

Long Island City DRI 2024

Project Proposals Received Through Open Call [Jun 13 - Aug 02, 2024]



New development and/or Rehabilitation of Existing Downtown Buildings

- 1 Renovate IT High School's gymnasium to support the larger LIC community
- 2 Long Island City Arts Pavilion: Building community through culture
- 3 Restore the original 1911 façade of the Brewster Building and improve pedestrian experience
- 4 Restore the façade of the New York Irish Center
- 5 Renovate and upgrade Flux Factory
- 6 Redevelop the Metropolitan Building into a creative hub
- 7 Redevelop industrial building into multipurpose performing arts theater and community center
- 8 Renovate and Connect Sculpture Center to the Underline Open Space
- 9 Construct new Queens Public Library branch

Public Improvement Projects

- 10 Transform 29th Street into a Greenway
- 11 Create a public park along the Underline at Dutch Kills Street
- 12 Create a public plaza at Dutch Kills Street
- 13 Enhance the public plaza at 12th Street
- 14 Reconstruct the public plaza at 46th Avenue in front of MoMA PS1
- 15 Restore Anable Cove Habitat
- 16 Install and enhance green infrastructure in LIC
- 17 Greening and cleaning LIC
- 18 Building Identity through a Placemaking and Public Art Fund
- 19 Create a public pedestrian plaza on Borden Avenue
- 20 Revitalize green infrastructure at Smiling Hogshead Ranch

Projects Outside the DRI Boundary

- 21 Renovate Andromeda Community Initiative's LIC Workforce Training Facilities
- 22 Build out Flux Factory's new public arts venue Flux IV
- 23 Enhance Museum of the Moving Image's 'Be Seen/Green Space'
- 24 Develop female workforce with Positive Women United
- 25 Develop workforce skill with Jetway HVAC

Notes:

- 16 17 18 DRI Investment Area-wide proposals
- 24 25 Proposals outside LIC map extents

The map and matrix here show all the project proposals that were received through an open call between June 13 - August 02, 2024. The LPC will deliberate on all projects received and finalize a slate of projects that will collectively advance the downtown revitalization vision and goals set by the community. The final slate of projects will be recommended by the LPC for inclusion in the Strategic Investment Plan (SIP). All LPC meetings are open to the public. Please visit www.licdri.com for more information on past and upcoming LPC meetings.

New development and/or Rehabilitation of Existing Downtown Buildings

Map ID	Project Title	Project Sponsor	Project Description
1	Renovate Information Technology High School's gymnasium to support the larger LIC community	Information Technology High School	The existing gymnasium is already in use by students and the wider LIC community and needs improvement. The proposed upgrades will allow the school to expand sports programming for its students and open the space up to a larger variety of community programming, including sports, art, performances and large gatherings. The gymnasium would prove to be a valuable recreational amenity for the neighborhood.
2	Long Island City Arts Pavilion: Building community through culture	Culture Lab LIC	Culture Lab offers a significant outdoor entertainment venue that would be free to the public. The organization works to support Queens-based artists by providing a performance space, and encourage community involvement with the arts through a variety of free or low-cost programming.
3	Restore the original 1911 façade of the Brewster Building and improve pedestrian experience	Brause Plaza North LLC	The façade restoration will help establish the historic industrial identity of the neighborhood as it rapidly develops into a busy, modern mixed-use area. The use of modern methods of façade inspection and renovation will ensure indoor climate control and energy efficiency. The installation of new energy efficient sidewalk lighting will work not only to improve visibility and pedestrian safety, but also help reduce energy usage and carbon emissions.
4	Restore the façade of the New York Irish Center	New York Irish Center	The façade restoration will elevate the quality of the street wall and ensure pedestrian safety and comfort. Through this, NYIC aims to create an attractive façade that invites visitors not only to their facility but also boost visibility for other local businesses and instill a sense of place. The project will also help strengthen the NYIC's earned income, including the attraction of tenants to rent out rooms for offices and other uses in the facility.
5	Renovate and upgrade Flux Factory	Flux Factory	Flux Factory has been hosting local and international artists-in-residence and staged hundreds of art exhibitions for the community. This creative community facility currently contributes to the neighborhood through collaboration with nearby community fridges, gardens and other social ventures. The proposal aims to elevate the quality of the space that Flux offers to artists and the wider community.
6	Redevelop the Metropolitan Building into a creative hub	Vorea	The project seeks to attract manufacturing jobs to the area and serve as an affordable home for creative individuals and businesses. The envisioned diverse mix of businesses will create job opportunities across different skill levels and contribute to a dynamic local economy. The project's proximity to the '12th Street Campus,' a public pedestrian plaza developed by Vorea, will support hosting of arts and cultural events, serve the existing community and draw new visitors, enriching the local cultural scene and fostering a diverse community of residents and workers.
7	Redevelop industrial building into a world-class multipurpose performing arts theater and community center	The Chocolate Factory Theater	The proposal aims to expand the Chocolate Factory Theater's mission of addressing the needs of local artists through the development of space for creative expression and opportunity. The organization maintains active partnerships with about a hundred local businesses in the neighborhood, which will benefit from the resulting increase in foot traffic.
8	Renovate and connect SculptureCenter to the Underline open space	SculptureCenter Inc.	The proposal aims to establish links between local businesses, developments and public open spaces. It would provide increased access to open spaces and SculptureCenter's community art facilities, while also encouraging and providing exposure to local artists by providing a platform for art education, creation and exhibition.
9	Construct new Queens Public Library branch	Queens Borough Public Library	QPL is a valuable community resource and continues to prioritize the needs, interests and wellbeing of the community. The institution provides programming across various interests for people of all ages and origins, and advances skills training, educational and employment assistance and workforce development. Following the closure of the former Court Square library branch in 2020, the neighborhood lacked a community facility that could address a diverse range of needs which this proposal aims to address.

Public Improvement Projects

Map ID	Project Title	Project Sponsor	Project Description
10	Transform 29th Street into a Greenway	LaGuardia Community College	The LaGuardia Community College Greenway is a collaborative undertaking by the LaGuardia Community College and local community to reclaim the public streets to create an urban sanctuary for respite. It will serve the college campus as well as the wider community through open space and event programming.
11	Create a public park along the Underline at Dutch Kills Street	Friends of the Underline	The proposal will create a vibrant, publicly accessible open space where residents and visitors can gather to enjoy the outdoors. Its programming would welcome people of all ages, increase walkability and safety within the neighborhood, and attract visitors to the range of cafes, fast-casual restaurants and other local businesses around the open space.
12	Create a public plaza at Dutch Kills Street	Friends of the Underline	The proposal envisions an area that is currently used for parking, as an attractive and functional public plaza for residents and visitors to enjoy and gather for community events. It also enhances the pedestrian environment, increases pedestrian safety and walkability through streetscape improvements. The plaza is also envisioned as a space for seasonal fairs, outdoor markets and other events that can increase visibility of local businesses.
13	Enhance the public plaza at 12th Street	VM 12th Street LLC	The proposal aims to expand upon the existing public space and Street Seats program at 12th St by addressing the need for upgraded seating, outdoor dining space and increased tree cover and greenery. It helps address LIC's need for increased publicly accessible open and green spaces in upland neighborhoods.
14	Reconstruct the public plaza at 46th Avenue in front of MoMA PS1	NYC Department of Transportation	The project will help achieve the goal of increasing public space, creating safer streets, and improve the livability of the LIC Downtown Core. A more robust version of an existing public open space allows for increased pedestrian amenities and programming from the plaza's partner, MoMA PS1. It will complement adjacent pedestrian safety projects in the Court Square area and build upon public realm improvements from nearby capital projects.
15	Restore Anable Cove Habitat	Long Island City Coalition Hunters Point Community Coalition	This section of the western Queens waterfront is one of the areas most vulnerable to flooding from storm surge and rising sea levels, and also suffers from an overburdened, antiquated wastewater system that spills CSOs into the East River. The restoration of Anable Cove would include the use of soft, green infrastructure to absorb and filter rain-water runoff and storm-water overflow. The existing natural habitat would be restored through a planting program sensitive to the needs of wildlife, including low and high marsh grasses, maritime species and upland shrub/tree forest.
16	Install and enhance green infrastructure in LIC	The Horticultural Society of New York	This project aims to enhance the neighborhood streetscapes and beautify not only the commercial corridors, but adjacent industrial areas lacking green spaces. Trees specifically offer relief from the Urban Heat Island effect, reduce traffic accidents & speeding, and provide habitat. The Hort's goal is to help increase public access to beautiful and flourishing green spaces for the community to enjoy.
17	Greening and cleaning LIC	Long Island City Partnership	This initiative will introduce greenery and an overall welcoming atmosphere to the sidewalks. Many streets in the Industrial Business Zone (IBZ) that link various parts of the neighborhood are in urgent need of these improvements. Enhancing the sidewalks is essential for any thriving commercial corridor and can immediately attract customers, employees, and prospective businesses. This project also addresses areas prone to flooding and those most vulnerable to heat.
18	Building identity through a placemaking and public art fund	Long Island City Partnership	Through this, the proposal aims to complement and augment the city's Walk NYC program: extending it with LIC-specific elements and incorporating its visual language and iconography throughout the system.

Public Improvement Projects

Map ID	Project Title	Project Sponsor	Project Description
19	Create a public pedestrian plaza on Borden Avenue	Vorea Borden LLC	The proposal identifies and aims to transform an underutilized section of Vernon Blvd into a vibrant public pedestrian plaza, increase pedestrian safety along a busy street, provide community gathering space and promote local businesses.
20	Revitalize green infrastructure at Smiling Hogshead Ranch	Smiling Hogshead Ranch	Through their programming, Smiling Hogshead Ranch has brought visitors to Long Island City over the last thirteen years. Smiling Hogshead Ranch provides opportunities for the local community to get involved with farming and gardening in New York City, helping people to make their neighborhood a better place to live by working together. The proposal involves the improvement of the Smiling Hogshead Ranch community garden including ADA accessibility, new amphitheater, outdoor classrooms and more.

Projects Outside the DRI Boundary

Map ID	Project Title	Project Sponsor	Project Description
21	Renovate Andromeda Community Initiative's LIC Workforce Training Facilities	Andromeda Community Initiative	The ACI's mission is to expand job training and placement services for in-need local populations. This proposal will foster economic growth and community development in LIC and help create an active and dynamic downtown.
22	Revitalize green infrastructure at Smiling Hogshead Ranch	Flux Factory	Flux Factory has been hosting local and international artists-in-residence and staged hundreds of art exhibitions for the community. The new facility, which is close to Hunters Point South, will offer community space for local artists, along with a waterfront-facing backyard for arts programming. The facility aims to be an important quality-of-life resource for the emerging neighborhood which is expected to receive significant residential populations.
23	Enhance Museum of the Moving Image's 'Be Seen/ Green Space'	Museum of the Moving Image	The activation of the courtyard will bring a significant amount of green and open space to the residents of LIC. The museum can expand its programming to host more community-oriented events that include local artists, educational initiatives and outdoor gatherings and performances.
24	Develop female workforce with Positive Women United	Positive Women United	Female empowered mission and women initiatives for Women In STEM, Women In Construction, Women's Health and Women In Housing
25	Develop workforce skill with Jetway HVAC Services	Jetway HVAC LLC	The project proposal will include HVAC Workforce Development for HVAC Mechanical Heating And Cooling Systems, Women In Construction, Women In STEM which will also need construction upgrades and renovation for the commercial space to hold.