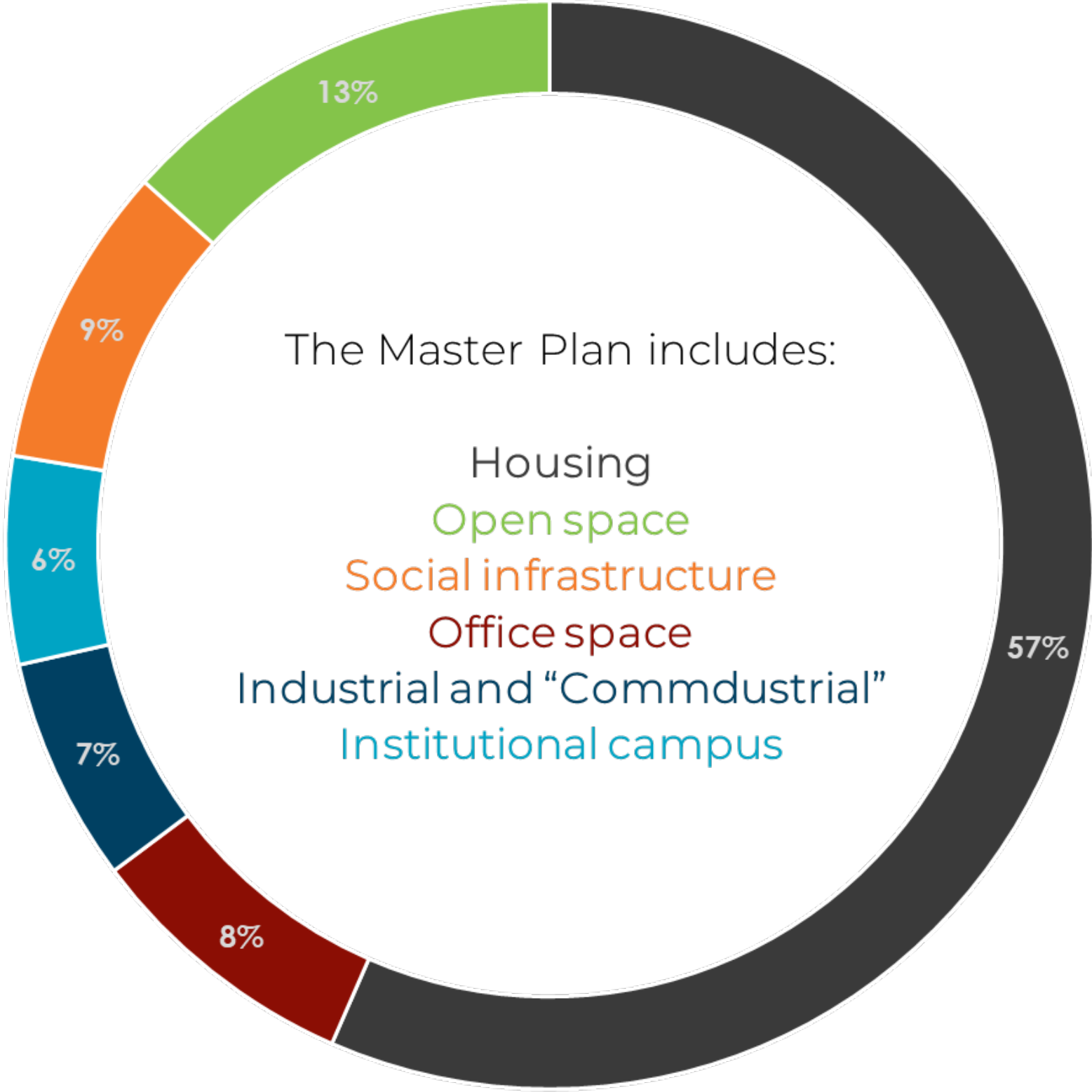
What does the plan do?

- **Large-scale construction opportunity** that will create almost **20,000 jobs** across **many industries over decades**
- Lays out **sustainability and resiliency principles** to **guide all future development**
- Proposes a **strategy** to **grow the green economy**
- Advocates for **workforce development** and **social protections** that will **enable a just transition**



Planning for the Future at Scale

- **140 acres** of new publicly-controlled land that will house a variety of uses
- Constructed in **many phases over decades**
- New buildings, public spaces and neighborhood infrastructure that can employ **cutting edge, sustainable and resilient design**

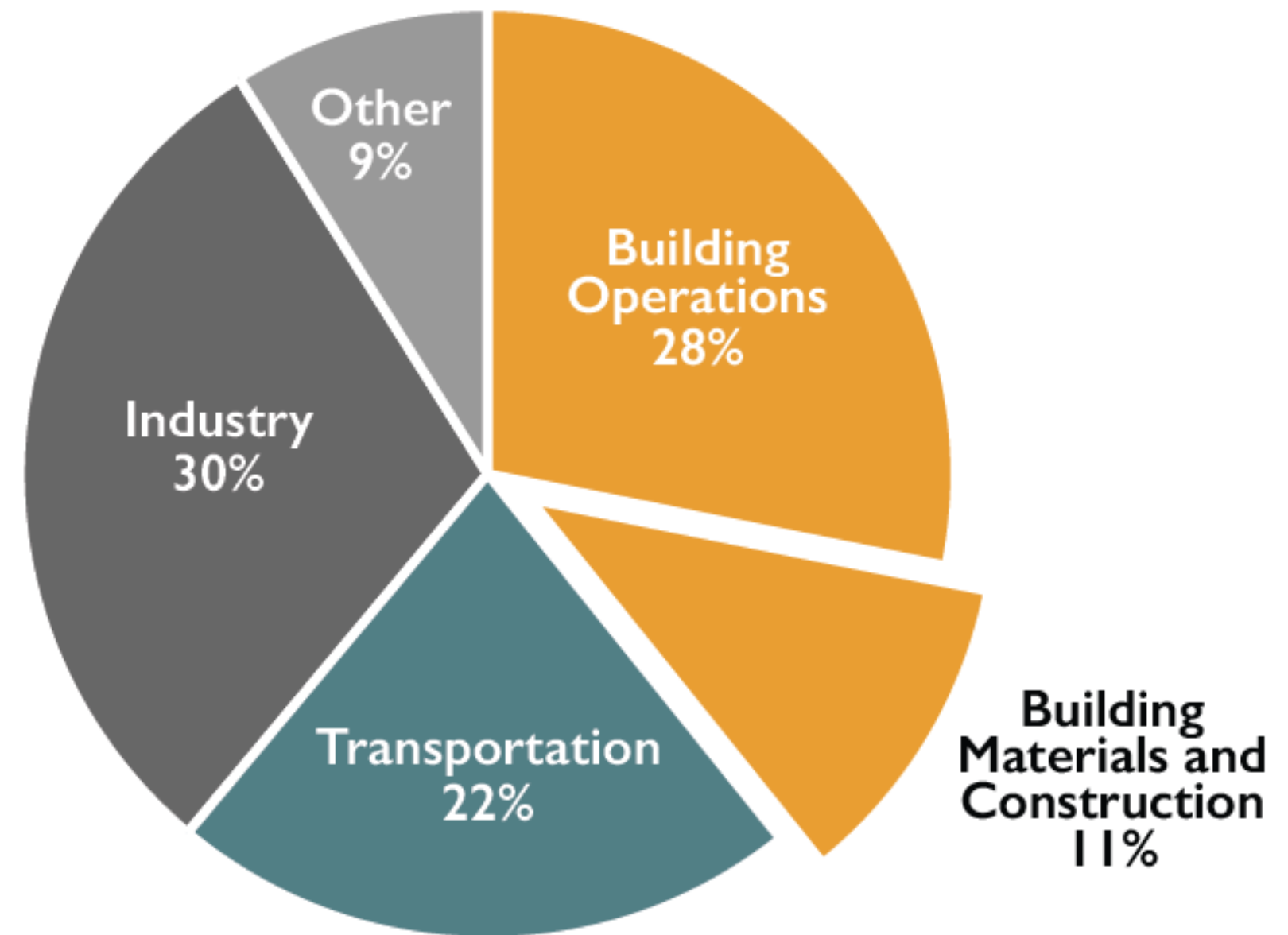


Environmental Impacts of Construction and Development

Key Considerations

- Embodied Carbon in Materials
- Construction Processes
- Building Emissions
- Future projections of climate impacts
- Resiliency of building systems and infrastructure

Global CO₂ Emissions by Sector



Source: © 2018 2030, Inc. / Architecture 2030. All Rights Reserved. Data Sources: UN Environment Global Status Report 2017; EIA International Energy Outlook 2017

The Plan Fully Integrates Sustainable and Resilience Planning Concepts

*Draft perspectives are for illustrative purposes only



High energy performance building design

On-Site renewable energy production

Astoria

Reduced carbon footprint developments using Mass Timber construction as carbon sink

Waste management system and energy storage integrated in structural deck

Carbon lean decking system

Dutch Kills

Dynamic and energy-generating streets

Vegetation as carbon sinks and stormwater collection sites

Community spaces for emergency management

Sunnyside

Long Island City
IBZ

Sunnyside Yard must be a carbon neutral neighborhood

Cross-laminated timber construction to significantly reduce embodied carbon impacts and serve as a carbon sink

Highly efficient buildings and integration of renewable energy infrastructure to support City-wide progress toward a fully renewable grid

Support green economy research and development to enable innovation in carbon-light materials and construction methods



Sunnyside Yard must embrace circularity in urban systems

Resources like waste heat and water
can be **captured and reused**

Local, **circular supply chains** for food
and materials can be created



Sunnyside Yard must adapt to the extreme effects of climate change

The Yard can house public amenities and resources in an **elevated area** away from the flood zone

Decentralized infrastructure and building systems will be designed to withstand climate intensified weather

Affordable housing is key to **safeguard against** exacerbating inequities and perpetuating **environmental injustices**



Sunnyside Yard must **grow the green economy in NYC**

Green design and construction opportunities will be generated at a scale to create jobs across **many industries over many decades**

Targeted **research and education** can build **workforce and industry pipelines** that will sustain a transformed economy

Social protections and **new business models** that support a just transition



Growing a Green Economy

Workforce development and education programming

Policy advocacy and reform

Master Plan Release

Master Plan Implementation

Research & education institution established

**New partnerships for pipeline building and workforce support
Targeted research, development, and testing**

Economic benefits for Queens, NYC, and region

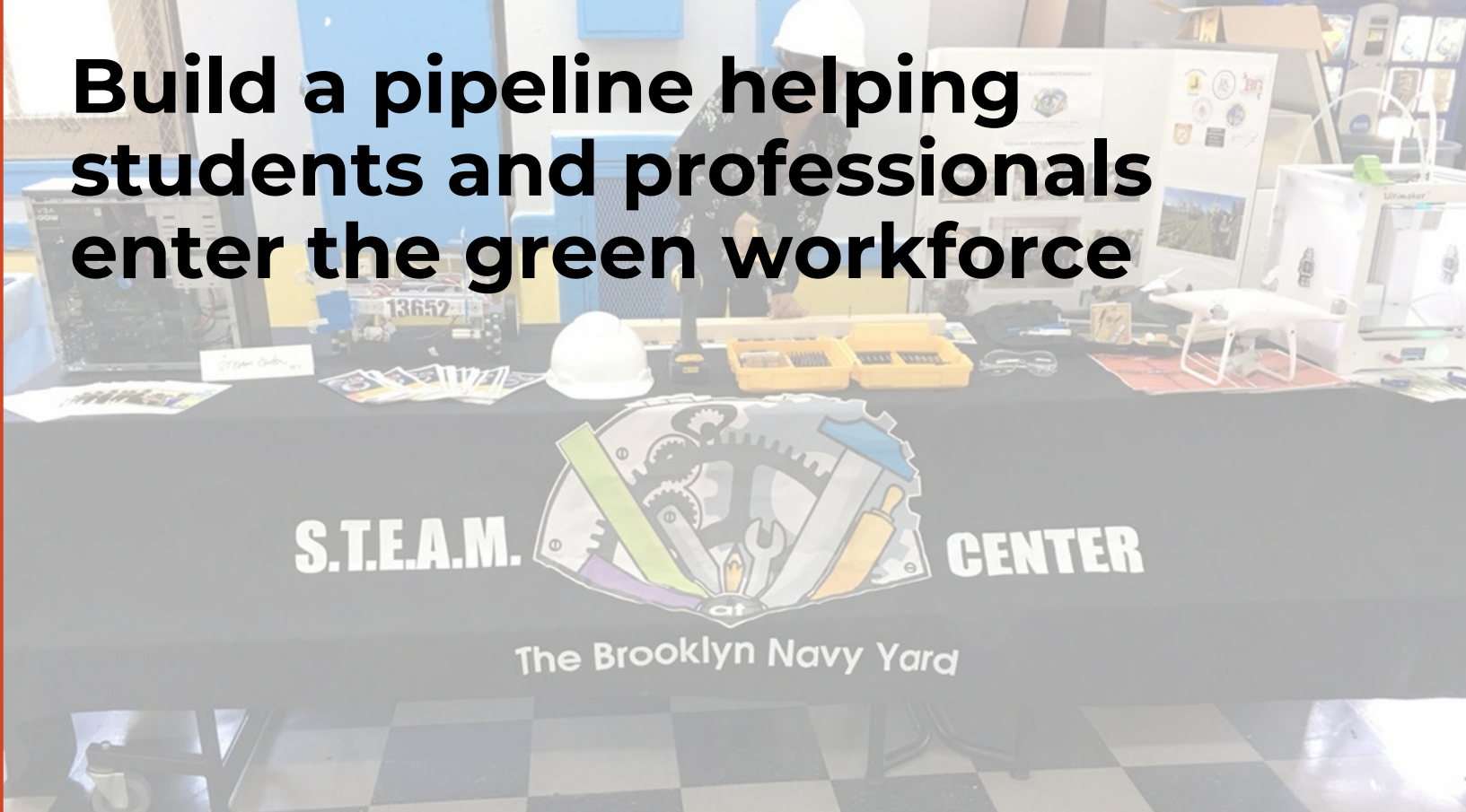
New materials, methods, technologies utilized for more sustainable construction at Sunnyside Yard

Enabling a Just Transition

Leverage institutional space to create partnerships



Build a pipeline helping students and professionals enter the green workforce



Workforce Development & Small Business Support



Social Linkages & Protections



Illustrative Concepts for Discussion



Illustrative Concepts for Discussion





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