

The goals of the youth-led community visioning project for reuse of 4 Town of Olive owned parcels in the Hamlet of Boiceville, acquired through the flood buyout process were to:

- Engage young people in leading the process of community disaster prevention and recovery, specifically by undertaking all aspects of running a public process for the community to envision new uses for land vacated through the New York City's flood buyout program.
- Use nature based solutions, whenever possible, to restore and reactivate riparian areas for community and public use.
- Help small, rural, inland communities impacted by the loss of services and businesses recover economically and socially.

“Create a vision for the future of Boiceville

- “Develop conceptual plans in order to attract funding and resources for implementation of the vision, and in so doing reduce the costs of managing these spaces going forward.
- Pilot a five-year long project that set the stage for the ongoing incorporation of additional future vacated parcels in the Hamlet.
- Provide a benefit to the Town Leaders from the continuing involvement of, and the iterative feedback loop created by, the KaN Team and the residents of Olive in the future design of these lands.

What we've done to accomplish these goals

• Beginning in October 2021, we held six of ten planned in person class sessions, focused on the Native American history of our area, traditional Native cultural practices and the importance of respecting and living gently on the land; on the local cultural and natural history of the non Native inhabitants of our area for the past 12 generations; the state of the riparian ecology and vegetation on the four project parcels; and the operation and role of the wastewater treatment plant in keeping the City's drinking water safe.

• In their role as community leaders, the youth planned an on-line zoom event and created a google slide presentation and an agenda for the event. The event took place on December 2nd. We had over 50 participants join us, the majority of whom were from the Town of Olive.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UOKdaVYu6NM>

• The ideas for how to re-purpose the vacant lands for community use were compiled using Google spreadsheets so we could collaborate while working remotely.

- Starting in January 2022, classes focused on synthesizing the input from the December 2nd public forum into concept plans, sketches, and a visual Miro Board to prepare for future design development and a public presentation of these concepts.
- The students created a video about the project to solicit input from social studies students as to their vision for these parcels. It is a real life application of the OCSD's "civic engagement course curriculum". https://youtu.be/Oo_xvI2LKtY
- Our team members participated in community events and forums to collect more ideas and inputs into the design development process.
- We met with the Town of Olive's Conservation Advisory Council in January to find out how they might be able to help us pursue our longer term goals.
- The students presented their work to date at the Woodstock Land Conservancy's Earth Day event on April 23rd.
- The final concept plans, renderings and designs were presented to the community at an in person public forum on May 12th and additional ideas and inputs were recorded.
- The KaN team is seeking funding to implement the community's ideas on an experimental demonstration basis this summer, focusing on the lot with the picnic tables.

To volunteer, share your ideas for programs and activities you'd like to help us plan and produce this summer or submit comments, please email: Nikitin@brunelpark.org