

RECOMMENDATIONS

COMMUNITY RESILIENCE TOOLKIT FOR LOCAL PROJECTS



GREEN STORMWATER INFRASTRUCTURE

Continue to work with relevant City agencies to evaluate best locations for green stormwater infrastructure projects.

Many flood mitigation projects recommended for Eastwick focus on larger scale interventions. However, community desires for more public and active spaces should include green stormwater infrastructure elements, which can aid in localized, day-to-day flooding concerns and increase stormwater capacities in larger storm events. Facilities should be located on publicly owned open space or rights-of-way in upland locations, outside of flood and storm surge inundation areas, and contaminated soils, and where infiltration, retention, and detention practices will be most effective.

» See: *Eastwick from Recovery to Resilience*



COOLING CENTERS

Establish a designated cooling center in Eastwick.

Currently, no cooling centers exist in Eastwick. The City also designates Free Libraries as places of respite; Eastwick Public Library serves this purpose. However, there should be a designated cooling center that can serve multiple purposes when not needed as thermal relief. If located and floodproofed properly, this could act as a broader community resiliency center and a home base for disaster recovery efforts.



WATERFRONT ACCESS & AMENITIES

Continue prioritizing trail access that provide connections to larger ecological and open spaces.

While Eastwick does not have direct waterfront access, its location near John Heinz National Wildlife Refuge, Cobbs Creek, and Bartrams Garden provides the opportunity for good trail connectivity. Currently funded projects include the Cobbs Creek Trail Extension and a feasibility study for the Tincum East Coast Greenway. Potential future projects should be evaluated at the Clearview Landfill for a long-term recreational space and trail connection to John Heinz.



TREE PLANTING

Plant trees along key corridors to prioritize pedestrian comfort.

As part of the remediation project at Clearview Landfill, many trees have been planted at the former landfill site. Eastwick also has a fairly dense tree canopy coverage. However, there are opportunities for further tree planting along key corridors like 84th Street and Lindbergh Boulevard as well as future open spaces to aid with thermal comfort and mitigate air pollution.

» See: *Philly Tree Plan (2023)*



SHADE-WAY CORRIDORS

Connect places within Eastwick and to other recreational assets like John Heinz National Wildlife Refuge with shade-way corridors.

Planned trails and connective links within Eastwick, like the East Coast Greenway, should also be considered as shade-way corridors. Providing additional shaded spaces and thermal comfort along pedestrian-oriented routes can encourage usage of these connection routes while also ensuring that thermal mitigation of the urban heat island effect is addressed.

» See: *Eastwick Trails Feasibility Study (2015)*



SPRAY FOUNTAINS & SPLASH PADS

Maintain existing spray grounds and consider adding additional water features at future recreational spaces.

Currently, there is a public sprayground at Eastwick Regional Park and just outside Eastwick's neighborhood boundary at J. Francis Finnegan Playground. Maintenance should be a priority for these existing water features as they can become key tools for mitigating extreme heat while also providing recreational benefits. Any future developments of park spaces or recreational spaces should also consider the addition of a water feature.



BUILDING RETROFITS

Ensure all residents are aware of existing municipal guides for flood-proofing homes and work with relevant City agencies to continuously update the guides as new climate projections emerge.

Philadelphia has multiple building retrofit and design guidelines, including ones that specifically address various types of flooding and for those living in Eastwick. These guides should be advertised and available to any current and future residents, including information on any assistance available. Relevant City agencies should continue to work on ensuring any flood-related design and building guidelines are up-to-date on current climate and flood projections.

» See: *Flood Ready Home Guides (OOS Guide for Eastwick)*, *Flood Recovery Grant Program from Eastwick United CDC*, *A Guide to Flooding in Philadelphia (2017)*



DEPLOYABLE/TEMPORARY BARRIERS

Evaluate feasibility of deployable or temporary barriers in locations susceptible to flooding.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is currently in the midst of a feasibility study for a permanent levee at Cobbs Creek, while the City is planning a Near-Term Flood Barrier Project, which uses a temporary HESCO barrier to mitigate moderate flooding. Outreach and consistent communication between government officials, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and Eastwick residents is a priority as these barriers and levees get implemented.

» See: *Eastwick Flood Risk Management Study (2023)*, *Eastwick: From Recovery to Resilience* (City website)



ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING & MODELING

Ensure residents are aware of the various monitoring systems available.

Eastwick has several environmental monitoring systems in place, from air monitoring (via the City as well as via non-profits like the Clean Air Council and Philly Thrive) to flood emergency warning systems tailored for Eastwick residents. These various monitoring systems should be centralized in one location for ease of information and to ensure all residents are aware of the information available to them.

» See: *City of Philadelphia Air Quality Monitoring Network*, *Clean Air Council*, *Thrive Air Monitoring*



PAVEMENT REDUCTION

Study potential underutilized paved spaces for depaving and green stormwater infrastructure installations.

There are areas of impervious surfaces in Eastwick that can be considered for depaving and installation of green stormwater infrastructure programs, including areas concentrated along the commercial and industrial lots along Island Avenue.