Resilience, Ecology, and Access at the Water’s Edge
WATERFRONT EDGE DESIGN GUIDELINES (WEDG)

Copyright David Lloyd
Courtesy of SWA
Waterfront Alliance

inspires and effects resilient, revitalized, and accessible coastlines for all communities.
WEDG Reshapes our Waterfronts

RESILIENCE
ECOLOGY
AND ACCESS
WEDG is a Rating System and Guidelines
The Benefits of WEDG Verification

- WEDG creates savings through resilience
- WEDG leverages maritime activation
- WEDG enables savings through green infrastructure
- WEDG reduces risk through long-term planning
- WEDG unlocks positive media and press
- WEDG facilitates productive community engagement
- WEDG promotes great design that is a selling point
- WEDG shows the world you’re a leader in design excellence

See more on the Benefits of WEDG Verification
## Investing in Resilience Pays

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Half</td>
<td>of the population lives on the coast</td>
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<td>$24 Billion</td>
<td>in federal flood insurance program debt</td>
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<td>4:1</td>
<td>Benefit-cost ratio for designing beyond code</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:1</td>
<td>Benefit-cost ratio for designing beyond code to protect against hurricane storm surge</td>
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<td>More Attractive</td>
<td>More attractive to clients and investors</td>
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WEDG Projects Earn Media and Visibility

This public park is a model for urban design in the age of climate crisis

Home to “New York City’s newest island,” Hunter’s Point South is a city-funded park that offers lessons for cities struggling with rising tides.

Resilience Is Key In Wilmington Park Plan

A Daily News Service of the North Carolina Coastal Federation
WEDG Snapshot

10 WEDG-VERIFIED PROJECTS
NEARLY 500 WEDG PROFESSIONALS NATIONALLY
APA NATIONAL PLANNING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD FOR A BEST PRACTICE - GOLD

“Climate change, sea level rise, and coastal flooding are global challenges that are here to stay. We need the best data, inspirations, and tools that help guide communities, government, developers… everybody… WEDG is part of that toolkit. Any wise waterfront stakeholder will employ it.”
- Henk Ovink, Embassy of the Netherlands

“Resources like WEDG are important because they provide guidelines for risk reduction and help to address changing hazards.”
- Dr. Louis Gritzo, FM Global
WEDG Supports Multiple Land Uses, Including Multifamily, Industrial, Commercial, and Park Space

Projects Currently Under Review: 3
Additional Projects in the Pipeline: 3
Rigorous Analysis Informed WEDG

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEDG ADVISORY COMMITTEE</th>
<th>TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP</th>
<th>URBAN LAND INSTITUTE TECHNICAL ADVISORY PANEL</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>150+ experts from government, design, engineering, planning, and other disciplines who provide ongoing input on regulations, market viability, funding strategy, and implementation</td>
<td>Stony Brook University</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Science and Resilience Institute at Jamaica Bay</td>
<td>Intensive engagements conducted by career professionals as panelists who deliver expert, multi-disciplinary advice on complex land use and real estate issues</td>
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<td></td>
<td>CUNY Brooklyn College/Advanced Science Research Center</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Rutgers University</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Local Office Landscape Architecture</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Stevens Institute of Technology</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Google</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Wildlife Conservation Society</td>
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WEDG Verification

THE GOLD STANDARD FOR RESILIENT, ECOLOGICALLY-SOUND, AND ACCESSIBLE PROJECTS THAT TOUCH THE WATER’S EDGE
WEDG Offers Multiple Review Options

TWO-PART REVIEW: PRELIMINARY + FINAL
- Meet with Design Team
- Review Preliminary Design
- Provide Recommendations
- Resubmit 100% Construction Documents
- Determine Verification

FINAL REVIEW ONLY
- Meet with Design Team
- Review 100% Construction Documents
- Determine Verification

Pricing available on the WEDG Services brochure
0 | Site Assessment & Planning

Use sound assessment and community input to establish processes that support design, construction, and management of the site that can increase performance over time

28 Possible Points

Credit 0.3: Develop and implement an equitable plan for community engagement
1 | Responsible Siting & Coastal Risk Reduction

Use responsible development strategies for project siting and resilience that account for climate change and flood risks

40 Possible Points

Credit 1.1: Avoid or reduce risk from coastal hazards
2 | Community Access & Connections

Make waterfronts more accessible, inspiring, and welcoming to all by engaging diverse community stakeholders in the design of the waterfront

52 Possible Points

Credit 2.4: Increase transportation access to the waterfront
Design a resilient waterfront edge with a strategy that is appropriate to the site conditions and sensitive to local ecology

18 Possible Points

Credit 3.2: Maintain or emulate natural shoreline shape
4 | Natural Resources

Conserve, manage, and restore biodiversity and ecosystem function

61 Possible Points

Credit 4.2: Restore/increase ecosystem connectivity
Significantly surpass guidelines or develop new ways to significantly increase resilience, ecology or public access

16 Possible Points

Credit 5.2: Inventive design
WEDG Verified | Bronx Point

540 units of permanently affordable housing

Community-driven design of public access area

Get-down to direct water access

Reintroducing wetland plantings

Corridors reconnecting upland areas to the waterfront

Planted shoreline revetment and naturalized slope

Billion Oyster Project reef and programming
WEDG Verified | Oak Point/McInnis Cement

- Re-activation of maritime use; reduced truck miles/CO₂ emissions
- Raised buildings out of the 2050 floodplain
- Wave attenuating breakwaters
- Restored wetlands
- Public walkway
WEDG Professionals

A PLATFORM FOR PARTICIPANTS TO LEARN FROM INNOVATORS IN CROSS-CUTTING FIELDS ABOUT DESIGNING WATERFRONTS FOR A RESILIENT 2050+
WEDG Professionals Training Provides Opportunities for the Field

RESPOND TO CLIENT AND PROJECT NEEDS

WEDG Verification is predicated on investments that protect assets over the long-term from rising seas and increasing storms.

Familiarity with WEDG can expedite the verification process.

INVEST IN YOUR FIRM’S CAPACITY

Participants in the WEDG Professionals training hear best practices in resilience and learn how innovative waterfront projects overcome complex challenges.

WEDG Associates are equipped to better guide project teams on incorporating resilience into projects.

ENHANCE SKILLS AND BUILD A NETWORK OF COLLABORATORS

WEDG Associates join a cohort of 300+ architects, engineers, planners, advocates, and real estate professionals.

Serving as a WEDG reviewer creates an opportunity for hands-on learning with flagship projects.
WEDG Professionals Network

Not Pictured:
- Canada
- Spain
- Washington D.C.
- Puerto Rico

200+ WEDG Professionals
15+
5+
1+
Contact Us

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@OurWaterfront #WEDGProgram
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