# B R O O K L Y N S T R E E T C A R FEASIBILITY STUDY







# EXISTING CONDITIONS REPORT







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# 1.0 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

The New York City Department of Transportation (NYCDOT) is investigating the potential of a streetcar to, from, and within the Red Hook neighborhood of Brooklyn. The intent of the study is to determine the current and future transportation needs of the Red Hook neighborhood and identify whether a streetcar can effectively meet these needs. In addition, the study will analyze streetcar routings and will provide an initial assessment of potential streetcar alternatives, analyzing alignment, constructability, costs, and benefits. This study is a first step in developing solutions to transportation access needs for Red Hook and provides an opportunity to evaluate the potential for re-introducing the streetcar mode in Brooklyn. It will be followed by more detailed analysis if solutions are determined feasible.

This Existing Conditions Report provides a context for assessing the transportation needs of Red Hook and evaluating streetcar as a potential transit solution. It describes the land use, demographic, and community characteristics of Red Hook and adjacent areas and provides an overview of the existing transportation options for Red Hook's residents, workers, and visitors.

#### 1.2 IDENTIFICATION OF FOCUS AREA AND STUDY AREA

To evaluate the potential transit needs of Red Hook as well as potential connections to existing transit services in the Borough of Brooklyn, a Focus Area and a Study Area were established. The Focus Area is defined specifically as the neighborhood of Red Hook. The Study Area is much larger and encompasses the transit hubs of Downtown Brooklyn and adjacent neighborhoods.

The Focus Area (Red Hook) is located in Community District 6 of the Borough of Brooklyn. It is bounded by the Buttermilk Channel to the west, Hamilton Avenue, the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway, and the Brooklyn-Battery Tunnel to the north, the Gowanus Canal to the east, and the Gowanus Bay to the south (see Figure 1-1). The Study Area borders the Focus Area to the north and includes the blocks between the Buttermilk Channel and East River waterfront to the west and north and Hoyt Street, Ashland Place and 2nd Avenue to the east. The Study Area includes the neighborhoods of Carroll Gardens, Cobble Hill, Brooklyn Heights, Downtown Brooklyn, DUMBO, Vinegar Hill, Boerum Hill, and Gowanus.

### 1.3 METHODOLOGY

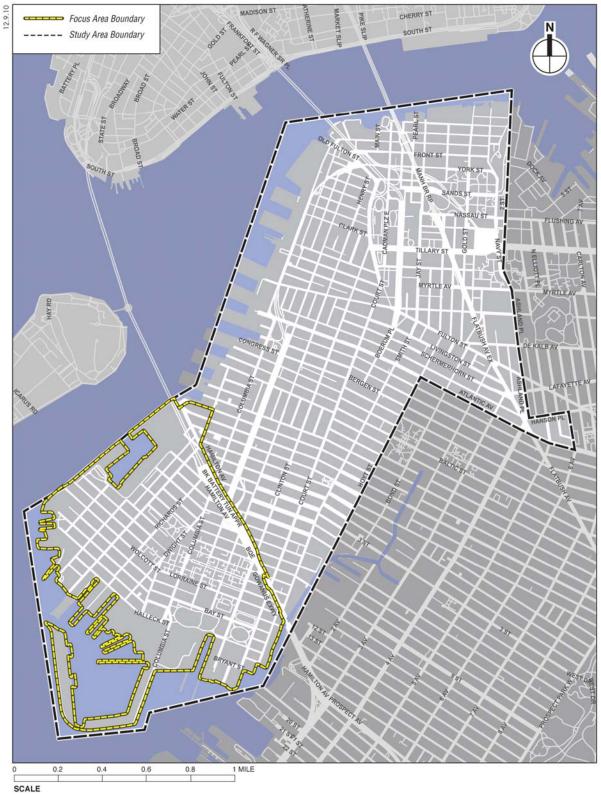
This report summarizes data from a number of sources, including geographic information system data, field surveys, the U.S. Census, and a literature review. The Downtown Brooklyn Surface Transit Circulation Study was also used to identify land use and demographics for a large portion of the Study Area.

Demographic, economic, and travel characteristics are presented both for the Focus Area and the Study Area. The Focus Area statistics are the composite of data for the U.S. Census block groups within Red Hook as defined by the boundary shown in Figure 1-1. Statistics for the Study Area are comprised of all of the Census block groups within the Study Area boundary shown in Figure 1-1, including the Focus Area. Therefore, the Focus Area statistics are a subset of the factors presented for the Study Area.





FIGURE 1-1: STUDY AREA AND FOCUS AREA







# 2.0 LAND USE AND COMMUNITY CHARACTER

# 2.1 DEVELOPMENT HISTORY

The City of Brooklyn was established in 1834. At this time, it comprised individual settlements along its waterfront, including Downtown Brooklyn, Brooklyn Heights, Cobble Hill, Boerum Hill, and the Navy Yard area, including Vinegar Hill. The City of Brooklyn annexed other sections of the present-day borough at various points throughout the 1800s.

In 1893, the first electric streetcar ran in Brooklyn. The introduction of these streetcars and other rail modes would change the borough from a collection of small towns into the City's most populous borough. Originally comprised of ten independent operating companies, many lines were incorporated into the Brooklyn Rapid Transit Company (BRT). The BRT was one of the largest streetcar operators in the United States. In its peak, it had 80 lines and 3,000 streetcars. The BRT would eventually take over the elevated lines that had developed in the 1880's and the various steam railroads that ran to Coney Island. The BRT had the vision to implement fast and far reaching transit service in Brooklyn. The combined BRT rail and streetcar system allowed the public to easily travel between Manhattan and the far reaches of Brooklyn. As service was instituted in new areas, empty lots along the lines rapidly became homes shopping areas. Consequently, population of the borough grew.

Several streetcar lines ran through Red Hook. The Furman Street, Erie Basin, and Crosstown Lines ran along Columbia Street. The Hamilton Avenue Line ran between Red Hook and Bay Ridge.



STREETCAR AT SMITH AND SACKETT STREETS



STREETCAR CROSSING THE GOWANUS CANAL

Prior to World War II, streetcars were prominent in the Brooklyn landscape. However, the automobile became increasingly more available and popular, and in the 1940's, the City began an aggressive initiative to replace streetcars with buses. Starting in 1949, Brooklyn's streetcar lines were converted to new buses with the Borough's last streetcar running in 1956. Remnants of the former system remain in parts of Brooklyn, including track and electrical poles.

#### **FOCUS AREA**

The Focus Area has a long history of industrial and maritime uses, taking advantage of its location on the Buttermilk Channel and its proximity to the population centers of Brooklyn and Manhattan. In the 1840's, the Atlantic Dock Company developed piers in the Atlantic Basin and soon thereafter, William Beard developed the wharves at the Erie Basin. The Red Hook Peninsula then quickly became one of the busiest shipping ports in the United States. By the beginning of the Civil War,





ships from all over the world docked at Red Hook, and through the mid-20th century, the neighborhood bustled with shipping and related industries, employing over 7,000 people.

Originally built for the families of dockworkers, the Red Hook Houses opened in 1939 and was the first public housing complex in the City. Red Hook Houses is now the largest New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) development in Brooklyn. It consists of Red Hook (East) and Red Hook (West). The combined 39-acre development includes 33 buildings, 30 residential buildings and three non-residential buildings. The residential buildings range in height from two to 14 stories and have a total of over 2,800 apartments. Since their completion, the Red Hook Houses have comprised the largest portion of Red Hook's residential population and occupy much of its interior blocks.

The development of Red Hook Houses occurred in concert with the construction of Red Hook Park. In 1934, the City assigned former industrial sites that it owned to the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR). Other parcels that are now part of Red Hook Park came under DPR's jurisdiction between 1935 and 1947. Gilmore D. Clarke, a prominent landscape designer, laid out its original development plan during the tenure of Robert Moses. Today, Red Hook Park occupies nearly 59 acres, and includes a recreation center, a pool, athletic facilities, a jogging path, and picnic areas.

Red Hook's population peaked in about 1950. However, changes in the shipping industry, the construction of Interstate 278 (also referred to as the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway and Gowonus Expressway in the Focus Area and Study Area) and Brooklyn-Battery Tunnel, and the removal of its streetcar service would quickly deteriorate and isolate the community, resulting in a drastic decline in its residential and employment populations.

After 1950, the shipping and manufacturing trades weakened substantially in Red Hook and New York City in general. Overland transport of goods increasingly replaced maritime shipping and cargo companies began to favor alternative ports along the East Coast. Red Hook's primary industry and population declined substantially as a result. However, in the 1960s, the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey opened a new container port—the Red Hook Marine Terminal—to provide a modern cargo facility that met new standards in marine commerce. Although helping to foster Red Hook's traditional economic base, the facility required much less labor than previous facilities.







**BROOKLYN MARINE TERMINAL** 





Interstate 278 and Brooklyn Battery Tunnel were built in the Focus Area following World War II. Interstate 278 is a major east-west highway that runs from New Jersey to the Bronx via Staten Island, Brooklyn, and Queens. In the Focus Area, Interstate 278 runs along Red Hook's eastern and northern edges. Entrances to the Brooklyn Battery Tunnel, which runs under the East River and connects Brooklyn and Manhattan, are situated at Red Hook's northern edge. These transportation facilities quickly established *de-facto* neighborhood borders for Red Hook and effectively cut it off physically and socially from adjacent neighborhoods.

Red Hook's economic base and population continued to decline through the 1980s. Numerous residential, commercial, and industrial buildings were abandoned. By 1990, the population of Red Hook dropped to 10,500, a 50 percent decline from its 1950 population.

In 1994, Community Board 6 and local stakeholders developed a comprehensive strategic plan (197-a Plan) to spur the revitalization of Red Hook's population and economy with improvements to housing, social services, and business and industrial activities. In that same year, New York State Governor Mario Cuomo designated Red Hook and the nearby Sunset Park and Gowanus neighborhoods as the Southwest Brooklyn Economic Development Zone (now the Southwest Brooklyn Empire Zone). Combined, the 197-a Plan and the economic incentives provided by the State have resulted in substantial reinvestment in the area. Projects have included the refurbishment and new construction of neighborhood parks, the opening of the Red Hook Community Justice Center, and the renovation of the Sullivan Street Hotel as affordable housing.

The New York City Economic Development Corporation has pursued efforts to revitalize the Atlantic Basin. In April 2006, Carnival Cruise Lines inaugurated the Brooklyn Cruise Terminal with the arrival of the *RMS Queen Mary 2*. The terminal occupies Pier 12. It consists of a 180,000 square foot terminal that can handle 4,000 passengers. It includes a rebuilt port building, new slips, a 500-space parking lot, and taxi and bus drop-off areas. In 2008, the Terminal was called on by nearly 60 vessels and served more than 282,000 passengers.







**IKEA, RED HOOK** 

In 2006, Fairway Market opened a 52,000 square foot store on Van Brunt Street. The chain had a long-established and popular location on Manhattan's Upper West Side, and its presence in Red Hook symbolized an upswing in the neighborhood's economic vitality. Two years later, IKEA opened a 346,000 square foot store on Beard Street between Otsengo and Columbia Streets. The store replaced a 19th Century dry dock and is IKEA's only location within New York City.

Recent and proposed loft conversions and new construction projects in Red Hook will help to revitalize its housing stock. Although the pace of this development has been less robust than in





DUMBO, Williamsburg, and other historically, industrial areas of Brooklyn, these projects demonstrate a renewed interest in the area and its potential for growth.

#### **STUDY AREA**

The Brooklyn Bridge opened in 1883, bringing vehicular, trolley, and pedestrian traffic to Downtown Brooklyn and its surrounding neighborhoods. This triggered substantial growth in municipal, commercial, and residential land use in the downtown area and its surrounding commuter neighborhoods. In 1908, the Interborough Rapid Transit (IRT) subway line was extended from Manhattan to Brooklyn, with stations at Borough Hall, Hoyt Street, Nevins Street, and Atlantic Avenue. This accelerated development in the borough and generated a drive for larger and denser development in Downtown Brooklyn and surrounding areas. The rapid pace of development continued until the Great Depression.

Following World War II, the nation's industries began moving out of inner cities, with negative consequences for manufacturing centers like Brooklyn. Middle-class households also fled the inner cities, affecting most of the neighborhoods in the Study Area. As a result, many apartment buildings were abandoned, and many of the active industrial and commercial uses in the Study Area became low performance commercial uses (auto-repair shops, gas stations, parking lots) or vacant lots. Several policies were enacted by New York City agencies including the New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD) and the New York City Planning Commission (CPC) to counteract the deterioration of Brooklyn's neighborhoods. These initiatives included the Atlantic Terminal Urban Renewal Area (ATURA) in 1968, the Schermerhorn-Pacific Urban Renewal Area (SPURA) in Boerum Hill in 1974, and the Brooklyn Center Urban Renewal Plan (BCURP). In the 1970's ATURA spurred the development of the Atlantic Terminal Houses, and the Atlantic Center Mall and SPURA sought to redevelop an area of Boerum Hill for affordable housing.

The City's urban renewal efforts and a 1980s real estate boom fueled an economic revival for many communities in the Study Area, which continues today. The MetroTech Center was developed in 1986 as a result of the MetroTech Urban Renewal Plan (MURP). Currently, MetroTech is a sixteen-acre corporate and academic complex with more than five million square feet of commercial and municipal office space in twelve buildings ranging in height from eight to thirty-two stories. Other high-rise office buildings have followed, and Downtown Brooklyn is now a major



METROTECH CENTER

employment center in the City. Brownstones in Cobble Hill, Vinegar Hill, and Carroll Gardens were refurbished and many new retailers, restaurants, and bars opened on the commercials strips of these neighborhoods. The many industrial loft buildings in DUMBO were redeveloped as luxury housing. To preserve the historic character of the Study Area amidst this flurry of development, the City designated many areas as landmark districts. Much of Brooklyn Heights was designated as a Historic District (New York City's first) in 1965, followed by sections of Cobble Hill (1969, expanded in 1988), Boerum Hill (1973), Carroll Gardens (1973), Vinegar Hill (1997), and DUMBO (2007).

New development continues to occur in the Study Area guided by new planning initiatives. Downtown Brooklyn has been the focus of City planning efforts including the establishment of the Special Downtown Brooklyn District (2001) and the Downtown Brooklyn Development project (2004). These initiatives seek to focus development in Downtown Brooklyn to strengthen business,





preserve historic architectural resources, provide a buffer between large-scale business uses of the Downtown core and surrounding low- to medium-density residential neighborhoods, and to improve transit access through the area.

The area around Long Island Rail Road's (LIRR) Atlantic Terminal is also rapidly redeveloping. In 2004, the Atlantic Terminal/Bank of New York Tower, which includes retail and office uses, opened above the LIRR Atlantic Terminal on the northeast corner of Flatbush and Atlantic Avenues. The areas across Flatbush and Atlantic Avenue from the LIRR Terminal and above the LIRR Atlantic Yards are in the process of a major redevelopment, including a basketball arena, high-rise residential buildings, office and retail uses, a school, and open space.



ATLANTIC YARDS REDEVELOPMENT PLAN

Abandoned waterfront sites in the Study Area have also been the focus of recent public initiatives. The City and State are building Brooklyn Bridge Park, a multi-use recreational facility that will occupy piers and upland parcels between Atlantic Avenue and the Brooklyn Bridge. The Brooklyn Navy Yard and adjacent sites also continue to be developed with light industrial and commercial uses, including movie studies, workshops, and small, niche industrial production companies.

#### 2.2 LAND USE

Figure 2-2 shows land uses in the Focus Area and Study Area.

#### **FOCUS AREA**

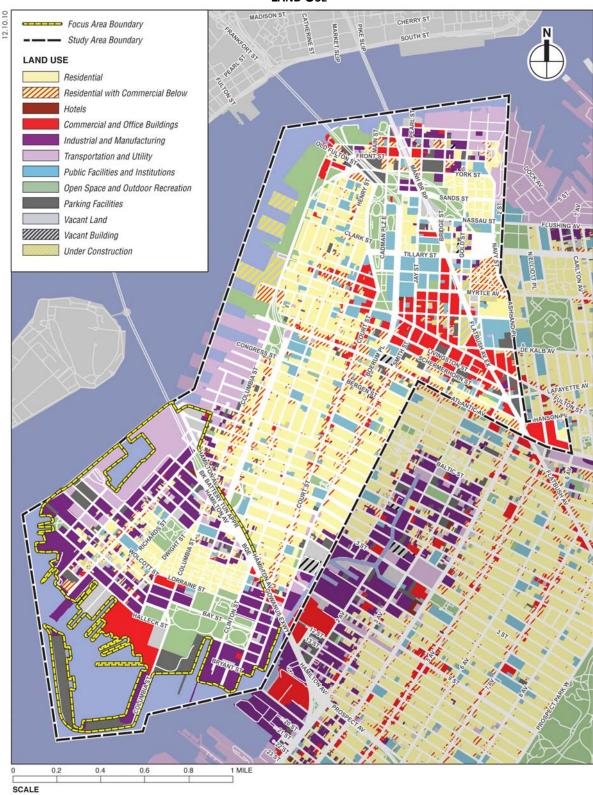
The Focus Area is defined primarily by industrial and manufacturing uses along the waterfront and residential uses in its interior (see Figure 2-2). Its primary commercial corridor is Van Brunt Street.

Two of the Port of New York and New Jersey's important marine transportation facilities are located in the Focus Area—the Red Hook Container Terminal and the Brooklyn Cruise Terminal. Small-scale industrial and manufacturing businesses (warehouses, auto body shops, glass manufacturers, and food processors) are found in areas north of Verona Street, south of Coffey Street, and west of Van Brunt Street. These small-scale uses are also peppered throughout the neighborhood, including streets that are predominately residential in use.





FIGURE 2-1: LAND USE







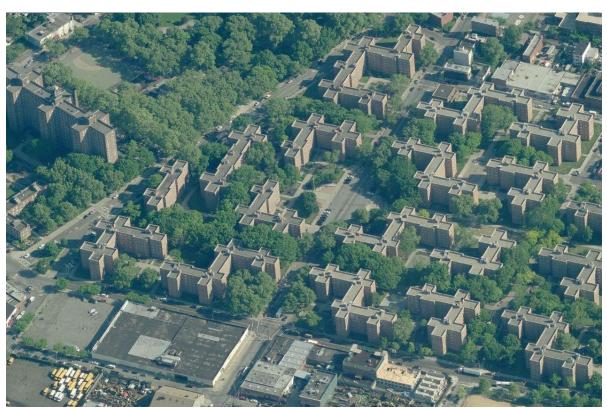
The most common residential building types in the focus are small-to-medium sized three-to-six story apartment buildings, particularly in the area bordered by Van Brunt Street to the west, Verona Street to the north, Richards Street to the east, and Coffey Street to the south. High-rise residential buildings, notably the Red Hook Houses, predominate east of Richards Street. The Red Hook Houses stretch from Richards Street to Clinton Street and 9th Street to Lorraine Street. Approximately 8,000 people live in the Red Hook Houses, comprising almost 80 percent of the Focus Area's population.







MIXED RESIDENTIAL AND INDUSTRIAL STREET IN RED HOOK



**RED HOOK HOUSES** 





Commercial retail uses, catering to the local community, are found throughout the Focus Area. The largest concentration of such uses is along Van Brunt Street and are primarily housed on the ground floors of medium sized (three-to six-story) residential buildings. A handful of restaurants, bars, bakeries, check cashing stores, beauty salons, variety stores, small grocery stores, and delis can be found along the length of Van Brunt Street. Large retail uses in the Focus Area include IKEA at Richards and Beard Streets and the Fairway Supermarket at Van Brunt and Reed Streets.

The Focus Area has a number of institutional and public facilities. Educational facilities include P.S. 15, the South Brooklyn Community High School, and the Agnes Y. Humphrey School for Leadership. It is also served by FDNY Engine Company 202, Ladder Company 101, a branch of the Brooklyn Public Library at 7 Wolcott Street, and a U.S. Post Office at 615 Clinton Street. The Red Hook Community Justice Center, opened in 2000 and located at 88 Visitation Place, serves as a neighborhood court house. The Focus Area also has various social service and religious institutions such as the South Brooklyn Health Center, the Mercy Home for Children, and churches of various denominations.

The largest open space in the Focus Area is Red Hook Park. It is a 59-acre public park, bordered by Otsego, Bay, Hicks, Lorraine, Court, and Halleck Streets, and includes a pool, running track, and recreation center. Other parks include Coffey Park, between King, Verona, Richards, and Dwight Streets; and Louis Valentino, Jr. Park, on the waterfront at Coffey Street. The Red Hook Houses also provide open space, including play areas and other amenities.

#### **STUDY AREA**

The Study Area is historically characterized by industrial uses along its waterfront, commercial uses in Downtown Brooklyn and along neighborhood thoroughfares, and residential uses in most other locations. Interstate 278, which sweeps through the western and northern portions of the Study Area, has divided the industrial waterfront from the upland residential and commercial areas since the 1960's. However, recent redevelopment efforts have and will continue to transform the waterfront.

Just north of Red Hook is the Columbia Street Waterfront, located along the East River and Buttermilk Channel, west of Interstate 278 and south of Atlantic Avenue. This area contains a mix of residential and light industrial uses with working waterfront activities along its western edge. Vacant lots are scattered throughout this area, some of which are used for surface parking. The area is undergoing growth, with new restaurants, art galleries, and residential development. Columbia Street, the main thoroughfare in the neighborhood, contains local retail uses that are generally found on the ground floor of three- or four-story residential buildings. The side streets are lined with rowhouses, with some new apartment conversions such as those centered along Tiffany Place. The waterfront includes the Red Hook Marine Terminal and Van Voorhees Park. Long Island College Hospital occupies a complex of buildings around Hicks and Amity Streets.

East and north of the Columbia Street Waterfront, the Carroll Gardens, Cobble Hill, Boerum Hill, and Brooklyn Heights neighborhoods are characterized by medium density residential (three- to six-story) apartment buildings on local streets, with commercial activities concentrated along major corridors such as Smith Street, Court Street, and Montague Street. Along these corridors, commercial activities are primarily housed on the ground floors of medium sized residential apartment buildings, and comprise restaurants, delis, small grocery stores, and other businesses catering to the local community. In addition to the three- and four-story rowhouses, there are also modern mid-rise apartment buildings, including Clark Cadman Tower and Whitman Close





Townhouses, on the west side of Cadman Plaza West north of Tillary Street, and large NYCHA complexes adjacent to the industrial areas bordering the Gowanus Canal (Warren Street Houses, Gowanus Houses, and Wyckoff Gardens). A prominent destination in Brooklyn Heights is the Brooklyn Heights Promenade, a public open space at the western edge of the neighborhood situated on an elevated platform over Interstate 278. The promenade, which features a walkway, benches, and a small playground, extends from Orange Street south to Remsen Street. The piers and adjacent waterfront areas west of Interstate 278 and north of Atlantic Avenue are being redeveloped as Brooklyn Bridge Park.







RENDERING OF BROOKLYN BRIDGE PARK

Atlantic Avenue is the main arterial dividing Cobble Hill and Boerum Hill and Brooklyn Heights and Downtown Brooklyn. It is a two-way, east-west thoroughfare with two travel lanes in each direction, relatively heavy traffic, and parking typically along both sides of the street. Atlantic Avenue is designated a truck route by NYCDOT. Along Atlantic Avenue in the Cobble Hill and Brooklyn Heights sections, buildings are typically four- to eight-story residential apartment buildings with ground-level commercial uses, including restaurants, bars, antique stores, a supermarket, and smaller grocery stores. Further east, it supports higher density uses mixed with older mid-rise buildings and newer free-standing commercial structures. The Brooklyn House of Detention, at Atlantic Avenue and Boerum Place, is a 750-bed prison. It was closed since 2003, but is slated to reopen in 2011. The intersection of Atlantic Avenue, Fourth Avenue, and Flatbush Avenue brings together some of the highest volume arterials in Brooklyn. It is surrounded by big box retail uses including two malls, and is the northwest boundary of the Atlantic Yards redevelopment, which is currently underway.

Downtown Brooklyn is New York City's third largest central business district (CBD) after Midtown and Downtown Manhattan, and it also serves as a government center. A large complex of City, State, and Federal institutions is located in buildings in and around Cadman Plaza, including the U.S. Federal Courthouse, Brooklyn Criminal Court, Brooklyn Family Court, the New York State Supreme Court, and the New York City Housing Court. The central post office for Brooklyn is also located on Cadman Plaza, between Johnson and Tillary Streets. MetroTech is a sixteen-acre corporate and academic complex with more than five million square feet of office space in twelve buildings ranging in height from eight to thirty-two stories. There are also several educational institutions in Downtown Brooklyn, including New York University's Polytech campus, the New York City College of Technology, Long Island University's Brooklyn campus, St. Francis College, Brooklyn Law School, and a number of public and private primary and secondary schools.

The largest retail area in Downtown Brooklyn is the Fulton Street Mall, which extends along Fulton Street between Adams Street and Flatbush Avenue. Fulton Street is restricted to bus and pedestrian





traffic. This area contains mostly 3- to 5-story commercial structures with ground-floor retail uses. Typical ground-floor uses include clothing, department, and electronic stores as well as fast food chains. While the ground-floor uses on Fulton Street are very active, the upper floors of buildings have traditionally had little activity, though new uses are beginning to emerge.

Multiple new mid- and high-rise residential buildings have risen throughout Downtown Brooklyn, including along Schermerhorn Street, Livingston Street, and Flatbush Avenue. These developments have replaced surface parking lots and older, lower density buildings.







**LIVINGSTON STREET** 

**DOWNTOWN BROOKLYN SKYLINE** 

**STREET IN DUMBO** 

Flatbush Avenue is a major two-way north-south arterial running the entire length of Brooklyn and leading to the Manhattan Bridge in the Study Area. It has heavy traffic volumes and is characterized by large-scale institutional and large national chain retail uses. Atlantic Terminal and the Atlantic Center Mall are located at Atlantic Avenue and Flatbush Avenue. Atlantic Terminal is a transportation hub with access to several New York City Transit subway lines and the LIRR.

The DUMBO neighborhood is characterized by large residential loft buildings converted from industrial uses, with ground-floor commercial. Vinegar Hill is a smaller-scale residential neighborhood with two- to three-story apartment buildings and a waterfront dominated by the Hudson Avenue Generating Station, a Consolidated Edison power plant along almost the entire Vinegar Hill waterfront, from Gold Street to Jay Street.

There are several small parks scattered throughout the Study Area, and a handful of larger open spaces including Cadman Plaza, bordered by Cadman Plaza East and West, Tillary Street, and the Brooklyn Bridge and Brooklyn Bridge Park, which is currently being developed.

# 2.3 FUTURE DEVELOPMENT PLANS

As shown in Table 2-1, a number of development projects were recently completed or are planned in and near the Focus Area and Study Area. Figure 2-2 shows the developments in the Focus Area.

#### **FOCUS AREA**

Within the Focus Area, there are seven recently-completed or proposed projects. Three are small residential projects, generally resulting in three to five new units per building. One is a small industrial property, and another is a synagogue. The largest proposed development is at 160 Imlay Street. This project has been approved by the New York City Board of Standards and Appeals but is presently on-hold. Once completed, the project will convert a former industrial warehouse to 153 residential units and 10,000 square feet of office space.





FIGURE 2-2:
RECENTLY COMPLETED AND PLANNED DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS WITHIN AND NEAR THE FOCUS AREA







Table 2-1: Recently-Completed and Planned Development Projects Within and Near the Focus Area

MAP								
NO.	NAME/ADDRESS	USE	UNITS/ ROOMS/ FLOOR AREA					
WITHIN FO	OCUS AREA							
69	160 Imlay Street	Residential, office, parking	153 units, 153 parking spaces, 9,000 sf office, 1 floor office conforming to existing zoning					
70	162-166 Beard Street	Residential	4 dwelling units					
71	440 Van Brunt Street	Residential, Office	9,149 sf mixed-use building with art studio on first floor, office on second floor, and one dwelling unit on third					
72	216 Conover Street	Industrial	6,000 sf					
73	141 Dwight Street	Synagogue	4,500 sf					
74	96 Lorraine Street	Residential	11,000 sf building with 8 dwelling units					
75	25-33 Carroll Street	Residential	Rezone M1-1 to R6B to Construct an 8-unit Residential Building					
NEAR FOC	US AREA							
1	436 4th Avenue	Residential	Information unknown; construction activity observed no records available at DOB					
2	26 4th Street	Residential	11 dwelling units					
3	92 Third Street	Hotel/Office	33,000 sf					
4	517 Court Street	Residential/Commu nity Facility	6 dwelling units, ground-floor retail, and diagnostic & treatment facility					
5	245 Hamilton Avenue	Residential	20 dwelling units					
6	671 Henry Street	Residential	5 dwelling units					
7	103-113 3rd Street	Residential	45 dwelling units					
8	141 3rd Street	Residential, office	152 dwelling units (122 market rate, 30 affordable), 11,361 sf of office					
9	363-365 Bond Street	Residential, retail, community facility, open space	447 dwelling units (317 market rate, 130 affordable), 2,000 sf of community facility, 2,000 sf of retail, and a portion of the total 0.6-acres of open space					
10	360 Smith Street	Residential	46 dwelling units					
11	340-346 Bond Street (at Carroll Street)	Residential	24 dwelling units					
12	361 Carroll Street	Residential	15 dwelling units					
13	313-325, 327-333 Bond Street; 383 Carroll Street	Residential, retail	297 dwelling units (238 market rate, 59 affordable), 14,810 sf of retail					
14	307 Bond Street	Residential, retail	87 dwelling units (70 market rate, 17 affordable), 7,125 sf of retail					
15	306 Bond Street	Residential	11 dwelling units					
16	290 Sackett Street	Residential, retail, community facility	32 dwelling units					
17	151 Carroll Street	Residential	8 dwelling units					
18	287 Bond Street, 498-510 Sackett Street	Residential	148 dwelling units (118 market rate, 30 affordable)					
19	285 Bond Street, 495 Sackett Street	Residential, retail	186 dwelling units (149 market, 37 affordable), 11,875 sf of retail					
20	253-261 Bond Street	Residential	90 dwelling units (72 market, 18 affordable)					
21	191 Douglass Street	Residential	10 dwelling units					
22	213 Bond Street	Residential	21 dwelling units					
23	462 Baltic Street	Office	35,551 sf					





TABLE 2-1 (CONTINUED)
RECENTLY-COMPLETED AND PLANNED DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS WITHIN AND NEAR THE FOCUS AREA

	RECEIVIET COMPLETED AN	DI LANNED DEVELO	PIMENT PROJECTS WITHIN AND INEAR THE FOCUS AREA
MAP			
NO.	NAME/ADDRESS	USE	UNITS/ ROOMS/ FLOOR AREA
24	181 3rd Avenue	Hotel	65,785 sf
25	150 4th Avenue	Residential	95 dwelling units
26	611 DeGraw Street	Hotel	10,000 sf
27	184 4th Avenue	Residential, retail	30 dwelling units (24 market rate, 6 affordable), 4,786 sf of retail
28	204 4th Avenue	Residential, retail	134 dwelling units (107 market rate, 27 affordable), 2,920 sf of retail
29	643-651 Union Street	Residential, retail	54 dwelling units (43 market rate, 11 affordable), 5,582 sf of retail
30	265 3rd Avenue	Hotel	18,130 sf
31	577 Union Street, 586 Sackett Street	Residential, retail, community facility	139 dwelling units (111 market rate, 28 affordable), 13,485 sf of retail, 1,532 sf of community facility
32	503 President Street	Residential	5 dwelling units
33	532-542 Union Street, 495-499 President Street	Residential, retail	65 dwelling units (52 market rate, 13 affordable), 5,755 sf of retail
34	469 President Street, 305 Nevins Street, 514 Union Street	Residential	185 dwelling units (148 market, 37 affordable)
35	543 President Street	Residential	31 dwelling units
36	545 President Street	Residential	10 dwelling units
37	561 President Street	Residential	50 dwelling units (48 market, 2 affordable)
38	509 Carroll Street, 530 President Street	Residential	95 dwelling units
39	325-337 Nevins Street	Residential	34 dwelling units
40	341 Nevins Street, 431 Carroll Street	Residential	8 dwelling units
41	420-458 Carroll Street, 322 3rd Avenue	Residential, community facility	612 dwelling units (509 market rate, 103 affordable), 30,000 sf of community facility
42	305 3rd Avenue	Residential, office	31 dwelling units (25 market rate, 6 affordable), 8,592 sf of office
43	9 Denton Place, 272 4th Avenue, 538 Carroll Street	Residential, retail	86 dwelling units (71 market rate, 17 affordable), 2,896 sf of retail
44	284-290 4th Avenue, 21 Denton Place	Residential, retail	76 dwelling units (62 market rate, 14 affordable), 1,330 sf of retail
45	27 Denton Place	Residential, office	152 dwelling units (122 market rate, 30 affordable), 11,361 sf of office
46	Con Edison/ block bounded by 1st and 3rd Streets, 3rd and 4th Avenues	Office	49, 552 sq. ft.
47	567 Warren Street	Residential	20 dwelling units
48	126 Fourth Avenue	Residential	50 dwelling units
49	Whole Foods Market/220 Third Street (at 3rd Avenue)	Commercial retail (supermarket)	52,000 sq. ft.
50	399 3rd Avenue	Office	78,251 sf
51	410 4th Avenue	Residential	59 dwelling units





Table 2-1 (Continued)
Recently-Completed and Planned Development Projects Within and Near the Focus Area

MAP			
NO.	NAME/ADDRESS	USE	UNITS/ ROOMS/ FLOOR AREA
52	232 7th Street	Residential	7 dwelling units
53	433 3rd Avenue	Residential, commercial	26 dwelling units, 4,956 sf of retail
54	186 8th Street	Residential	8 dwelling units
55	202 8th Street	Residential	43 dwelling units
56	500 4th Avenue	Residential	132 dwelling units
57	187 13th Street	Residential	13 dwelling units
58	531 3rd Avenue	Hotel	24,771 sf
59	574 4th Avenue	Residential	80 dwelling units
60	56 Strong Place	Residential	3 dwelling units (Conversion)
61	225 4th Avenue	Residential, Retail	40 dwelling units, 3,131 sf of retail
62	267 6th Street	Residential, Retail, Community Facility	107 dwelling units, 3,938 sf of retail, 3,938 sf of community facility space
63	385 4th Avenue	Residential, Community Facility	51 dwelling units, 6,513 sf ambulatory care facility
64	675 Sackett Street	Residential	38 dwelling units
65	571 Carroll Street	Residential	18 dwelling units
66	580 Carroll Street	Residential	7 dwelling units
67	155 15th Street	Residential	31 dwelling units
68	182 15th Street	Residential	31 dwelling units

#### **STUDY AREA**

A number of development projects are proposed in the areas north and east of the Focus Area. Major residential redevelopment is proposed along and surrounding the Gowanus Canal. These projects range in size. The largest new developments would be 363-365 Bond Street (427 units), 312-333 Bond Street (297 units), and 420-450 Carroll Street (612 units). Several other developments include more than 100 new dwelling units.

Very few commercial projects were identified in the Focus Area and surrounding neighborhoods. Most commercial development would be local retail. However, three office projects, the largest of which would be about 78,000 square feet, and five hotels are planned. The largest new retail project would be a Whole Foods located at 220 3rd Street.

In Downtown Brooklyn, DUMBO, and Vinegar Hill, there has been and continues to be extensive growth in residential units and office space. These include a mix of building conversions and new construction. Just outside the study area, the Atlantic Yards redevelopment is taking shape. This project will result in a new sports arena, office towers, more than 5,000 residential units, and retail and community facility space.





#### 2.4 ZONING

Generally, Downtown Brooklyn is zoned high density as it is a commercial center and has ample transit access. The residential areas outside Downtown Brooklyn are generally medium density, except for new construction near Atlantic Avenue and public housing developments at other locations. These medium density districts are also well-served by transit. The Focus Area, however, is primarily zoned for manufacturing and lower density residential uses. Much of its zoning reflects the historic industrial character of the Focus Area. The combination of this zoning policy and lack of easy access to high capacity transit service has likely contributed to comparatively lower growth in Red Hook. Table 2-2 identifies the zoning districts in the Focus Area and the Study Area. The New York City zoning maps for the Focus Area and Study Area are provided in Appendix A.

#### **FOCUS AREA**

The Red Hook waterfront is generally zoned as manufacturing with M1-1, M2-1, and M3-1 districts. The northeast portion of Red Hook is also zoned manufacturing. M1-1 districts are manufacturing districts with high performance standards that typically serve as a buffer between lower-performance manufacturing districts and adjacent commercial or residential districts. Performance standards are minimum requirements or maximum allowable limits on noise, vibration, smoke, odor, and other effects of industrial uses. M1-1 districts typically include warehouses, woodworking shops, auto storage and repair shops, and wholesale service and storage facilities. M2-1 districts allow manufacturing uses that fall between light and heavy industrial areas. Performance standards for these districts are lower than those in M1 districts. M3-1 districts are intended for heavy industries that generate noise, traffic, or pollutants. Typical uses include power plants, solid waste transfer facilities, recycling plants, and fuel supply depots.

The interior blocks of the Focus Area are R5 and R6 zoning districts. R5 districts are medium density general residence districts typified by three- to four-story apartment buildings and rowhouses. R6 districts are also medium density general residence districts. Apartment houses in R6 districts can range from low-rise three-story buildings to mid-rise, eight- to 10-story buildings.

Commercial zoning districts in the Focus Area include a C1-1 overlay along Van Brunt Street, C1-3 districts along two blocks of Lorraine Street, and a C1-2 district on the south side of 9th Street. There are also small commercial zoning districts along portions of Hamilton Avenue. C1 districts are generally local retail districts in residential neighborhoods and are often overlaid on residential zones to allow ground-level retail. Typical uses in C1 districts include grocery stores, small dry cleaning establishments, restaurants, and barber shops.

An MX-5 special use district (M1-1/R5) was mapped in 2002 in the area south of Coffey Street between Conover and Van Brunt Streets. Targeted for industrial areas, this district allows for the development of residential, commercial, community facilities, and light manufacturing/industrial by combining manufacturing zoning (M1) with residential zoning (R3-R10). Commercial, residential, and light manufacturing uses can occupy the same lot side by side or use the same building. Under conventional zoning, residential uses are not permitted in manufacturing districts and vice versa.





TABLE 2-2: FOCUS AREA AND STUDY AREA ZONING DISTRICTS

	MAXIMUM FLOOR AREA RATIO	10003 AREA AND STODE AREA ZONING DISTRICTS
DISTRICT	(FAR)	USES/ZONE TYPE
R5	1.25 RES; 2.0 CF	General residence district
R6	2.43 RES; 4.8 CF	General residence district
R6A	3.0 RES and CF	General residence district; contextual
R6B	2.0 RES and CF	General residence district; contextual
R7A	4.0 RES and CF	General residence district; contextual
R7-1	3.44 RES; 4.8 CF	General residence district
	<u>'</u>	
R8	6.02 RES; 6.5 CF	General residence district
R8A	6.02 RES; 6.5 CF	General residence district; contextual
R8B	4.0 RES; 4.0 CF	General residence district; contextual
R9-1	7.52 RES; 10.0 CF	General residence district
C1-1	2.0 COM ; 2.43 RES	Commercial overlay within a residential district
C2-1	2.0 COM ; 2.43 RES	Commercial overlay within a residential district
C2-4	2.0 COM ; 2.43 RES	Commercial overlay within a residential district
C4-3	3.4 COM; 2.43 RES; 4.8 CF	Regional commercial center outside the central business district
C5-2A	10.0 COM; 10.0 (12.0 w/ bonus) RES; 10.0 CF	Restricted Central Commercial District intended primarily for retail uses serving metropolitan region; high-density residential
C5-4	10.0 (12.0 w/ bonus) COM, RES, and CF	Central commercial district serving wider metropolitan region
C6-1	6.0 (7.2 w/ bonus) COM; 3.44 RES; 6.5 (7.8 w/ bonus) CF	High bulk commercial district
C6-1A	6.0 COM; 2.43 (2.2 on narrow streets) RES; 6.0 (7.2 w/ bonus) CF	High bulk commercial district
C6-2	6.0 (7.2 w/ bonus) COM; 6.02 (7.2 on wide streets) RES; 6.5 (7.8 w/ bonus) CF	High bulk commercial district
C6-2A	6.0 COM; 6.02 RES; 6.5 CF	High bulk commercial district
C6-4	10.0 (12.0 w/ bonus) COM; 10.0 (12.0 w/ bonus) RES; 10.0 (12.0 w/ bonus) CF	High bulk commercial district
C6-4.5	12.0 (14.4 w/ bonus) COM; 10.0 (12.0 w/ bonus) RES; 10.0 (12.0 w/ bonus) CF	High bulk commercial district
M1-1	1.0 MAN or COM; 2.4 CF	Light industrial district bordering residential or commercial district
M1-2	2.0 MAN or COM; 4.8 CF	Light industrial district bordering residential or commercial district
M1-4	2.0 MAN or COM; 6.5 CF	Light industrial district bordering residential or commercial district
M1-5	5.0 MAN or COM; 6.5 CF	Light industrial district bordering residential or commercial district
M1-6	10 MAN, COM or CF	Light industrial district bordering residential or commercial district
M2-1	2.0 MAN or COM	High performance medium scale industrial district
M3-1	2.0 MAN or COM	Low performance heavy manufacturing
MX-2	2.0 MAN or COM; 6.5 CF; 6.02 RES	Mixed use light industrial and medium density residential
MX-5	1.25 RES; 1.0 MAN or COM; 2.0 CF	Mixed use light industrial and medium density residential
DB	Varies	Downtown Brooklyn Special Zoning District
LH-1	Not Applicable	Limited Height overlay district
SV-1	Not Applicable	Brooklyn Heights Scenic View district
Notes:	RES = Residential; COM = Commercial; M	AN = Manufacturing; CF = Community Facility
Sources:	NYC Zoning Resolution; Zoning Handbook	k, DCP January, 2006.





# **STUDY AREA**

Zoning districts in the Study Area include: R6, R6A, R6B, R7A, R7-1, R8A, and R9-1 residential districts; C4-3, C5-2A, C5-4, C6-1, C6-1A, C6-2, C6-2A, C6-4, and C6-4.5 commercial districts; C1-1, C2-1, and C2-4 commercial overlay districts; M1-1, M1-2, M1-4, M1-5, M2-1, and M3-1 manufacturing districts; MX-2 mixed-use district; and LH-1 limited height overlay districts. In addition, portions of Downtown Brooklyn fall within the Special Downtown Brooklyn District (DB), and as noted below, a number of areas are designated historic districts.

The waterfront of Clinton Hill and Carroll Gardens is zoned manufacturing (M1-1) and residential (R6A, R6B, and R7A). Interior blocks have medium density residential zoning (R6, R6A, and R6B). Commercial overlay districts (C1-1, C1-4, C2-1, and C2-4) line Columbia, Smith, and Court Streets as well as Atlantic Avenue. There are also a small number of M3-1 zones along Smith Street near the boundary between Carroll Gardens and Red Hook.

Along its waterfront, Brooklyn Heights is zoned M2-1. Its waterfront is designated the SV-1 Brooklyn Heights Scenic View District, which regulates development in a view plane from Brooklyn Heights to the waterfront. The interior of Brooklyn Heights west of Court Street is primarily zoned residential R6 and R7. A C1-3 commercial overlay district lines several blocks of Montague Street and a C1-5 overlay is provided along Henry Street near the Clark Street Subway Station.

DUMBO and Vinegar Hill contain a mix of residential and manufacturing zoning districts, including multiple mixed-use designations. Generally, the manufacturing designations are along the East River waterfront and in the area between the Brooklyn and Manhattan Bridges. Other areas are generally residential districts (R6 and R7). There are also commercial zones and commercial overlay zones peppered throughout these neighborhoods.

Most of Downtown Brooklyn is mapped with medium and high-density commercial districts. The area is also designated as the Special Downtown Brooklyn (DB) District. Developments within this district are required to conform to special height and setback regulations, ground floor retail requirements, and zones of transition between commercial and residential areas.

# 2.5 Public Policy

There are a number of public policy initiatives that apply to the Focus Area and/or the Study Area. Some policies, such as PlaNYC, are citywide initiatives while others are more localized undertakings. The following sections describe some of the policies that are specific to the focus area and general citywide initiatives that apply to both the Focus Area and the Study Area.

#### **RED HOOK 197-A PLAN**

In 1996, the New York City Council approved a 197-a Plan for Red Hook, Brooklyn. *Red Hook: A Plan for Community Regeneration* is a community-based plan that serves as a framework for the area's future development. The 197-a Plan proposed to: improve the existing residential community and promote affordable residential development; promote economic development, including opportunities for residents; preserve and expand industrial and maritime activity; improve services to residents, including education and healthcare; improve transportation access and internal circulation for businesses and residents; improve public waterfront access; promote Red Hook's cultural and historic resources; and rezone areas to promote development and maintain context.





While many plan initiatives would improve the ability to live and work in Red Hook and were widely supported, there were conflicting views on the introduction of new housing to the area. In particular, the business community objected to a wide-scale, mixed-use rezoning of the Red Hook and the introduction of residential uses at certain locations.

The 197-a Plan recommended a change from industrial to mixed-use zoning for many interior blocks of the Focus Area. While such zoning would allow for the continued operation of industrial uses, it would also provide for the as-of-right development of housing. The business community felt that the introduction of housing in these areas would not be appropriate and could impede their operations. The City Planning Commission agreed and narrowed the scope of the proposed mixed use zoning to a smaller number of blocks.

The 197-a Plan reflected a commitment to increase the area's population by providing for new affordable housing. The plan recommended the residential rezoning of industrial sites and the conversion of underused buildings. Although the 197-a Plan acknowledged the retention of Red Hook's maritime uses as one of its primary goals, the rezoning of industrial sites or publicly-sponsored reoccupation of industrial buildings was considered by the business community to undermine the long-time operation of industries in the area.

Some initiatives of the 197-a Plan have been realized such as the opening of Red Hook's first full-service bank branch in 1997, the refurbishment and new construction of neighborhood parks, the opening of the Red Hook Community Justice Center, and the renovation of the Sullivan Street Hotel as an affordable housing project. In 2006, the Fairway Market opened at 480-500 Van Brunt Street in a former industrial building that was identified for new mixed-use development in the 197-a Plan.

#### SOUTHWEST BROOKLYN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ZONE AND NYC INDUSTRIAL BUSINESS ZONE

In 1994, New York State Governor Mario Cuomo designated Red Hook and the nearby Sunset Park and Gowanus neighborhoods as the Southwest Brooklyn Economic Development Zone (now the Southwest Brooklyn Empire Zone). This initiative was launched to provide tax credit incentives to spur business expansion and the creation of jobs. It is funded by the State and administered by the Southwest Brooklyn Industrial Development Corporation, a group of business owners, community leaders, and elected officials formed in 1978 to bolster the local economy.

Most of the waterfront in the Focus Area also falls within the Southwest Brooklyn Industrial Business Zone (IBZ), which also includes the waterfronts of the adjacent neighborhoods of Gowanus and Sunset Park. An IBZ is defined as a manufacturing area that reflects the commitment by the City to not implement zoning changes or variances that would allow a change from manufacturing use to residential use. The City is also committed to providing technical and financial assistance to industrial businesses within IBZs and making tax credits available to firms that relocate to IBZs.

Following implementation of the IBZ, a number of vacant waterfront sites were reoccupied. The Brooklyn Cruise Terminal and a large beverage distributor (Phoenix Beverage) are maritime and industrial uses that recently began operations within the Empire Zone and the IBZ.

#### **LOCAL WATERFRONT REVITALIZATION PROGRAM**

All of the Focus Area as well as DUMBO, Vinegar Hill, the Brooklyn Heights, Cobble Hill, and Carroll Gardens waterfront, and areas along the Gowanus Canal are within the City and State's designated coastal zone. New York City and State have adopted policies aimed at protecting resources in the





coastal zone. The City's Waterfront Revitalization Program (WRP) contains 10 major policies focused on improving public access to the waterfront; reducing damage from flooding and other water-related disasters; protecting water quality, sensitive habitats (such as wetlands), and the aquatic ecosystem; reusing abandoned waterfront structures; and promoting development with appropriate land uses. The principles of the WRP formed the basis for a New York City Department of City Planning study and the resulting adoption of new waterfront zoning. The New York City Planning Commission certifies whether a proposed action is in compliance with the city's WRP. The New York State Department of State has this responsibility on the state level.

The Red Hook waterfront is designated a Significant Maritime and Industrial Area. These working waterfront areas have location advantages that make portions of the coastal zone especially valuable as industrial areas. Public investment within the Significant Maritime and Industrial Area is intended to improve transportation access and maritime and industrial operations. The designation of Red Hook as a Significant Maritime and Industrial Area reflects the City's commitment to maintain its maritime history and discourage the replacement of water-dependent industry with high-rise housing, office space, and other such uses.

### **BROOKLYN WATERFRONT GREENWAY MASTER PLAN**

NYCDOT is developing a master plan to focus the implementation of the Brooklyn Waterfront Greenway, a 14-mile, waterfront bicycle and pedestrian path, stretching from Sunset Park to Greenpoint. The goal of the project is to open underutilized stretches of the Brooklyn waterfront to recreation, and to provide a safe and attractive space for walking and cycling. Portions of the waterfront greenway have opened in the Study Area: between Old Fulton Street and Atlantic Avenue within the newly-constructed Brooklyn Bridge Park, and along Columbia Street from Atlantic Avenue to DeGraw Street, just outside of the Focus Area. NYCDOT is currently evaluating options for the Greenway's alignment through the Focus Area.

#### **TRANSIT-ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT**

Transit-oriented development (TOD) is characterized by a high-density mix of residential and commercial uses anchored by a transit center (typically a rail station or terminal) designed to increase mass transit use and provide places for people to live, work, relax, and shop. In TOD communities, concentrated development is generally located within ¼ to ½ miles-walking distance-of a transit station, with the density of development decreasing outwards from the transit center. The New York City Zoning Resolution reflects the City's policy of encouraging high density development in areas with significant mass transit access, with the goal of promoting the opportunity for people to work in the vicinity of their residences. Within the Study Area, the 2009 DUMBO rezoning furthers the City's TOD goal.

#### **NEW YORK CITY BICYCLE MASTER PLAN**

The New York City Bicycle Master Plan was produced in the first phase of the Bicycle Network Development Project (BND), a joint Department of City Planning, Department of Parks and Recreation, and Department of Transportation project. The BND goals are to implement and maintain the city's on- and off-street bicycle network, to improve cycling safety, to improve bicycle access on bridges and mass transit, and to encourage cycling in public and private organizations. The





Bicycle Master Plan identifies portions of Clinton, Henry, Bergen, and Dean Streets in the Study Area as "priority routes" for improving and expanding the city's on-street network of cycling amenities.

#### **PLANYC**

In 2007, the Mayor's Office of Long Term Planning and Sustainability released PlaNYC: A Greener, Greater New York. PlaNYC represents a comprehensive and integrated approach to planning for New York City's future. It includes policies to address three key challenges that the City faces over the next 20 years: (1) population growth; (2) aging infrastructure; and (3) global climate change. Elements of the plan are organized into six categories—land, water, transportation, energy, air quality, and climate change—with corresponding goals and initiatives. Some of the general PlaNYC policy initiatives have been or are in the process of being implemented throughout the city, including both the Focus Area and the Study Area. PlaNYC developments specific to the study area include: a new public plaza opened in DUMBO in 2007; and the implementation or enhancement of bicycle lanes in Cobble Hill, Boerum Hill, Downtown Brooklyn, and along the Columbia Street waterfront. No specific PlaNYC initiatives were identified for the Focus Area in the Mayor's Office of Strategic Planning 2010 PlaNYC progress report.

Local Law 17 of 2008 established the New York City Office of Long-Term Planning and Sustainability, and the requirement for this office to develop and implement a comprehensive long-term sustainability plan. Local Law 17 of 2008 requires the sustainability plan to be updated by April 2011 and every four years thereafter. PlaNYC is the City's long-term sustainability plan until such time as it is updated by the Office of Long-Term Planning and Sustainability.

#### 2.6 HISTORIC RESOURCES

The Study Area contains a number of historic districts (see Table 2-3) and landmarked buildings and structures (see Table 2-4 and Figures 2-4 and 2-5).

TABLE 2-3: HISTORIC DISTRICTS

	This Totale Distri					
NAME	NHL	LPC	S/NR	S/NR- ELIGIBLE	NYCL- ELIGIBLE	
Admirals Row Historic District				Х		
Boerum Hill Historic District		Х	Х			
Brooklyn Heights Historic District	Х	Х	Х			
Brooklyn Navy Yard Historic District				Х		
Carroll Gardens Historic District		Х	Х			
Carroll Gardens Historic District Extension				Х	Х	
Cobble Hill Historic District and Extension		Х	Х			
DUMBO Historic District		Х	Х			
Fulton Ferry Historic District		Х	Х			
Gowanus Canal Historic District				Х		
Vinegar Hill Historic District		Х				

Notes:

NHL = National Historic Landmark; LPC = New York City Landmark or Historic District; S/NR = State and National Register of Historic Places; NYCL = New York City Landmark





TABLE 2-4: HISTORIC BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES

			<u>_</u>	HISTOR	IC BUIL	DINGS AND S	STRUCTURES
MAP						S/NR-	NYCL-
NO.	NAME	ADDRESS	NHL	LPC	S/NR	ELIGIBLE	ELIGIBLE
FOCUS	AREA				<u> </u>		
58	Pier 41	Van Dyke Street and Ferris Street				Х	
59	Red Hook Stores	480-500 Van Brundt Street				Х	
60	Beard Stores	421-573 Van Brundt Street				Х	
61		99-113 Van Dyke Street				Х	Х
62	Brooklyn Clay Retort and Fire Brick Works Storehouse	76-86 Van Dyke Street		Х		Х	
63		106-110 Beard Street				Х	Х
64	Erie Basin Bulkhead	Surrounding Richards Street south of Beard Street				Х	
65	Former Revere Sugar Refinery	Richards Street south of Beard Street				Х	
66	Graving Dock No. 1	Erie Basin southwest of Beard Street (Ikea site)				Х	
67	Gantry Crane	Erie Basin southwest of Beard Street (Ikea site)				Х	
68	Port Authority Grain Terminal	Henry Street Basin, south of Halleck Street				X	
69	Red Hook Play Center and Pool	155 Bay Street		Х		Х	
70	IND 9th and 10th Street Subway Viaduct	Along 9th and 10th Streets between Smith Street and Fifth Avenue				Х	
STUDY	AREA				1		
1	Brooklyn Bridge		Χ	Х	Х		
2	Manhattan Bridge				Х		
3	Brooklyn City Railroad Company	8 Cadman Plaza West		Х	Х		
4	Thomson Meter Company Building	100-110 Bridge Street		Х	Х		
5	Commandant's House, Brooklyn Navy Yard	Evans Street at Little Street		Х			
6	Plymouth Church of the Pilgrims	75 Hicks Street	Χ		Х		
7	Brooklyn Historical Society	128 Pierrepont Street			Х		
8	St. Ann and the Holy Trinity Church	157 Montague Street	Х		Х		
9	Brooklyn Trust Company Building	177-179 Montague Street		Х	Х		
10	United States Post Office and Court House, Brooklyn Central Office	271-301 Cadman Plaza East		Х	Х		
11	Former Public School 5	122 Tillary Street				Х	
12	Joseph J. Jacobs Building, Polytechnic University	305-315 Jay Street				Х	
13	First Free Congregational Church	311 Bridge Street		Х		Х	
14	Lefferts-Laidlaw House	136 Clinton Street			Х		
15	IRT Borough Hall Subway Station	Junction of Joralemon, Court, and Adams Streets		Х	Х		





# TABLE 2-4 (CONTINUED) HISTORIC BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES

				HISTOR	C DOIL	DINGS AND S	TROCTORES
MAP	NAME	ADDRESS	NILI	I DC	C /ND	S/NR-	NYCL-
NO.	NAME	ADDRESS	NHL	LPC	S/NR	ELIGIBLE	ELIGIBLE
16	Brooklyn City Hall (aka Brooklyn Borough Hall)	209 Joralemon Street		Х	Х		
17		345 Adams Street				Х	Х
18	Brooklyn Friends School	375 Pearl Street				Х	
19	Brooklyn Fire Headquarters	365-367 Jay Street		Х	Х		
20	New York and New Jersey Telephone and Telegraph Building	81 Willoughby Street		Х		Х	
21	Duffield Street Houses	182-188 Duffield Street		Х			
22	Long Island Headquarters of the New York Telephone Company	97-105 Willoughby Street		Х		Х	
23	St. Boniface Church	111 Willoughby Street				Х	
24		423 Fulton Street				Х	
25	Atlantic Avenue Tunnel	Atlantic Avenue between			Х		
		Boerum Place and Columbia Street					
26	Former Board of Education Headquarters	110 Livingston Street				X	Х
27	Gage & Tollner Restaurant	372 Fulton Street		Х	Х		
28		376 Fulton Street				Х	Х
29	Board of Education Building	131 Livingston Street				Х	Х
30	Former America Fore Building	141 Livingston Street				Х	Х
31		386-388 Fulton Street					Х
32	Former Abraham & Strauss Buildings	418-430 Fulton Street and 15-29 Gallatin Place				Х	Х
33		495 Fulton Street				Х	
34		233 Duffield Street				Х	Х
35	Offerman Building	503-513 Fulton Street		Х		Х	
36		446 Fulton Street				Х	
37	A.I. Namm & Son Department Store	450-458 Fulton Street		Х			
38	Dime Savings Bank	9 DeKalb Avenue		Х			
39	Friends Meeting House and School	110 Schermerhorn Street		Х	Х		
40	Brooklyn Central Courthouse	120 Schermerhorn Street				Х	Х
41	State Street Houses	291-299, 290-324 State Street		Х	Х		
42	Former Loesser's Department Store	25 Elm Place				Х	
43		565-571 Fulton Street					Х
44		308-310 Livingston Street				Х	Х
45	Pioneer Warehouses	37-53 and 74-92 Rockwell Place				Х	Х
46	Baptist Temple	360 Schermerhorn Street			Х		
47	Former Public School 15	372 Schermerhorn Street				Х	
48		522-550 State Street				Х	





TABLE 2-4 (CONTINUED)
HISTORIC BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES

MAP NO.	NAME	ADDRESS	NHL	LPC	S/NR	S/NR- ELIGIBLE	NYCL- ELIGIBLE
49	IRT/BMT Atlantic Avenue Subway Station	Intersection of Atlantic,			Х		
50	Atlantic Avenue Control House	Flatbush, and 4th Avenues Intersection of Atlantic and Flatbush Avenues			Х		
51	Wyckoff Street Rowblocks	74-132 and 196-258 Wyckoff Street				Х	Х
52	Cobble Hill High School	347 Baltic Street				Х	
53	Brooklyn Public Library, Carroll Gardens Branch	396 Clinton Street				Х	
54	Brooklyn Union Gas Company Building	180 Union Street		Х			
55	John Rankin House	440 Clinton Street		Χ	Х		
56	St. Paul's Protestant Episcopal Church	199 Carroll Street			Х		
57	South Congregational Church Complex	358-366 Court Street, 253- 269 President Street		Х	Х		

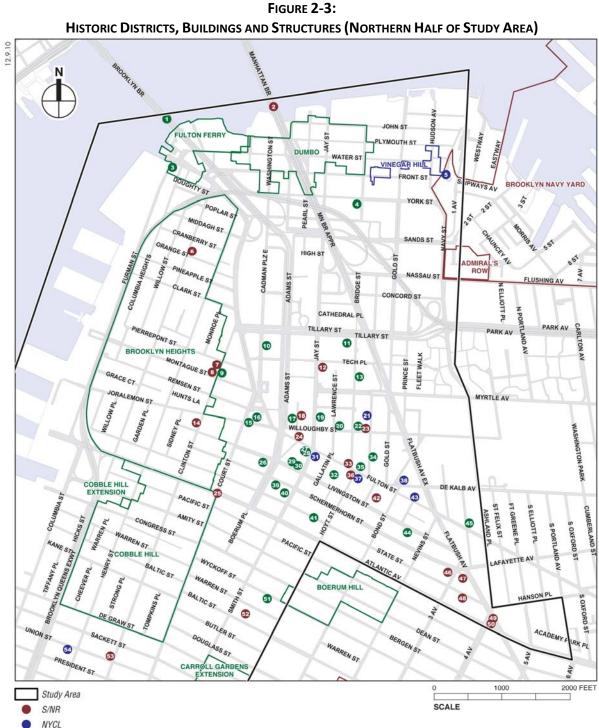
Notes: NHL = National Historic Landmark; LPC = New York City Landmark or Historic District; S/NR = State and National Register of Historic Places; NYCL = New York City Landmark

Large sections of the Study Area are designated historic districts, including much of Brooklyn Heights, DUMBO, Vinegar Hill, and Carroll Gardens. The Brooklyn Heights Historic District, the Brooklyn Bridge, Plymouth Church of the Pilgrims, and St. Ann and the Holy Trinity Church are National Historic Landmarks, which receive the highest level of protection under Federal preservation laws.

Several individual buildings are listed or eligible for listing on the State and National Register of Historic Places or are designated or eligible for designation as New York City Landmarks. In the Focus Area, there is a cluster of such structures along the waterfront between Van Brunt and Dwight Streets. In the Study Area, there are several historic structures in Downtown Brooklyn, particularly along Jay Street and Fulton Street.







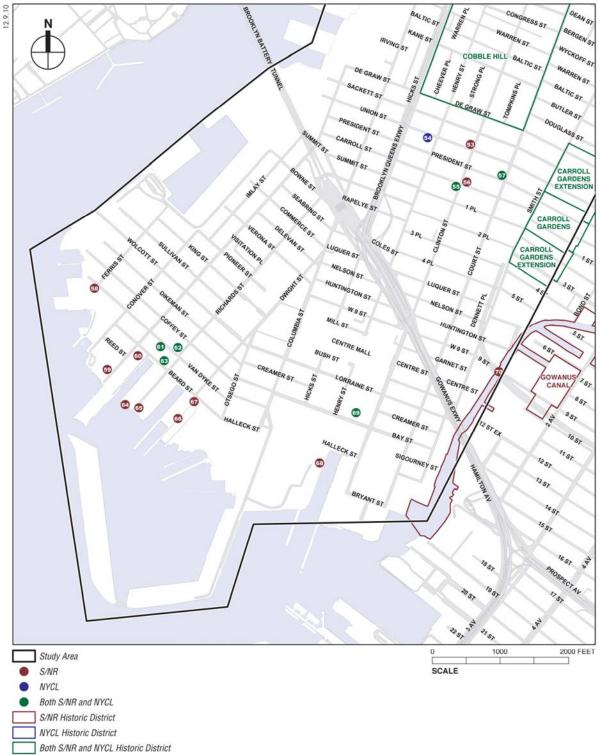


Both S/NR and NYCL S/NR Historic District NYCL Historic District

Both S/NR and NYCL Historic District



Figure 2-4:
Historic Districts, Buildings, and Structures (Southern Half of Study Area / Focus Area)







#### 2.7 CONCLUSION

The Focus Area and Study Area developed rapidly between the mid 1800's and the Great Depression. In the early portion of the period, development was fueled by maritime activities and industrial uses. As transportation, particularly subway and streetcar service, improved access to, from, and within these areas, there was rapid residential and commercial development. Downtown Brooklyn became a hub of municipal and retail uses in the borough, and many of its surrounding neighborhoods became the bedroom communities of its workers.

Following World War II, economic decline in the City's industrial sector devastated the employment bases of Red Hook and other waterfront districts of Brooklyn. At the same time, many middle-class residents fled inner city neighborhoods, resulting in the deterioration and abandonment of the housing stock and subsequent decline in support services.

In the 1980's, portions of the Study Area began to turnaround. A real estate boom resulted in the construction of new high-rise buildings in Downtown Brooklyn, and its surrounding neighborhoods were reoccupied by residents. Through the 1990's this trend extended to DUMBO, where former warehouse and industrial buildings were converted to residential use, and in the first part of this decade new investment has extended to other waterfront areas.

In the Focus Area, the pace of new investment has been less robust than elsewhere in the study area, but the recent development of the Atlantic Basin and large-scale retail uses indicate a renewed interest in the area. These large projects have been complemented by smaller residential conversions and a growing artist community. However, Red Hook remains isolated from surrounding areas and suffers from poor access to the borough's transit infrastructure.





# 3.0 SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

# 3.1 DEMOGRAPHICS

This section describes the demographic profile of the combined Focus Area and Study Area. When appropriate, local statistics are compared to Brooklyn as a whole.

# **POPULATION**

In 1990, the U.S. Bureau of the Census estimated that 10,846 residents lived in Red Hook. By 2000, the population decreased by approximately six percent to 10,215 residents. The Focus Area population has increased since 2000, and today is estimated at 10,695 people. In comparison, the overall Study Area's population has steadily increased in the past 20 years. In 1990, approximately 79,973 residents lived within the area. By 2000, the population increased by approximately eight percent to 86,602 residents. The Study Area population has continued to increase and today is estimated at 93,457 people (see Table 3-1).

Table 3-1: Residential Population (1990-2010)

		TOTAL POPULATION			PERCENT CHANGE				
	LOCATION	1990	2000	2010	1990-2000	2000-2010			
	Focus Area	10,846	10,215	10,695	-5.8%	4.7%			
	Study Area	79,973	86,602	93,457	8.3%	7.9%			
Sources:	Sources: 1990 and 2000 data from U.S. Bureau of the Census: 2010 estimates from ESRI.								

#### **DENSITY**

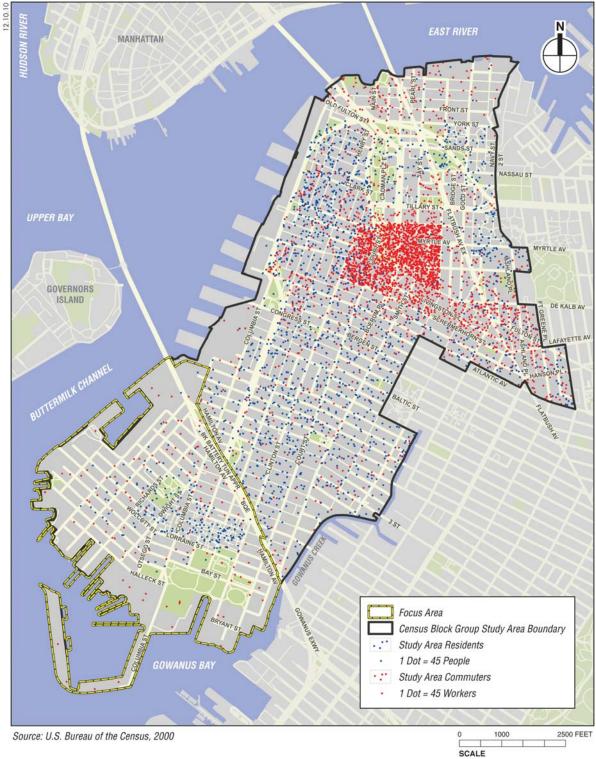
Figure 3-1 shows the geographic distribution of the Focus Area and Study Area residential population density and employment density (discussed in detail later), based on 2000 data from the U.S. Bureau of the Census. As shown, residents are more closely concentrated on interior blocks with fewer people along the waterfront. However, recently-completed development and proposed development in DUMBO, Vinegar Hill, and the Columbia Street Waterfront will increase the population density of those waterfront neighborhoods.

This census profile is based on the 10 block groups that correspond most closely to Red Hook's boundaries, and the 95 block groups that correspond most closely to the Study Area's boundaries. The Study Area is comprised of the following Brooklyn (Kings County) block groups: Census Tract 1, Block Groups 1, 2 and 3; Census Tract 3.01, Block Groups 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5; Census Tract 3.02, Block Groups 1; Census Tract 5, Block Groups 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5; Census Tract 7, Block Groups 1, 2 and 3; Census Tract 9, Block Groups 1 and 2; Census Tract 11, Block Groups 1 and 2; Census Tract 21, Block Groups 1, 2, 3 and 4; Census Tract 23, Block Groups 1 and 2; Census Tract 25, Block Groups 1 and 2; Census Tract 37, Block Groups 1 and 2; Census Tract 38, Block Groups 1 and 2; Census Tract 37, Block Groups 1 and 2; Census Tract 39, Block Groups 1 and 2; Census Tract 41, Block Groups 1 and 4; Census Tract 43, Block Groups 1, 2, 3 and 4; Census Tract 45, Block Groups 2, 3 and 4; Census Tract 47, Block Groups 1 and 2; Census Tract 49, Block Groups 1, 2 and 3; Census Tract 51, Block Groups 1, 2 and 3; Census Tract 55, Block Groups 1 and 2; Census Tract 57, Block Groups 1, 2, 3, and 4; Census Tract 59, Block Groups 1, 2 and 3; Census Tract 69, Block Groups 1, 2, 3 and 4; Census Tract 69, Block Groups 1, 2, 3 and 4; Census Tract 75, Block Groups 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5; Census Tract 55, Block Groups 1, 2, 3 and 4; Census Tract 55, Block Groups 1, 2, 3 and 4; Census Tract 55, Block Groups 1, 2, 3 and 4; Census Tract 55, Block Groups 1, 2, 3 and 4; Census Tract 57, Block Groups 1, 2, 3 and 4; Census Tract 59, Block Groups 1, 2, 3 and 4; Census Tract 55, Block Groups 1, 2, 3 and 4; Census Tract 57, Block Groups 1, 2, 3 and 4; Census Tract 57, Block Groups 1, 2, 3 and 4; Census Tract 57, Block Groups 1, 2, 3 and 4; Census Tract 57, Block Groups 1, 2, 3 and 4; Census Tract 57, Block Groups 1, 2, 3 and 4; Census Tract 59, Block Groups 1, 2, 3 and 4; Census Tract 59, Block Groups 1, 2, 3 and 4; Census Tract 59, Block Groups 1, 2 and 3; and Census Trac





FIGURE 3-1:
POPULATION AND EMPLOYMENT DENSITY







The Focus Area is approximately 0.87 square miles. Its population density is estimated at 12,323.56 persons per square mile. The overall Study Area is approximately 2.93 square miles. In comparison to the Focus Area, the Study Area is more dense and is estimated at 31,880.37 persons per square mile (see Table 3-2).

TABLE 3-2: POPULATION DENSITY

	PERSO	NS PER SQUAF	PERCENT CHANGE					
LOCATION	1990	2000	2010	1990-2000	2000-2010			
Focus Area	12,497.55	11,770.47	12,323.56	-5.8%	4.7%			
Study Area	27,280.67	29,541.97	31,880.37	8.3%	7.9%			
Sources: 1990 and 2000 data from U.S. Bureau of the Census; 2010 estimates from ESRI.								

#### **AGE**

As shown in Table 3-3, the majority of residents in the Focus Area are working age (20 to 64 years old), and approximately 30 percent are school aged (5 to 19 years old). About nine percent are under five years old and about nine percent are over 65 years old. In the Study Area, the percentage of working aged persons is much higher (nearly 71 percent) than in the Focus Area. The percentage of senior citizens is also higher (nearly 12 percent), but the percentage of children is lower (5.5 percent under five years and 12.2 percent school-aged).

TABLE 3-3:
AGE DISTRIBUTION

					AGL DI	STRIBUTION
		FOCUS AREA	1	STUDY AREA		
AGE COHORT	1990	2000	2010	1990	2000	2010
Under 5 Years	10.4%	8.5%	9.1%	5.7%	5.4%	5.5%
5 Years to 19 Years (School Aged)	28.4%	29.7%	25.1%	14.2%	13.7%	12.2%
20 Years to 64 Years (Working Aged)	53.1%	53.4%	57.0%	68.8%	70.3%	70.7%
Over 65 Years	8.1%	8.4%	8.8%	11.3%	10.6%	11.6%
Median Age	26.5	28.1	28.5	32.0	34.8	36.3
Sources: U.S Census, ESRI						

#### **ETHNICITY**

As shown in Figure 3-2, Red Hook is a racially diverse community. The Latino population is the largest ethnic group within the Focus Area, representing approximately 47 percent of the population. African Americans represent 42 percent of the Focus Area's population. Whites represent eight percent of the Focus Area population, and Asians represent one percent. About two percent of the population identified themselves as two or more races.

In the Study Area, the largest percentage of the population is White (53 percent). African American and Latino each represent 19 percent of the population. About five percent of the population identified themselves as Asian; three percent identified themselves as two or more races, and 0.5 percent identified themselves as some other race (see Figure 3-3).





FIGURE 3-2:
RACIAL COMPOSITION OF THE FOCUS AREA

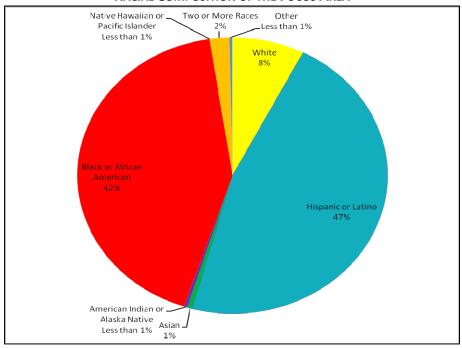
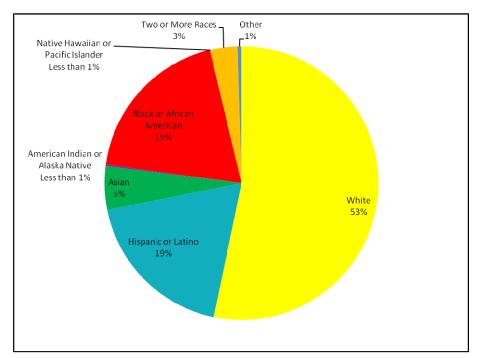


FIGURE 3-3:
RACIAL COMPOSITION OF THE STUDY AREA







#### **EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT**

Figure 3-4 shows the highest level of educational attainment for Focus Area residents based on 2000 Census data. Over half of the Focus Area's adult populations have completed a high school education. Approximately 10 percent of residents have completed an undergraduate degree program, and nearly three percent have completed a master's or professional degree program. About 49 percent of adult residents have not completed a high school education.

In the Study Area, approximately 82 percent of the area's adult residents have a high school diploma (see Figure 3-5). About 29 percent have completed an undergraduate degree program, and 26 percent have a master's or professional degree. Approximately 18 percent of adult residents the have not completed a high school education.

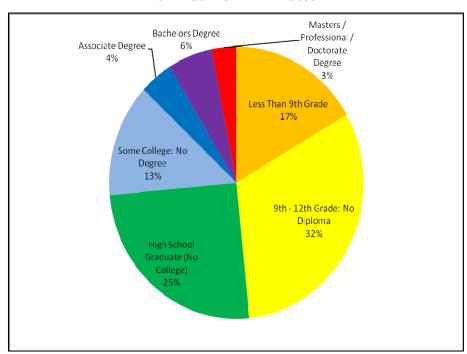


FIGURE 3-4:
LEVEL OF EDUCATION IN THE FOCUS AREA





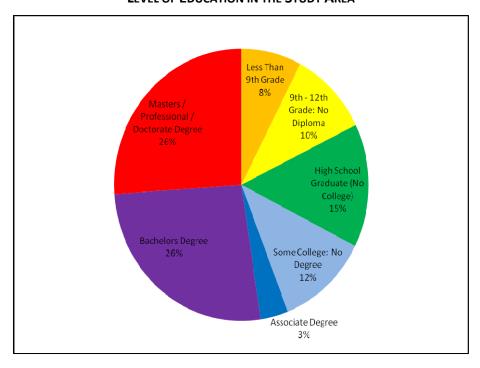


FIGURE 3-5:
LEVEL OF EDUCATION IN THE STUDY AREA

#### INCOME

According to Census forecasts, the 2010 median household income for the Focus Area is \$19,417. As shown in Table 3-4, a substantial number of households (approximately 47.8 percent) earn less than \$15,000 per year. Only 10.2 percent of the households earn more than \$50,000 per year. By contrast, in the Study Area, approximately 27 percent of households earn less than \$25,000 per year, and the majority (52 percent) earns more than \$50,000 per year.

TABLE 3-4: INCOME DISTRIBUTION

ANNUAL INCOME	PERCENT OF FOCUS AREA HOUSEHOLDS	PERCENT OF STUDY AREA HOUSEHOLDS
Less than \$15,000	47.8%	18.0%
\$15,000 to \$24,999	19.6%	8.6%
\$25,000 to \$34,999	9.0%	8.7%
\$35,000 to \$49,999	13.4%	13.6%
\$50,000 to \$74,999	6.2%	17.5%
\$75,000 to \$99,999	2.2%	9.7%
\$100,000 to \$149,999	0.9%	11.4%
\$150,000 to \$199,999	0.3%	5.0%
\$200,000 and above	0.6%	7.4%
Source: 2000 Census		





The median household income for the Focus Area increased slightly between 1989 and 1999, and has continued to increase in recent years. As shown in Table 3-5, the median household income increased by two percent between 1989 and 1999 and increased by 22 percent from 1999 to 2010. The median household income has also increased for the Study Area (by 34 percent between 1989 and 1999 and by 28 percent between 1999 and 2010).

TABLE 3-5: MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME

LOCATION	1989	1999	2010	PERCENT CHANGE 1989-1999	PERCENT CHANGE 1999-2010
Focus Area	\$15,571	\$15,928	\$19,417	2%	22%
Study Area	\$38,203	\$51,164	\$65,631	34%	28%

Sources: 2000 U.S. Census; ESRI. All values in 2010 dollars, based on US Bureau of Labor Statistics, Consumer Price Index (CPI)

#### 3.2 Housing

As shown in Table 3-6, the Focus Area experienced a net gain of 134 dwelling units between 1990 and 2000, an increase of approximately three percent. This is a much lower increase than the 8 percent gain for the Study Area as a whole. Between 2000 and 2010, the Focus Area had a net gain of 279 dwelling units (6.7 percent). Again, this is lower than the Study Area's increase of 11.2 percent. In addition, the vacancy rate for residential units in the Focus Area is one percent greater than that for the Study Area (see Table 3-6). Overall, however, the Focus Area has seen a greater increase in housing units and has a lower vacancy rate than the borough of Brooklyn.

TABLE 3-6: HOUSING UNITS AND RESIDENTIAL VACANCY RATES

HOUSING UNITS								
	NUMBER			PERCENT	CHANGE	VACANCY RATE		
				1990-	2000-			
LOCATION	1990	2000	2010	2000	2010	1990	2000	2010
Focus Area	4,019	4,153	4,432	3.3%	6.7%	4.7%	6.3%	7.7%
Study Area	37,906	40,813	45,398	7.7%	11.2%	7.8%	4.3%	6.5%
Brooklyn	873,671	930,866	977,590	6.5%	5.0%	5.2%	5.4%	7.9%

Sources: 1990 and 2000 data from U.S. Census; Existing estimates from ESRI, Inc.; 1990 and 2000 data from U.S. Census; Existing estimates from ESRI, Inc and the American Community Survey.

Housing in the Focus Area is predominately renter-occupied (see Table 3-7). In 2000, approximately 93 percent of the housing units were renter-occupied and seven percent were owner-occupied. This rate of renter occupancy is much higher than for the Study Area (68 percent renter-occupied and 32 percent owner-occupied) and for Brooklyn as a whole (69 percent renter-occupied and 31 percent owner-occupied).





TABLE 3-7:
DISTRIBUTION OF RENTER AND OWNER OCCUPIED HOUSING UNITS

LOCATION	OWNER-OCCUPIED UNITS	RENTER-OCCUPIED UNITS						
Focus Area	7.2%	92.8%						
Study Area	32.3%	67.7%						
Brooklyn	31.0%	69.0%						
Source: 2000 Census.								

#### 3.3 EMPLOYMENT

Table 3-8 shows employment by category for the Focus Area and Study Area. Residents of the Focus Area are primarily employed in Educational, Health and Social Services (19.3 percent); Professional, Scientific, Management, Administrative, and Waste Management services (13.4 percent); Finance, Insurance, Real Estate, Rental and Leasing (12.4 percent); and Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities (12.4 percent). Residents of the Study Area are primarily employed in Professional, Scientific, Management, Administrative and Waste Management services (19.8 percent); Educational, Health and Social Services (19.6 percent); Finance, Insurance, Real Estate, Rental and Leasing (13.3 percent); and the Information industry (11.5 percent).

TABLE 3-8: DISTRIBUTION OF EMPLOYMENT BY CATEGORY

CATEGORY	FOCUS AREA	STUDY AREA
Agriculture/Forestry/Fishing/Hunting/Mining	0.0%	0.1%
Construction	3.3%	2.3%
Manufacturing	8.2%	3.8%
Wholesale Trade	1.3%	2.0%
Retail Trade	8.0%	6.1%
Transportation/Warehousing/Utilities	12.4%	3.1%
Information	6.4%	11.5%
Finance/Insurance/Real Estate/Rental/Leasing	12.4%	13.3%
Professional/Scientific/Mgmt/Admin/Waste Mgmt Services	13.4%	19.8%
Educational/Health/Social Services	19.3%	19.6%
Arts/Entertainment/Recreation/Accommodation/Food Services	6.1%	8.5%
Public Administration	3.3%	4.4%
Other Services	6.0%	5.4%
Source: 2000 Census		

The Focus Area is approximately 0.87 square miles. Its employment density in 2000 was approximately 6,274.13 employees per square mile. The overall Study Area is approximately 2.93 square miles. In comparison to the Focus Area, the Study Area is significantly denser in employment. In 2000, there were approximately 49,071.97 employees per square mile within the Study Area (see Table 3-9 and Figure 3-1).





## TABLE 3-9: EMPLOYMENT DENSITY

		EMPLOYEES PER SQUARE MILE
	LOCATION	2000
	Focus Area	6,274.13
	Study Area	49,071.97
Sources:	2000 data from U.S.	Bureau of the Census

#### **3.4** Environmental Justice Communities

The environmental justice analysis includes the 10 census block groups in the Focus Area. The ethnic and income characteristics of these block groups were compared to the Study Area, the borough of Brooklyn, and New York City. The ethnic and income characteristics of these areas are shown in Table 3-10.

The U.S. Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) and the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) provide guidance to determine the presence or absence of environmental justice communities in areas where federal actions are being studied. The guidance defines minority and low-income communities (collectively, environmental justice communities) as follows.

- Minority communities: USDOT Order 5610.2 defines minorities to include American Indians or Alaskan Natives, Asian and Pacific Islanders, African Americans, and Hispanic persons. This environmental justice analysis also considers minority populations to include persons who identified themselves as being either "some other race" or "two or more races" in the Census 2000. Following CEQ guidance, minority populations were identified where either: 1) the minority population of the affected area exceeds 50 percent; or 2) the minority population percentage in the general population or other appropriate unit of geographic analysis. For this analysis, the Borough of Brooklyn was used as the project's primary statistical reference area. Minorities represent 65 percent of the Borough's population. As this exceeds the CEQ's minimum threshold, the lower 50 percent number was used to define environmental justice communities in the Focus Area.
- Low-income communities: USDOT Order 6640.23 defines low-income as "a household income at or below the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) poverty guidelines." The percent of individuals below poverty level in each census block group, also available in Census 2000, was used to identify low-income communities. To determine whether a block group is a low-income community, the percentage of its population below the poverty level was compared to the average for Brooklyn, as a whole. Block groups in the Focus Area that have a population below the poverty level of greater than 25.1 percent, the Brooklyn average, were considered low-income communities.

As shown in Table 3-10 and Figure 3-6, 9 of the 10 block groups in the Focus Area are defined as minority communities based on the CEQ and USDOT guidance described above, and 5 of 10 block groups are considered low-income communities.





TABLE 3-10: ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE FOCUS AREA

				POPU	LATION P	ROFILE BY F	ACE AND	ETHNICITY*	:			_	INDIVIDUALS
CENSUS TRACT (CT)/ BLOCK GROUP (BG)	TOTAL	WHITE	%	BLACK	%	ASIAN	%	OTHER	%	HISPANIC	%	TOTAL MINORITY	BELOW POVERTY LEVEL**
CT 55 BG 1	181	85	47.0%	4	2.2%	2	1.1%	14	7.7%	76	42.0%	53.0%	4.4%
CT 55 BG 2	26	16	61.5%	5	19.2%	0	0.0%	1	3.8%	4	15.4%	38.5%	0.0%
CT 57 BG 1	472	134	28.4%	66	14.0%	7	1.5%	13	2.8%	252	53.4%	71.6%	7.1%
CT 57 BG 2	537	102	19.0%	29	5.4%	8	1.5%	51	9.5%	347	64.6%	81.0%	38.7%
CT 57 BG 3	530	87	16.4%	65	12.3%	0	0.0%	35	6.6%	343	64.7%	83.6%	22.0%
CT 57 BG 4	92	43	46.7%	14	15.2%	1	1.1%	0	0.0%	34	37.0%	53.3%	25.7%
CT 59 BG 1	42	11	26.2%	4	9.5%	0	0.0%	1	2.4%	26	61.9%	73.8%	72.2%
CT 59 BG 2	471	62	13.2%	76	16.1%	4	0.8%	25	5.3%	304	64.5%	86.8%	41.1%
CT 59 BG 3	586	133	22.7%	101	17.2%	9	1.5%	47	8.0%	296	50.5%	77.3%	31.8%
CT 85 BG 1	7278	95	1.3%	3979	54.7%	24	0.3%	96	1.3%	3084	42.4%	98.7%	54.6%
Focus Area (Red Hook)	10,215	768	7.5%	4,343	42.5%	55	0.5%	283	2.8%	4,766	46.7%	92.5%	46.6%
Study Area	86,602	46,124	53.3%	16,547	19.1%	4,454	5.1%	3,378	3.9%	16,099	18.6%	46.7%	19.8%
Brooklyn	2,465,326	854,532	34.7%	848,583	34.4%	184,281	7.5%	90,052	3.6%	487,878	19.8%	65.3%	25.1%
New York City	8,008,278	2,801,267	35.0%	1,962,154	24.5%	780,229	9.7%	304,074	3.8%	2,160,554	27.0%	65.0%	21.0%

#### Notes:



The racial and ethnic categories provided are further defined as: White (White alone, not Hispanic or Latino); Black (Black or African American alone, not Hispanic or Latino); Other (American Indian and Alaska Native alone, not Hispanic or Latino; Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone, not Hispanic or Latino; Some other race alone, not Hispanic or Latino; Two or more races, not Hispanic or Latino); Hispanic (Hispanic or Latino; Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race).

<sup>\*\*</sup> Percent of individuals with incomes below established poverty level. The U.S. Census Bureau's established income thresholds for poverty level defines poverty level.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> Percentages in bold were identified as minority or low-income communities.



0.2 0.4 0.6 8.0 1 MILE Focus Area Boundary SCALE Study Area Boundary Environmental Justice Communities

FIGURE 3-6: ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE COMMUNITIES





Approximately 93 percent of the residents of the Focus Area are identified as minority—a substantially larger proportion than in the overall Study Area (46.7 percent), Brooklyn (65 percent), and the City as a whole (65 percent). Slightly less than half of the Focus Area's population (47 percent) identified themselves as Latino, making up the largest racial or ethnic group. African American/black comprised 42.5 percent of the area's population. Asians and other minority groups accounted for approximately 2.5 percent of the population.

The percentage of low-income residents in the Focus Area's block groups range from 25.7 percent to 72.2 percent. Overall, the Focus Area has a low income population of nearly 47 percent. This is substantially higher than the Study Area (19.8 percent), the borough of Brooklyn (25.1 percent), and the City as a whole (21.8 percent).

Thus, the Focus Area is defined as an environmental justice community by the CEQ and USDOT guidance described above.

#### 3.5 CONCLUSION

Over the past 20 years, the Focus Area has begun to recover from historic economic decline, and has seen an increase in residential and commercial development. Despite the consequent increase in residential and employee densities, however, the Focus Area continues to experience population and employment levels below their historic peak.

The Study Area has also seen an increase in residential and employment populations over the last 20 years. Outside of the dense Downtown Brooklyn area, neighborhoods in the Study Area have residential and employee densities similar to those of the Focus Area. However, the Focus Area and Study Area differ greatly in terms of income. According to Census forecasts, the 2010 median household income for the Focus Area is \$19,417. A substantial number of households in the Focus Area earn less than \$15,000 per year (48 percent), and few earn more than \$50,000 per year (10%). By contrast, in the Study Area, approximately 27 percent of households earn less than \$25,000 per year, and the majority earns more than \$50,000 per year. As a consequence, automobile ownership rates in the Focus Area are significantly lower than in the Study Area, and much of the working-age population of the Focus Area is dependent upon transit for its journey to work (see Section 4.2 below). It is therefore critical that the expanding Focus Area be considered for a substantial improvement to its transit service, and a streetcar is an important option to investigate in this context.





### 4.0 TRANSPORTATION

#### 4.1 Access and Circulation

#### **VEHICULAR ACCESS AND CIRCULATION**

The Study Area consists of several neighborhoods with discrete street networks that connect at individual points. Arterial roadways such as Flatbush Avenue, Tillary Street, Atlantic Avenue, and Hamilton Avenue form neighborhood boundaries and are the roadways that separate differing street grids.

The northeastern portion of the Study Area, from DUMBO to Atlantic Avenue, is traversed by the Brooklyn and Manhattan Bridge ramps that lead to Flatbush Avenue and Adams Street. Flatbush Avenue runs northwest/southeast, creating several irregular block sizes and skewed intersections (such as Flatbush Avenue and Fulton Street). South of Atlantic Avenue and through Brooklyn Heights, the Study Area generally follows rectangular grid pattern.

Interstate 278 also cuts through much of the periphery of the Study Area. The highway is elevated as it runs through the northern limits of Downtown Brooklyn, then it passes under the Brooklyn Bridge, after which the structure is double-decked along the Brooklyn Heights waterfront. At Atlantic Avenue, Interstate 278 descends below grade and becomes an open cut highway through Hicks Street. Access across Interstate 278 to the waterfront is provided at five of the 12 intersections from Atlantic to Hamilton Avenues—Congress, Kane, Sackett, Union, and Summit Streets. The Summit Street crossing is pedestrian-only. Near Clinton Street, Interstate 278 becomes elevated and intersects with the Brooklyn-Battery Tunnel portal and both travel southeasterly to Third Avenue. Hamilton Avenue runs below this portion of the Interstate 278.

Within the Focus Area, streets follow a grid pattern, primarily characterized by one-way paired local streets and a few two-way thoroughfares. Major two-way streets in the Focus Area include Court, Clinton, Columbia, Richards, and Van Brunt Streets. These streets run north-south and span the length of Red Hook, but are cut off from direct access to the Study Area by ramps to and from the Brooklyn Battery Tunnel and changes to street direction north of Hamilton Avenue. Clinton Street provides access to the Study Area via a circuitous series of turns at Hamilton Avenue, however, Clinton becomes a one-lane local street with one-way northbound traffic north of Hamilton Avenue. Some of the Focus Area's east-west running streets, including Wolcott, King, and Pioneer Streets are discontinuous because of the superblocks containing the Red Hook Houses and the adjacent Red Hook Park. Many of the east-west streets in the Focus Area are also cut off from direct access to the Study Area by Interstate 278, the Brooklyn Battery Tunnel, and Hamilton Avenue.

Several Streets in the Study Area are designated by NYCDOT as through truck routes. These include Atlantic Avenue, Flatbush Avenue, and Interstate 278. Local truck routes include segments of Court Street, Smith Street, Schermerhorn Street, Tillary Street, Cadman Plaza West, Jay Street, Front Street, York Street, Sands Street, Navy Street, Furman Street, and Columbia Street. In the Focus Area, local truck routes include Van Brunt Street, Delevan Street, Hicks Street, Clinton Street, Court Street, Bay Street, and Beard Street.





#### **TRANSIT ACCESS AND CIRCULATION**

Figure 4-1 shows the subway and bus routes that traverse the Focus Area and Study Area. Transit coverage in the Study Area varies greatly from north to south. North of Atlantic Avenue, several bus and subway routes converge, forming a transit hub. To the south, however, fewer buses and only two subway lines serve the area, with no direct subway service in the Focus Area.

#### **SUBWAYS**

Eleven subway routes cross into Brooklyn from Manhattan between Jay Street and Joralemon Streets in Downtown Brooklyn. The G train also crosses Downtown Brooklyn on its route between Queens and south Brooklyn. Most subway routes continue easterly or southeasterly from Downtown Brooklyn and exit the Study Area. However, the F and G trains continue southward to serve Cobble Hill and Carroll Gardens.

From Manhattan, the F train runs southward under Jay Street and Smith Street to Carroll Street. The train becomes elevated at Carroll Street, and turns eastward at 9th Street. It runs over the Gowanus Canal, and then descends below ground again near Fifth Avenue. The G train runs under Hoyt Avenue through downtown Brooklyn. It merges with the F train at Atlantic Avenue and follows the F train route to its terminal at Church Avenue. The F and G subway station at Smith-9th Street is the closest stop to the Focus Area, but accessing the Smith-9th Street Station from Red Hook requires a bus ride or a lengthy and circuitous walk.

Table 4-1 shows the average weekday, Saturday, Sunday, and annual ridership at subway stations within the Study Area.

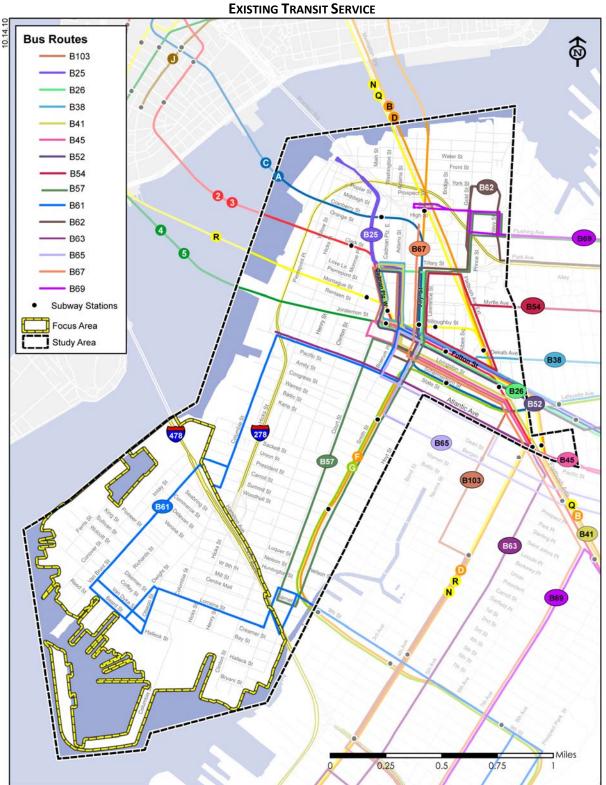
Table 4-1:
RIDERSHIP AT SUBWAY STATIONS WITHIN THE STUDY AREA

SUBWAY STATION	AVERAGE WEEKDAY	AVERAGE SATURDAY	AVERAGE SUNDAY	ANNUAL
Court St (M,R)/Borough Hall (2,3,4,5)	37,057	14,597	10,568	10,788,326
Atlantic Av (B,Q,2,3,4,5)/Pacific St (D,M,N,R)	31,408	21,052	16,575	10,039,490
Jay St-Borough Hall (A,C,F)	30,177	13,080	9,083	8,871,247
DeKalb Av (B,M,Q,R)	16,835	7,864	5,621	5,014,623
Nevins St (2,3,4,5)	11,579	6,006	3,818	3,479,130
Bergen St (F,G)	10,154	6,594	5,268	3,228,987
Carroll St (F,G)	9,786	5,240	4,021	2,995,068
Hoyt-Schermerhorn Sts (A,C,G)	9,642	4,455	3,075	2,862,942
Hoyt St (2,3)	6,341	3,155	2,197	1,902,962
High St (A,C)	6,045	3,494	2,859	1,888,271
Clark St (2,3)	5,269	3,692	3,020	1,706,174
Smith-9 Sts (F,G)	4,579	2,995	2,466	1,465,834
Source: New York City Transit				





FIGURE 4-1:







#### **BUSES**

Table 4-2 lists the 15 bus routes that serve the Study Area and shows their average weekday, Saturday, and Sunday ridership. Downtown Brooklyn is a major hub for the borough's bus service with nearly all of the 15 routes either terminating or traversing the area. Bus service in the Focus Area is far more limited than in the Study Area in general.

TABLE 4-2: RIDERSHIP ON BUS ROUTES THAT SERVE THE STUDY AREA

ROUTE	DESCRIPTION	AVERAGE WEEKDAY RIDERSHIP	AVERAGE SATURDAY RIDERSHIP	AVERAGE SUNDAY RIDERSHIP	SYSTEM WIDE RANK*
B25	Broadway Junction to DUMBO along the A/C subway line	12,983	9,666	6,413	66
B26	Ridgewood to Downtown Brooklyn via Halsey and Fulton Streets	10,811	8,690	6,154	82
B38	Ridgewood to Downtown Brooklyn via Kossuth Place and Dekalb Avenue (also runs LTD)	22,043	13,362	9,515	28
B41	Kings Plaza to Downtown Brooklyn via Flatbush	38,658	31,884	20,858	7
B45	Crown Heights to Downtown Brooklyn via St. Johns Pl/Atlantic Ave	8,627	6,629	4,448	97
B54	Ridgewood to Downtown Brooklyn via Myrtle Ave	12,249	7,664	5,489	76
B57	Gowanus to Maspeth via Smith/Court St	5,471	2,688	1,830	132
B61	Park Slope to Red Hook to Downtown Brooklyn**	11,013	7,085	5,105	N/A
B62	Long Island City to Downtown Brooklyn**	11,815	7,162	5,236	N/A
B63	Bay Ridge to Cobble Hill via 5th Ave	13,161	12,050	9,193	56
B52	Ridgewood to Downtown Brooklyn via Gates Ave	14,050	9,467	6,719	60
B65	Crown Heights to Downtown Brooklyn via Dean/Bergen St	4,754	2,923	2,054	142
B67	Kensington to Downtown Brooklyn via 7th Ave	6,560	3,149	2,274	123
B69	Kensington to Downtown Brooklyn via 7th Ave/Vanderbilt	2,286	1,089	830	168
B103	Canarsie to Downtown Brooklyn LTD	6,240	2,003	384	N/A

Notes:

Some routes have changed since these data have been collected

Sources: New York City Transit

In June 2010, NYCT implemented service change that resulted in the restructuring of bus routes in and near Red Hook. These changes discontinued routes and restructured others.

The B75 and B77 routes were discontinued. The B75 previously operated between Downtown Brooklyn (Sands and Jay Streets) and Windsor Terrace (20th Street and Prospect Park West) via Smith Street (northbound), Court Street (southbound), and 9th Street. The B75 generally paralleled the F and G train route. The B77 operated between Red Hook (Conover and Dikeman Streets) and



<sup>\*</sup> Ranking of 194 local routes based on 2009 ridership

<sup>\*\*</sup> October 2010

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> Average ridership for the period of January 2010 to July 2010.



Park Slope (5 Avenue and 10th Street) via Lorraine and 9th Streets. The B77 provided access between Red Hook and the 4 Avenue/9th Street Subway Station (F, G, N, R).

To provide alternative service for Red Hook customers, NYCT extended the B61 route. The B61 previously operated between Downtown Brooklyn and Red Hook, terminating at Beard and Otsego Streets. NYCT extended the B61 to 19th Street and Prospect Park West in Windsor Terrace. The B57 was also extended from Court and Livingston Streets to the Smith–9 Street (FG) subway station, operating along Court and Smith Streets through Cobble Hill and Carroll Gardens. The extended B57 route replaces the northern portion of the B75 between the Smith–9 Street (FG) subway station and Downtown Brooklyn.

The B61 is the primary bus route serving Red Hook, along Columbia and Van Brunt Streets. As part of the above-described 2010 service changes, the B61, which is a long route and suffered from on-time performance issues, was split into the B61 and B62. The B61 now runs from Park Slope then along 9th Street, through Red Hook, and north on Columbia Street to Downtown Brooklyn. In October 2010, this route registered over 11,000 boardings per weekday. The B62 runs from Downtown Brooklyn to Queens Plaza.

#### **BICYCLES**

Bicycle routes crisscross the Study Area. Separated bicycle paths exist at the bridge approaches, along Columbia Street in Cobble Hill, and in the southern portion of Red Hook. Two more separated (Class I) paths are planned or proposed in the Focus Area. On-Street (Class II and III) bicycle routes run nearly the entire length of Clinton Street and Boerum Place/Adams Street. Smith and Henry Streets also have significant lengths of bicycle lanes. In terms of east-west connections, cyclists can connect via 9th, 3rd, Union, Bergen, and Dean Streets. To the north, Myrtle Avenue, Sands Street, and Schermerhorn Street have a mix of dedicated (Class I) and striped, on-street (Class II) bike lanes. Figure 4-2 shows the designated bike routes within the Focus Area and Study Area.

In the Focus Area, east-west, Class III bike paths are provided along Bay Street, Creamer Street, Lorraine Street, and 9th Street. North-south bike paths are provided along Columbia Street (Class II and Class III), Clinton Street (Class II and III), Court Street (Class III), and Smith Street (Class III). Only the 9th Street and Clinton Street bike paths connect to adjoining neighborhoods.

As part of the New York City Bicycle Master Plan, new bike paths are planned in the Focus Area. There is a network of Class II bike paths planned in the western portion of the Focus Area. Also planned are the extension of the Columbia Street Class II bike route from Mill Street to Bowne Street and extension of the Beard Street Class II bike path from Dwight Street to Van Brunt Street.

#### **PARKING REGULATIONS**

On-street parking regulations for key north-south and east-west corridors were collected from NYCDOT's STATUS parking database and were field verified. On-street regulations are indicated on blocks where new or enhanced transit service may be possible. Figure 4-3 summarizes on-street regulations. Blocks were generally classified by their dominant regulation (75 percent or more of one regulation). In cases where blocks were split evenly among more than one regulation, multiple regulations are shown.





FIGURE 4-2: BICYCLE ROUTES

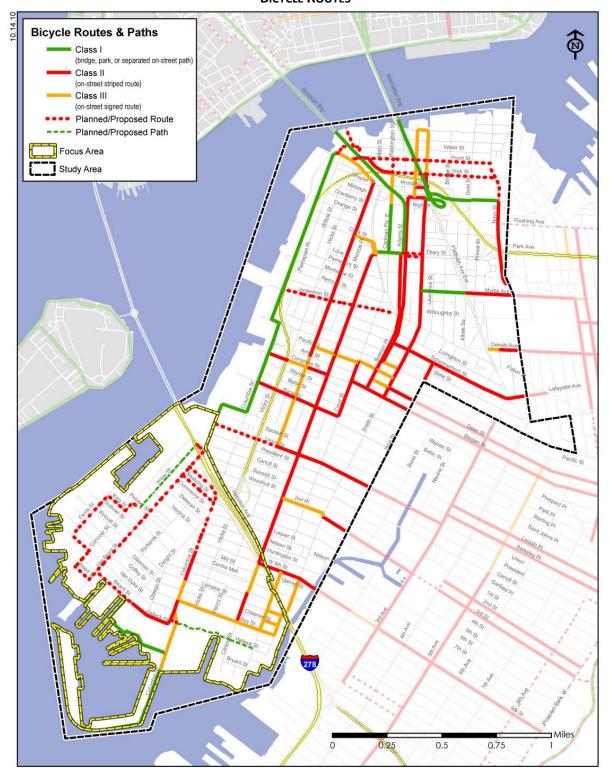
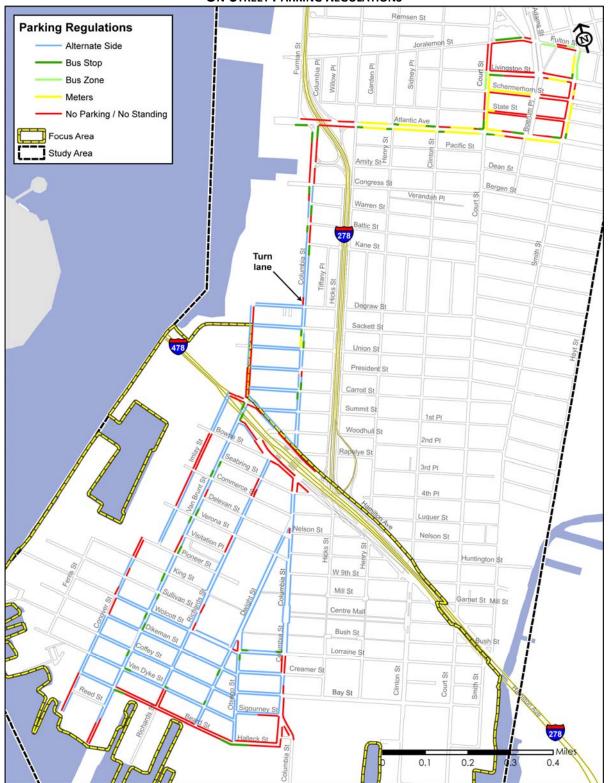






FIGURE 4-3:
On-Street Parking Regulations







The "No Parking / No Standing" category encompasses several different regulations that restrict onstreet parking. Some examples are: Commercial loading/unloading only; No parking 7 AM-7 PM Monday through Friday; and No parking 8 AM-6 PM Monday through Friday. No parking except authorized vehicles is proved at locations in Downtown Brooklyn. Other typical areas where parking is restricted are fire zones and school zones.

Atlantic Avenue and Downtown Brooklyn contain nearly all metered spaces. Atlantic Avenue's "No Parking / No Standing" regulation is primarily for commercial loading and unloading. In the Focus Area, most streets are alternate side parking blocks. Industrial areas typically have prohibited parking except for commercial vehicles. Beard Street along the front of IKEA is a no standing zone.

#### 4.2 Travel Characteristics

This section describes the travel characteristics of residents and employees of the Focus Area and Study Area based on the 2000 Census Transportation Planning Package, which is the most recent information available at the block group level.

#### **RESIDENTS (JOURNEY-TO-WORK)**

According to the 2000 Census, 2,349 of the Focus Area's residents are employed. Most of these residents work within New York City with many in the surrounding neighborhood and Downtown Brooklyn (see Figure 4-4). Approximately 15 percent of residents work in the Focus Area, and another 11 percent commute to Downtown Brooklyn. About 13 percent commute to Lower Manhattan and 14 percent travel to Midtown Manhattan. Other areas with a notable concentration of workers from the Focus Area include the Greenpoint and Bushwick neighborhoods in Brooklyn, Long Island City, and the area near John F. Kennedy Airport.

As shown in Figure 4-5, the majority (58 percent) of Focus Area residents commute to work by public transportation (subway or bus). About 14 percent of the residents drive alone to work; five percent carpool; and 18 percent of the residents walk to work.

There are a lower percentage of commuters by public transit in the Focus Area than in the Study Area. Whereas 58 percent of Focus Area residents use public transit to commute, 65 percent of Study Area residents commute by public transit (see Figure 4-6). There is a corresponding difference in automobile commutes between the Focus Area and the Study Area. In the Focus Area, 18 percent commute by auto (drove alone or carpool) as compared to 13 percent for the Study Area.

In the Focus Area, commuters using public transit decreased by approximately one percent between 1990 and 2000 (59 percent in 1990 compared to 58 percent in 2000). Walk only commuters increased during this period, from 13 percent to 18 percent. There was a four percent reduction in the percentage of automobile commutes. Between 1990 and 2000, the percentage of drive alone commuters decreased by approximately one percent and the percentage of carpool commuters decreased by nearly five percent. In the overall Study Area, commuters using public transit increased by one percent, from 65 percent to 66 percent. At the same time, the percentage of drive alone commuters decreased by approximately two percent, and the percentage of carpool commuters decreased by approximately two percent.





FIGURE 4-4:
PLACE OF WORK FOR FOCUS AREA RESIDENTS

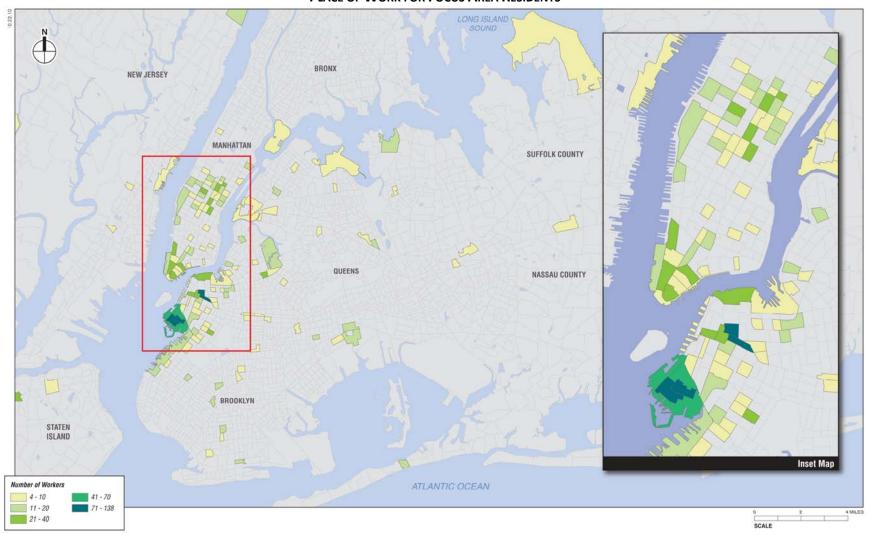






FIGURE 4-5:
MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK FOR FOCUS AREA RESIDENTS

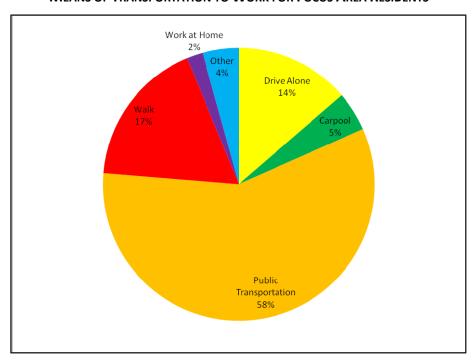
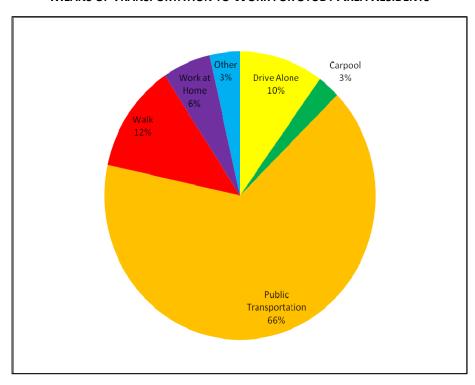


FIGURE 4-6:
MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK FOR STUDY AREA RESIDENTS





A relatively low percentage of households own automobiles in the Focus Area. About 83 percent of households do not own a vehicle, 14 percent own one vehicle, and less than three percent own more than one vehicle. In the Study Area, 65 percent of households do not own a vehicle, 31 percent own one vehicle, and 4 percent own more than one vehicle.

Figure 4-7 shows the distribution of travel time to work for the Focus Area and Study Area populations, based on 2000 Census data. Generally, Focus Area residents have a longer commute than Study Area residents. In the Focus Area, 48 percent of the population reaches work in less than 34 minutes, but 21 percent travels more than an hour to work. In the Study Area, approximately 55 percent of the population reaches work in less than 34 minutes, and nine percent travel more than an hour to work.

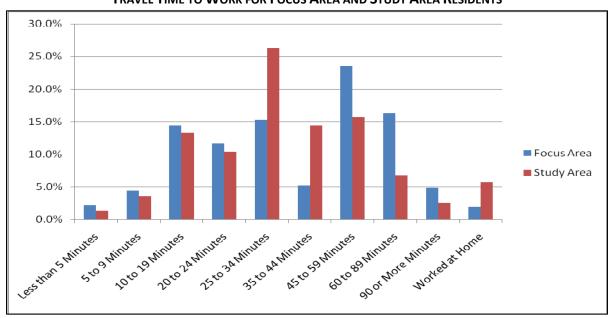


FIGURE 4-7:
TRAVEL TIME TO WORK FOR FOCUS AREA AND STUDY AREA RESIDENTS

#### **EMPLOYEES (REVERSE JOURNEY-TO-WORK)**

According to U.S. Census, there are 5,445 people who work in the Focus Area and 143,854 who work in the Study Area. Figure 4-8 shows the place of residence for Focus Area workers. Most people who work in Red Hook live within New York City, with many coming from the surrounding neighborhood and from Brooklyn in general. Other areas with a high concentration of residents who work in the Focus Area include Woodside, Jamaica, Howard Beach, and Lindenwood in Queens and Union City in New Jersey. There are 345 (6.34 percent) people who work in Red Hook and also live in Red Hook.

As shown in Figure 4-9, the predominant mode of travel to work for individuals who work in the Focus Area is by automobile (59 percent), and only eight percent of workers commute on foot. This indicates that a large percentage of the workers of the Focus Area do not live in the Focus Area. Twenty-nine (29) percent of workers commute to the Focus Area by public transit. In the Study Area, the largest portion of workers (49 percent) commutes by public transit. About 36 percent arrive by vehicular modes, and six percent commute by foot (see Figure 4-10).





FIGURE 4-8:
PLACE OF RESIDENCE FOR FOCUS AREA WORKERS

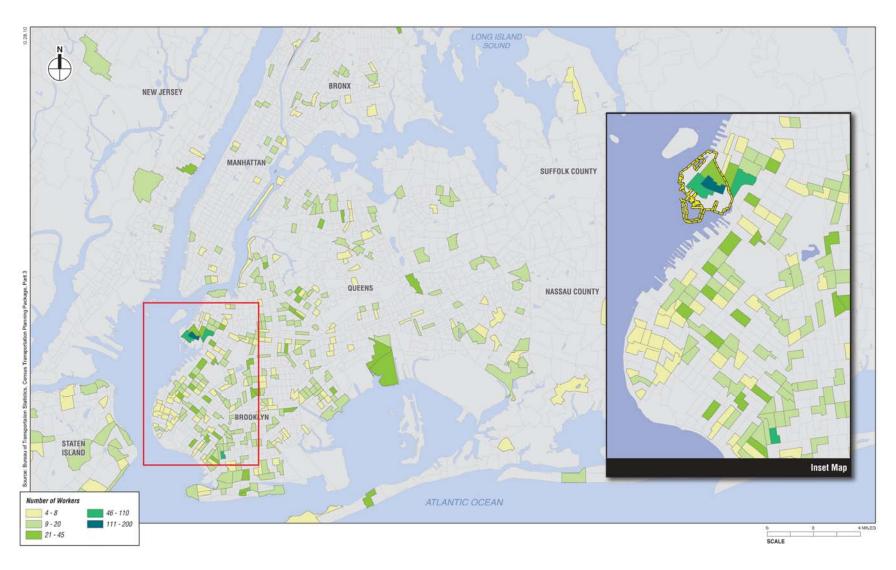






FIGURE 4-9:
MODE OF TRAVEL TO WORK FOR FOCUS AREA WORKERS

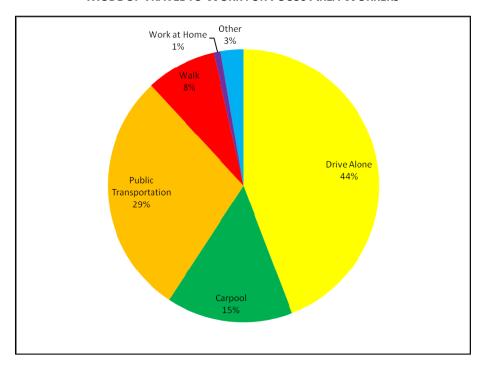


FIGURE 4-10:
MODE OF TRAVEL TO WORK FOR STUDY AREA WORKERS

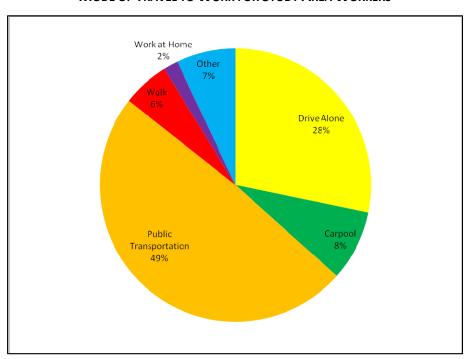






Figure 4-11 shows the distribution of travel time to work for employees of the Focus Area and Study Area, based on 2000 census data. Generally, Study Area workers have a longer commute than Focus Area workers. In the Study Area, 39 percent of the population reaches work in less than 34 minutes, but 33 percent travels more than an hour to work. Approximately 50 percent of Focus Area workers reach work in less than 34 minutes, while 26 percent travel more than an hour to work.

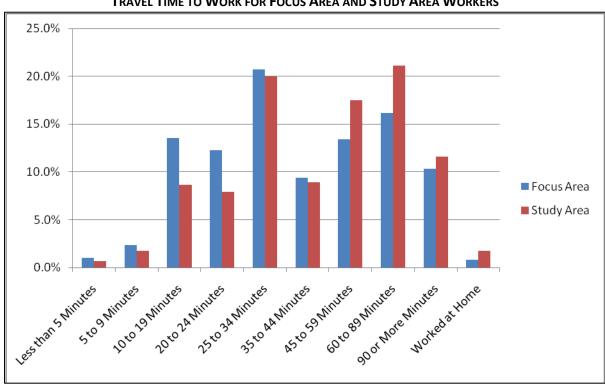


FIGURE 4-11:
TRAVEL TIME TO WORK FOR FOCUS AREA AND STUDY AREA WORKERS

#### 4.3 CONCLUSION

Interstate 278 and the Brooklyn-Battery Tunnel are prominent transportation facilities in the Focus Area and physically isolate it from surrounding areas of Brooklyn. As such, there is limited north-south and east-west access to and from Red Hook.

The Focus Area has no direct subway service and is served by only one bus route—the B61. Although the B61 offers good coverage in Red Hook and operates every eight to nine minutes during peak periods, many residents decry its lack of reliability, which may be related to the length of the route and congestion encountered outside the Focus Area. The nearest subway station is Smith-9th Street (FG). Access to the subway is by a lengthy walk or a transfer from the B61.

Despite limited transit service, the largest share of Focus Area residents relies on the bus and subway to commute. On the other hand, those who work in the Focus Area rely much more heavily on their automobiles than on transit or other modes. In both cases, the poor access to Red Hook contributes to long commutes for its residents and employees. Nearly 50 percent of residents commute more than 45 minutes to work. More than 50 percent of its employees also commute more than 45 minutes to work.





Area residents and workers rely on transit for access to and from Red Hook. With limited options and poor connections, however, they endure long commutes. Even for the many that commute relatively short distances to places like Downtown Brooklyn, Lower Manhattan, and Midtown Manhattan, the commute is long. Improved transit services should focus on reducing travel times, improving connections to existing subway services, and serving common destinations.





## 5.0 PRINCIPAL CONCLUSIONS

The Brooklyn highway network physically isolates the Focus Area from adjoining areas and there is limited transit service. Although the area experienced a rapid economic decline from 1950 to 1990, over the past twenty years and especially in the last decade, a focus on reinvestment has spurred both large- and small-scale commercial, industrial, and residential development. The Focus Area's residential and worker populations have grown in recent years, but the area remains poorly served by transit. Currently, there is one bus route that serves the Focus Area even though many of its residents rely on public transportation.

The Study Area, for the most part, is well served by public transportation. However, there has been rapid redevelopment along its waterfront with new recreational, residential, and commercial uses. Like the Focus Area, these waterfront sites, particularly those south of Atlantic Avenue, are not well served by public transportation, but many of their occupants also rely on transit service for their daily needs.



# APPENDIX A



