

# REBUILD BY DESIGN HUDSON RIVER

Hoboken, Jersey City, and Weehawken

## ENHANCING FLOOD RESILIENCE



## FAQs

### Q: What is RBDH?

A: Rebuild by Design Hudson River (RBDH) project is a result of the Rebuild By Design competition that resulted in the award of \$230 million. The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) launched the [Rebuild by Design](#) (RBD) competition in the summer of 2013 to develop ideas to improve physical, ecological, economic, and social resilience in regions affected by Superstorm Sandy. The competition sought to promote innovation by developing flexible solutions that would increase regional resilience. The proposed project was one of the competition's six winning concepts; it was developed with the goal of reducing frequent flooding due to storm surge, high tide, and heavy rainfall. HUD awarded \$230 million to the State of New Jersey for the Project in the municipalities of Hoboken, Weehawken, and Jersey City. This project operates on four principles working in unison:

1. **Resist:** a combination of hard infrastructure (such as bulkheads, floodwalls and seawalls) and soft landscaping features (such as berms and/or levees including Harborside park) that act as barriers along the coast during exceptionally high tide and/or storm surge events;
2. **Delay:** policy recommendations, guidelines and urban green infrastructure to slow stormwater runoff;
3. **Store:** green and grey infrastructure improvements, such as bioretention basins, swales, and green roofs, that slow down and capture stormwater, and which will complement the efforts of the City of Hoboken's existing Green Infrastructure Strategic Plan; and
4. **Discharge:** enhancements to Hoboken's existing stormwater management system, including the identification and upgrading of existing stormwater/sewer lines, outfalls and pumping stations.

The Delay, Store, and Discharge components of the project are being performed by the City of Hoboken, while the Resist component is being performed by the NJDEP. Learn all about the Resist project by visiting our website: <https://bit.ly/NJDEP-RBDH>

### Q: Will the RBDH project reduce flooding?

A: Yes, the Project will minimize the impacts from storm surge flood events on the community including adverse impacts to public health and safety, as well as economic vitality. Approximately 85% of the population of Hoboken will be protected from the impacts of a storm surge event.

**Q: Will there be additional flooding in areas near the RBDH project that are not receiving the benefits of reduced flooding?**

A: The height of the storm surge during these events is governed by the height of the entire Hudson River estuary. The volume of the surge waters we are keeping out of the protected area are negligible when compared to the rest of the Hudson River estuary. In other words, the water that is prevented from flooding the protected area will not be significant enough in volume to raise the base flood elevation during a surge event in areas that are not receiving any direct benefits. However, the RBDH project will protect critical infrastructure that the entire community will rely on in future surge events.

**Q: What is the project doing at the Monarch site - 1501 Shipyard Lane?**

A: The RBDH project has temporary access to the Monarch Site so the DEP's Contractor and field inspectors can use it as a storage and laydown area, so they are in close proximity to construction activities occurring in the North work zone.

**Q: What is the project doing at 200 Harrison Street?**

A: The RBDH project has temporary access to 200 Harrison St so the DEP's Contractor and field inspectors can use it as a storage and laydown area to be in close proximity to construction activities occurring in the Southern work zone.

**Q: Who is the contractor?**

A: The contractor for the RBDH project is E.E. Cruz & Company. They have extensive experience in similar projects and are committed to minimizing disruption during construction.

**Q: How long will construction take in my community?**

A: The project is currently underway and is expected to run through the Summer of 2027.

**Q: How long will you be working in Harborside Park?**

A: Work in Harborside Park began in Spring 2024 and is expected to run through the Summer of 2027.

**Q: What are the project's work hours?**

A: Typical work hours will be from 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Extended hours and weekend work may be necessary for specific tasks but will be coordinated with the cities and relayed to the public ahead of time.

**Q: Will there be overnight work?**

A: Overnight work may occur occasionally, especially during critical phases. We will notify residents in advance of any such work.

**Q: How loud is the construction?**

A: Construction noise will vary depending on the activity but will generally be within acceptable levels. We aim to minimize noise where possible. We are monitoring noise levels to ensure they remain within safe limits.

**Q: What is causing vibration?**

A: Vibration may occur due to heavy equipment and construction activities. We are continuously monitoring vibration levels to ensure they remain within safe limits. This is a contractual requirement, and if vibration exceedances occur, the contractor will be required to implement engineering controls to ensure that the vibration issue is remedied.

**Q: Will vibration from construction equipment cause cracking in a property's foundation?**

A: While some vibration is expected, it is typically within safe limits and unlikely to cause structural damage. There is continuous monitoring equipment in place to provide real time data.

**Q: When will the road be paved?**

A: Road paving will occur toward the end of each construction phase. We will provide specific dates as they approach.

**Q: Will you be producing dust?**

A: Some dust is inevitable during construction. Our Contractor has implemented dust control measures to minimize impact on the surrounding area. This is a contractual requirement, and if dust exceedances occur, the contractor will be required to implement engineering controls to ensure that the dust issue is remedied.

**Q: Will construction affect the ability to park in front of a property?**

A: There may be temporary restrictions on parking in some areas during construction. We will provide advanced notice to affected residents.

**Q: Will I have full access to my property during construction?**

A: Access to your property will generally be maintained, but there may be temporary restrictions depending on construction activities. We will provide advanced notice to affected residents.

**Q: Will streets be closed during construction?**

A: Some streets may be temporarily closed or have reduced access during construction. The RBDH team will coordinate with all local traffic authorities, PD and OEM prior to any road closures. We will provide advanced public notice and alternative routes.

**Q: Will I be informed of any new construction updates and disturbances?**

A: Yes, we provide regular updates to the City of Hoboken. You can also sign up for RBDH weekly community construction advisories here: <https://bit.ly/RBDH-Weekly-Advisories>

**Q: How long will it take to construct the whole project?**

A: The project is happening now and through the Summer of 2027. This may vary based on unforeseen circumstances.

**Q: Where can I get construction updates?**

A: Through City of Hoboken construction updates. You can also sign up for RBDH weekly community construction advisories here: <https://bit.ly/RBDH-Weekly-Advisories>. For additional information or concerns, please contact our hotline and/or project email at 1-800-252-0219 or [rbdhinquiries@portal3.pbid.com](mailto:rbdhinquiries@portal3.pbid.com), and we will respond promptly.

**Q: Who do I call if I need additional information or have questions/concerns during construction?**

A: For additional information or concerns, please contact our hotline and/or project email at 1-800-252-0219 or [rbdhinquiries@portal3.pbid.com](mailto:rbdhinquiries@portal3.pbid.com), and we will respond promptly. Traffic and Property

**Q: How are you remediating traffic issues?**

A: We are coordinating with local traffic management authorities to implement detours and minimize disruption. Updates will be provided as needed via signage and the Hoboken Nixle as needed.

**Q: Will you be replacing sidewalk and/or driveway if damaged?**

A: Yes, any sidewalks or driveways that are impacted during construction will be restored to their original condition.

**Q: When will you re-seed, replace plants, trees and shrubs damaged and/or removed for construction?**

A: We plan to re-seed and replace plants and shrubs as part of the final restoration process. However, in compliance with FEMA levee requirements no trees will be permitted within 15' of the levee system. Some small trees will be replanted in planters within this zone.

**Q: Will there be any interruption to utility services?**

A: Utility interruptions may be necessary at times to perform critical work. We will inform residents in advance of any planned interruptions.

**Q: Will the garbage and recycling be picked up while you are under construction in front of a property?**

A: Yes, garbage and recycling services will continue, although there may be temporary adjustments. We will communicate any changes in advance.

**Q: How will this impact my property?**

A: While there may be temporary construction disruptions, the long-term benefits include improved flood resilience and enhanced community amenities.

**Q: What will be done to restore rights of way and my property after construction is finished?**

A: After construction, we will restore rights of way and properties to their original state, ensuring any disruptions are addressed promptly.



## Additional Concerns and Questions

**Q: What if a big storm happens during construction and flooding occurs? What are your contingencies to ensure that construction debris and damage does not occur on a property?**

A: In the event of a storm, we have plans in place to secure the site and minimize debris. Our team will be on standby to address any immediate concerns.

**Q: What is the town or project doing to alleviate the public's concerns and inconveniences?**

A: We are actively engaging with the community, providing regular updates, and implementing measures to minimize disruption throughout the project.

**Q: Are there renderings on how this project will look like after completion?**

A: Yes, renderings and design plans are available on our website (<https://bit.ly/NJDEP-RBDH>), and at the City of Hoboken's website (<https://bit.ly/HobokenNJ-RBDH>). We encourage residents to view these for a better understanding of the final outcome.



Visit our website, find our FAQs and sign up for notifications.

If you have any questions, please contact:

1 (800) 252-0219

[RBDHinquiries@portal3.pbid.com](mailto:RBDHinquiries@portal3.pbid.com)

