FILLING IN THE EDGE(MERE)

Bridging Access to Water through Ecological, Social, and Infrastructural Integration

This project envisions the gradual integration of a wetland system into the Edgemere neighborhood, enhancing access to water in social, ecological, and infrastructural dimensions. Starting at the water's edge along Jamaica Bay, the design establishes a network of raised walkways that consolidate and re-establish salt marsh habitats. This is complemented by a system of vegetated berms and swales that create a resilient edge, mitigating flooding and storm surge while providing public access to the bay. By reinforcing the boundary between the wetland and the neighborhood both ecologically and socially, the project fosters a new, dynamic relationship between the community and the water. The wetland's gradual integration into the urban fabric allows for a transformation where open space becomes a collectively owned resource, and the line between private and public is blurred. Instead of retreating as the bay encroaches, this project aims to establish a future where Edgemere and Jamaica Bay coexist as one, redefining life within a living, adaptive wetland ecosystem.

GREEN AVENUES

Increased planting of trees and accompanying vegetation on steets that connect the neighborhood with these new access points to Jamaica Bay will operate as green cooridors that bring people to and from the water. These avenues seek to establish an interconnected landscape that combines the dune + beach edge and with that of the bay and saltmarsh. Rather than consider them opposites, this project seeks to treat them as parts of the same space.

OPENSPACE NETWORK

The existing and planned open space projects for the edgemere neighborhood will become the foundation of a neighborhood scale design. Begining with the condition of openspace along the edge of Jamaica Bay, by connecting these spaces together through infrastructure that is physcial, social, and Ecological, the accessibility and resiliency of the water's edge is maximized. Inland open space that includes parking lots, NYCHA Housing property, vacant lots, and community gardens operate the spatial foundation through which a grander neighborhood design is actualized.

COALESCED WATERFRONT

Unified waterfront will sythesize existing parks and open space through network of elevated walkways, floating docks, kyack launches, and access points in an effort to democratize access and use of the bay.

ADAPTIVE INFRASTRUCTURE

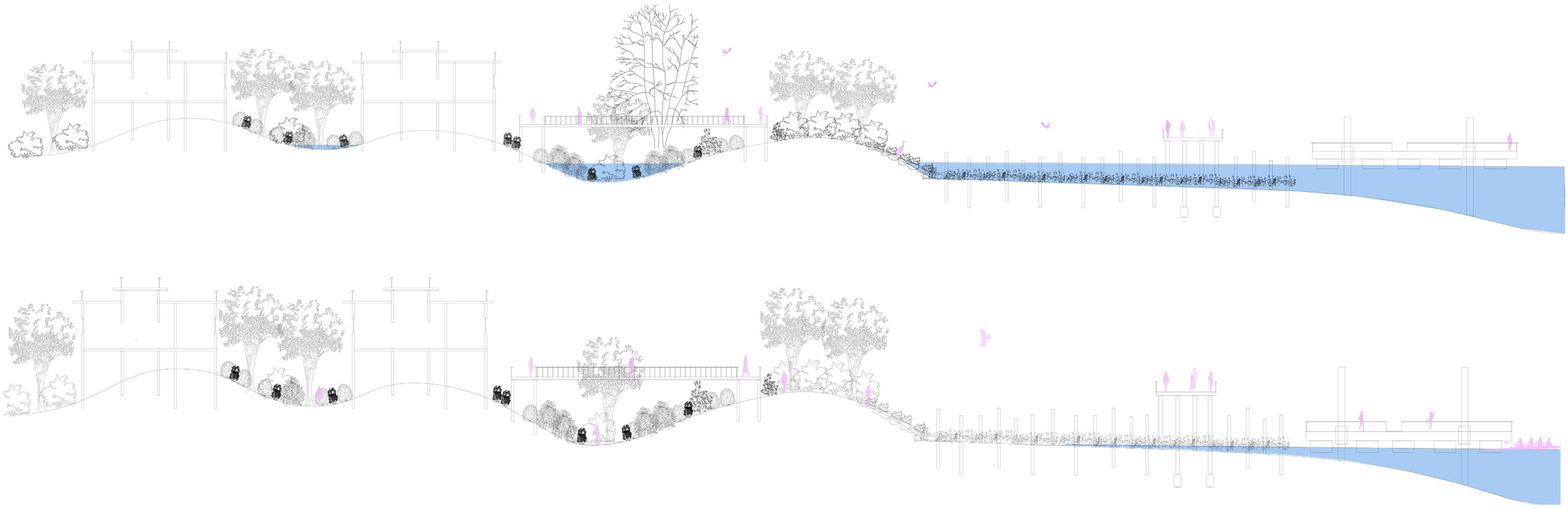
Walkways and floating docks are designed with rising sea level and storm surge in mind. As a result as the environment changes with the increase in sea level and storms, this infrastructure will adapt accordingly

ACCESSIBLE OPENSPACE

Edgemere landfill along with other under utilized open spaces along the bay's edge will be returned to the public for recreational uses, and will be incorporated into a larger network of spaces along a new pormenade

RESILIENT EDGE

Walkways will serve a secondary stablizing force for the propagated saltmarsh. The incorporation of marsh , vegetated berms, and swales will function as resilient flood mitigative network.



1 Elevated Boardwalk

2 Increased Waterfront Access

3 Integration of Housing into Flood Management Landscape

(Beach 35th Street to Beach 63rd)

Carlo Raimondo