THE BENEFITS OF WEDG® VERIFICATION

WEDG creates savings through resilience

- Designing beyond code for resilience offers a 4:1 benefit-cost ratio, and 6:1 for resilience against storm surge. (Natl. Institute of Building Sciences)
- Over the next 30 years, annualized structural damage costs for flooding will exceed $1 billion in Miami, $582 million in New York City, and $331 million in Boston. (Arup/First Street Foundation)
- WEDG credits align closely with FEMA Floodproofing Certificate requirements which offer a 50 percent premium reduction on flood insurance for commercial structures.

WEDG unlocks positive media and press

- Projects that achieve great design should be celebrated. Waterfront Alliance uses its extensive communications presence to feature WEDG sites in media to celebrate verification.
- WEDG projects have been featured in Architect’s Magazine, Spectrum News 1, NY Daily News, and Brooklyn Magazine, among others.

WEDG reduces risk through long-term planning

- WEDG guides projects to incorporate sea level rise and other risk factors into the site planning process from the beginning, enabling the project’s design to mitigate current and future risk.
- Properties across the U.S. exposed to sea level rise sell at a seven percent discount compared to similar properties with less exposure. (State Street)

WEDG facilitates productive community engagement

- A commitment to WEDG Verification tells community members and elected officials that a development will bring significant benefits and great public spaces to a community.
- WEDG is a familiar program to New York City community boards, council members, and community partners which can generate welcome support during regulatory processes and public hearings.
- In Miami, WEDG Verification creates opportunities to waive elements of the city’s waterfront design guidelines.

WEDG® (Waterfront Edge Design Guidelines) is a rating system that recognizes developers and landowners for resilient, ecological, and accessible design at the water’s edge.
WEDG leverages maritime activation

- WEDG provides guidance on creating functional maritime infrastructure at multiple scales.
- Maritime activity can create additional revenue streams and fill a market need for docking space small and large vessels. Docking infrastructure can be built into public areas for relatively little cost and requires limited ongoing maintenance.

WEDG enables savings through green infrastructure

- WEDG standards provide projects with options to use nature-based solutions to improve the site. Building green infrastructure into a site can realize savings for site grading and preparation, stormwater infrastructure, and landscaping. A U.S. EPA study of 17 projects found savings of 15 to 80 percent.
- In one U.S. city, rain gardens cost 42 percent less than conventional stormwater infrastructure over their life cycle. (SITES)

WEDG promotes great design that becomes a selling point

- WEDG is all about the design of waterfront spaces. WEDG facilitates welcoming spaces that draw in buyers, visitors, tenants, and investors.

WEDG shows the world you are a leader in design excellence

- Achieving verification through WEDG tells your investors, partners, stakeholders, and tenants that you are committed to resilience, ecology, and access at the water’s edge.

Brooklyn Bridge Park will survive the next bunch of storms better than other sites over the next 30 years because of the resilience we built in.

- Jeffrey Sandgrund, Chief Operating Officer, Brooklyn Bridge Park Corporation

The Waterfront Alliance team will help guide your project through an independent technical review process to determine the project’s alignment with WEDG standards. Learn more at wedg.waterfrontalliance.org.

For more information about the process or to discuss whether your project should seek achievement through WEDG, contact:

Joseph Sutkowi, WEDG
Waterfront Design Associate Director
jsutkowi@waterfrontalliance.org
212.935.9831 x113
wedg.waterfrontalliance.org
#WEDGprofessionals