The first affordable housing project to be verified through the national WEDG standard, Bronx Point provides 540 units of 100% permanently affordable housing, is home to the Universal Hip Hop Museum and community programming spaces, and a 2.3-acre resilient waterfront park. Working closely with city agencies, the design team conducted over twenty public engagement events tailored to local interests and needs, including on-site canvassing, presentations in senior centers, and issuing digital surveys to maximize diverse input. The result is a waterfront project that balances complex needs for public park access, affordable housing, cultural programming, shoreline ecology, and resilience.

Bronx Point
Bronx, New York

Straddled between the Major Deegan Expressway and CSX Railway, the waterfront park is elevated above the existing grade to improve views and connectivity to the waterfront, as well as resiliency.

Habitat restoration efforts include removing an existing vertical relieving platform and restoring it with a “live” revetment planted with native species covering 69 percent of the shoreline area, and reintroducing native marsh species into Mill Pond Cove.

In addition to elevating the shoreline edge, the project reduced the shoreline slope along 38 percent of the shoreline edge, helping to absorb tidal energy and future high tide (with sea level rise).

The project includes an emergency response plan for extreme flooding events, with guidance for operations before, after, and during an event.

The waterfront park provides a diverse range of passive and active features which reflect the results of community input surveys, including a get-down in Mill Pond Cove for direct water access and programming.

Programming partnerships include Billion Oyster Project, who is helping to install and monitor oyster reefs in Mill Pond Cove, and will provide regular programming to engage school children in marine restoration and STEM-based educational programs.