

Video

Pandemic Response: New York's Neighborhoods Now Initiative

Date: May 12, 2021

00:01:13 --> 00:01:16:

00:00:00 --> 00:00:03: Hi, I'm Jennifer pair and I will be the moderated 00:00:03 --> 00:00:05: for our panel today. 00:00:05 --> 00:00:07: When I think about the COVID-19 pandemic, 00:00:07 --> 00:00:10: I constantly oscillate between the very large in the very 00:00:11 --> 00:00:11: small. 00:00:11 --> 00:00:15: We recently surpassed 3,000,000 deaths worldwide from COVID and sadly 00:00:15 --> 00:00:18: there are so many individuals in our friends and our 00:00:18 --> 00:00:20: families who we've lost to this virus. 00:00:20 --> 00:00:24: There's the ubiquitous fear COVID-19 has found across communities and 00:00:24 --> 00:00:28: the attacks and hate crimes perpetrated against individuals, 00:00:28 --> 00:00:32: specifically Asians. There is a global economic catastrophe when it 00:00:32 --> 00:00:35: comes for all travel and commerce has been halted. 00:00:39 --> 00:00:42: There's a global economic pastor fee that comes when all 00:00:42 --> 00:00:43: travel and commerce is halted, 00:00:43 --> 00:00:47: and then seeing shop after shop in my neighborhood posting 00:00:47 --> 00:00:48: stores for rent signs, 00:00:48 --> 00:00:51: I think about the ubiquity of ambulance sirens in the early days of the pandemic and the silence at night 00:00:51 --> 00:00:54: 00:00:54 --> 00:00:56: of a once vibrant community. 00:00:56 --> 00:00:58: For all of us cope it is very real. 00:00:58 --> 00:01:01: However, like most things in life that pandemic didn't hit, 00:01:01 --> 00:01:03: New Yorkers equally here and across the country. 00:01:03 --> 00:01:08: COVID-19 has disproportionately affected communities of color. 00:01:08 --> 00:01:10: In response to the pandemic in New York, 00:01:10 --> 00:01:13: the urban design form in the Van Alen Institute launched

neighborhoods now to channel pro bono resources from New

	FOIR
00:01:16> 00:01:19:	based design firms into community driven recovery strategies.
00:01:19> 00:01:22:	Our panel today is going to start with Daniel McPhee,
00:01:22> 00:01:25:	the executive director of the Urban Design Forum,
00:01:25> 00:01:27:	who will introduce the neighborhoods Now initiative.
00:01:27> 00:01:31:	Their nest, Sinclair and Farzana Gandhi will share their work
00:01:31> 00:01:34:	in the Brooklyn neighborhood of Bedford Stuyvesant.
00:01:34> 00:01:37:	Next, David Brown will discuss the project in Washington Heights.
00:01:37> 00:01:41:	Following the presentations, we will have a discussion about the
00:01:41> 00:01:43:	successes and challenges of this initiative.
00:01:43> 00:01:46:	With that, I'm pleased to introduce Daniel McPhee.
00:01:46> 00:01:49:	Thank you, Jen, and thank you to the UI community
00:01:49> 00:01:50:	for welcoming us today.
00:01:50> 00:01:53:	I'm damik via the executive director of the Urban Design
00:01:53> 00:01:54:	Forum,
00:01:54> 00:01:57:	where a membership organization, gathering architects,
00:01:57> 00:02:01:	planners, developers and activists to confront the defining challenges facing
00:02:01> 00:02:02:	New York City.
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00:02:02> 00:02:04:	It's a pleasure to be here with my partners to
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York

00:02:49> 00:02:52:	and there's a lack of access to excellent public health
00:02:52> 00:02:52:	care.
00:02:52> 00:02:56:	The pandemic hit hard and hit hardest in communities of
00:02:56> 00:02:56:	color.
00:02:56> 00:02:58:	Next came the economic crisis.
00:02:58> 00:03:03:	Our cities, immigrant communities, hospitality workers and cultural producers were
00:03:03> 00:03:06:	left with near nothing in relief.
00:03:06> 00:03:10:	Stimulus programs weren't reaching black and Latino businesses and food
00:03:10> 00:03:12:	pantries were slammed.
00:03:12> 00:03:15:	And yet New Yorkers kept finding ways to help their
00:03:15> 00:03:15:	neighbors.
00:03:15> 00:03:19:	Mutual aid groups emerged so people could call up neighbors
00:03:19> 00:03:22:	to ask for help with groceries or even take care
00:03:22> 00:03:24:	of their kids during the work day.
00:03:24> 00:03:27:	Following George Floyd's murder, many of us came back
	together
00:03:27> 00:03:28:	for the first time,
00:03:28> 00:03:31:	marching in masks across the Brooklyn Manhattan bridges.
00:03:31> 00:03:35:	It was a tremendous act of solidarity and proof of
00:03:35> 00:03:36:	our city's resilience.
00:03:36> 00:03:39:	Looting began to take place not only in wealthy neighborhoods
00:03:39> 00:03:39:	like Soho,
00:03:39> 00:03:41:	but in some neighborhoods across the city,
00:03:41> 00:03:44:	like the Northwest Bronx. It was one of the most
00:03:44> 00:03:48:	inspiring and difficult moments that many of us had ever
00:03:48> 00:03:49:	experienced in New York.
00:03:49> 00:03:52:	In that moment we needed a different kind of design
00:03:52> 00:03:52:	practice,
00:03:52> 00:03:55:	one that was focused on service to the neighborhoods that
00:03:55> 00:03:57:	had kept us safe during the pandemic.
00:03:57> 00:04:01:	To neighborhoods that were unable to access relief.
00:04:01> 00:04:05:	Into neighborhoods that unfairly seen the consequences of looting and
00:04:05> 00:04:06:	police violence.
00:04:06> 00:04:09:	With the Banana Institute, we began to wonder what the
00:04:09> 00:04:12:	design and development community could do in that same spirit
00:04:12> 00:04:13:	of mutual aid.
00:04:13> 00:04:15:	How can we support hard hit neighborhoods?
00:04:15> 00:04:17:	Get the guidance that they needed?

00:04:17> 00:04:20:	For the last year, it's been our privilege to support
00:04:20> 00:04:21:	11 outstanding community organizations,
00:04:21> 00:04:24:	navigate the challenges of reopening.
00:04:24> 00:04:26:	There are mix of social service providers,
00:04:26> 00:04:32:	business improvement districts, affordable houses and
	cultural groups.
00:04:32> 00:04:34:	They are located across four boroughs of the city and
00:04:34> 00:04:36:	serve a mix of black,
00:04:36> 00:04:38:	Latino, Asian neighborhoods that are home to many of our
00:04:38> 00:04:39:	cities,
00:04:39> 00:04:43:	thriving immigrant communities and essential workers.
00:04:43> 00:04:46:	Over 200 volunteers have joined us to provide pro bono
00:04:46> 00:04:46:	services,
00:04:46> 00:04:49:	and even though it was originally intended as a six
00:04:49> 00:04:49:	week Sprint,
00:04:49> 00:04:54:	we're still supporting many of our partners one year later.
00:04:54> 00:04:56:	Here's a look at the org chart.
00:04:56> 00:05:00:	Community partners are at the top defining the priorities and
00:05:00> 00:05:01:	directing our teams.
00:05:01> 00:05:05:	Working groups of designers were tasked with different kinds
	of
00:05:05> 00:05:05:	spaces,
00:05:05> 00:05:08:	from retail to restaurants to open space.
00:05:08> 00:05:12:	We also assembled a crew of wraparound experts representing community
00:05:13> 00:05:13:	development,
00:05:13> 00:05:16:	financial institutions, graphic designers, lawyers,
00:05:16> 00:05:20:	engineers and planning firms that advise each of our teams.
00:05:20> 00:05:23:	We also worked with a number of city agencies to
00:05:23> 00:05:26:	answer questions and navigate some of the city's challenging permitting
00:05:27> 00:05:27:	processes.
00:05:27> 00:05:29:	And we're at the bottom in an institute in the
00:05:30> 00:05:30:	urban design form.
00:05:30> 00:05:33:	Recruiting the partners, assembling the teams,
00:05:33> 00:05:36:	and facilitating a lot of the weekly calls to report
00:05:36> 00:05:38:	and share their learnings.
00:05:38> 00:05:40:	It's hard to sum up the vast amount of work
00:05:40> 00:05:41:	undertaken over the last year,
00:05:41> 00:05:43:	but I'm going to get a shot.
00:05:43> 00:05:47:	First off, we had some beautiful signage developed by our
00:05:47> 00:05:48:	teams in English,
00:05:48> 00:05:52:	Spanish, Bengali and Arabic, and distributed to hundreds of

small 00:05:52 --> 00:05:53: businesses. 00:05:53 --> 00:05:56: In bed stuy our graphic designers even welcomed local residents 00:05:56 --> 00:06:00: to volunteer their likenesses and developed a signage approach that 00:06:00 --> 00:06:03: proudly boasted the neighborhoods black and Muslim identities. 00:06:03 --> 00:06:07: Our teams help permit build out and preserve many retailers 00:06:07 --> 00:06:11: and restaurants including tropical rotisserie in the Northwest Bronx, 00:06:11 --> 00:06:13: depicted here. 00:06:13 --> 00:06:14: In one neighborhood, Jackson Heights, 00:06:14 --> 00:06:18: only one restaurant had signed up for outdoor operations before 00:06:18 --> 00:06:20: our team started knocking on doors. 00:06:20 --> 00:06:23: And they've since assisted over 20 restaurants. 00:06:23 --> 00:06:26: Teams are also responding to needs that are a lot 00:06:26 --> 00:06:27: harder photograph. 00:06:27 --> 00:06:29: We've hosted PBP loan workshops, 00:06:29 --> 00:06:36: led landlord tenant mediation clinics addressed longstanding building violations and 00:06:36 --> 00:06:37: much more. 00:06:37 --> 00:06:39: When the worst of the pandemic abated, 00:06:39 --> 00:06:42: we also began to strategize safe and socially distanced events, 00:06:42 --> 00:06:46: including a winter market complete with Santa behind plexiglass. 00:06:46 --> 00:06:49: And this summer we're hoping to contribute to community dealing 00:06:49 --> 00:06:50: with cultural programs and memorials, 00:06:50 --> 00:06:54: celebrating neighborhood heroes that we've lost. 00:06:54 --> 00:06:57: We've also been hard at work and public space. 00:06:57 --> 00:07:00: It's been so important as a place of refuge and 00:07:00 --> 00:07:02: respite during the pandemic. 00:07:02 --> 00:07:04: Teams have installed temporary plantings, 00:07:04 --> 00:07:07: wayfinding tools, and arts installations, 00:07:07 --> 00:07:10: and our work continues in advocating for deeper investment and 00:07:11 --> 00:07:14: better design in parks and plazas across the boroughs. 00:07:14 --> 00:07:17: And of course, there's plenty of guidance about how to 00:07:17 --> 00:07:18: return to the office safely. 00:07:18 --> 00:07:20: The capital improvements that might entail,

and some of the ventilation upgrades and things like that.

00:07:20 --> 00:07:24:

00:07:24> 00:07:28:	We've captured most of our strategies on line at neighborhoods
00:07:29> 00:07:29:	now Dot NYC.
00:07:29> 00:07:33:	You can check out some of our trainings DIY plans
00:07:33> 00:07:37:	to improve public space and guidance about safely returning
	to
00:07:37> 00:07:37:	work.
00:07:37> 00:07:41:	We're only one small effort helping New York City
00:07:44 > 00:07:42:	neighborhoods
00:07:41> 00:07:42:	recover from the pandemic,
00:07:42> 00:07:45:	but I think we have the seed here of something
00:07:45> 00:07:45:	important,
00:07:45> 00:07:47:	which is designed law, finance,
00:07:47> 00:07:51:	public health, all aligning in service of community development.
00:07:51> 00:07:54:	I think the great promise of our community in this
00:07:54> 00:07:57:	moment is to empower underinvested communities to shape their own
00:07:57> 00:08:00:	futures and provide them with the resources that they need
00:08:00> 00:08:01:	to thrive.
00:08:01> 00:08:03:	Our work is far from done,
00:08:03> 00:08:05:	but it's been a year well spent an I'd love
00:08:05> 00:08:06:	to pass things off to my colleagues.
00:08:06> 00:08:10:	Farzana and Ernesta talk about their work in Bedford Stuyvesant.
00:08:10> 00:08:11:	Thank you.
00:08:15> 00:08:19:	Hi, my name is Farzana Ganian Firth from Fursona Gandhi
00:08:19> 00:08:23:	design studio and I'm here joined by Dennis Sinkler,
00:08:23> 00:08:27:	CEO of Bed Stuy Restoration Corp are most fabulous client
00:08:27> 00:08:29:	and favorite client.
00:08:29> 00:08:31:	As we like to say.
00:08:31> 00:08:35:	I work really extended beyond the solid line that you
00:08:35> 00:08:36:	see here,
00:08:36> 00:08:39:	which is the block that restoration owns and acts as
00:08:39> 00:08:43:	a landlord for what we saw was that restoration with,
00:08:43> 00:08:46:	through its commitment for the Community,
00:08:46> 00:08:50:	really extends its practices beyond to the Gateway bid,
00:08:50> 00:08:53:	which is represented by the dashed line in this math
00:08:54> 00:08:54:	and beyond.
00:08:54> 00:08:57:	And so we saw all of our work as a
00:08:57> 00:09:01:	prototype and as a model for the community at large.
00:09:01> 00:09:05:	The work that's represented today in our presentation is
	really
00:09:05> 00:09:07:	a collaboration between four firms.

00:09:07> 00:09:12:	Cone, Patterson fox, James Corner Field operations Farzana Gandhi design
00:09:12> 00:09:14:	studio and 80 Super lab.
00:09:14> 00:09:16:	With that, I'd like to hand it over to the
00:09:16> 00:09:19:	nest to chat a little bit about Restoration's mission.
00:09:24> 00:09:29:	Thank you so much for his honor and thank you
00:09:29> 00:09:29:	to Dan.
00:09:29> 00:09:33:	I'd like to just write out thank Van,
00:09:33> 00:09:38:	Alen Institute and Urban Design Forum for this initiative.
00:09:38> 00:09:44:	It was crucial to reviving the community of Bedford Stuyvesant,
00:09:44> 00:09:48:	and most of all I like to send my my
00:09:48> 00:09:48:	earnest.
00:09:48> 00:09:54:	Thanks and thanks for this organization to the dynamic.
00:09:54> 00:09:58:	Neighborhood now team that made it all happen.
00:09:58> 00:10:03:	Perfect service and restoration, which I'm the Chief Operating officer,
00:10:03> 00:10:08:	is the nation's first community development organization.
00:10:08> 00:10:11:	And it partners with residents and businesses to improve the
00:10:11> 00:10:13:	quality of life in Brooklyn.
00:10:13> 00:10:18:	Are located in Bedford Stuyvesant and will comprise of basically
00:10:18> 00:10:20:	9 buildings on a single block,
00:10:20> 00:10:26:	all of which provide either Commercial Services or program services
00:10:26> 00:10:28:	for the community.
00:10:28> 00:10:31:	The home of Vital program services for gaining employment,
00:10:31> 00:10:37:	securing financial sustainability and achieving overall Wellness with the goal
00:10:37> 00:10:40:	of closing the racial wealth gap.
00:10:40> 00:10:42:	I wanted to note that restoration,
00:10:42> 00:10:45:	arts and culture is.
00:10:45> 00:10:50:	A vital, vitally important entity and part of our organization
00:10:50> 00:10:54:	and that their offerings are renowned worldwide.
00:10:54> 00:10:58:	They are an essential component to community development.
00:10:58> 00:11:03:	In total, these programs work to ensure that all families
00:11:03> 00:11:08:	in central Brooklyn have the opportunity to become prosperous and
00:11:08> 00:11:09:	healthy.
00:11:09> 00:11:11:	Our organization dates back to 1966,
00:11:11> 00:11:15:	when Bobby Kennedy, along with in New York Mayor John
00:11:15> 00:11:17:	Lindsay and Senator Chaffetz,
00:11:17> 00:11:20:	presented his plan to about 1000 people.

00:11:20> 00:11:24:	The new entity that was formed in that day would
00:11:24> 00:11:30:	become what is now known as Bedford Stuyvesant
	Restoration Corporation.
00:11:30> 00:11:33:	The program for the development of Bedford Stuyvesant.
00:11:35> 00:11:39:	Will combine the best of Community Action with the best
00:11:39> 00:11:41:	of private enterprise systems.
00:11:41> 00:11:43:	Neither by itself is enough,
00:11:43> 00:11:48:	but in their combination lies our hope for the future.
00:11:48> 00:11:53:	The initiatives that were undertaken by neighborhood now have been
00:11:53> 00:11:58:	an integral part for ensuring the sustainability of vital community
00:11:58> 00:12:00:	development organizations.
00:12:00> 00:12:05:	This form of inspired collaboration follows the blueprint that gave
00:12:05> 00:12:07:	rise to restoration and its beginning.
00:12:07> 00:12:11:	It has sustained this creation and is now an anticipated
00:12:11> 00:12:14:	essential for rebuilding to scale this,
00:12:14> 00:12:20:	our nation's first community development organization.
00:12:20> 00:12:24:	The spirit and the substance upon which a fair and
00:12:24> 00:12:29:	Equitable nation society can should and must be re established.
00:12:31> 00:12:37:	The collaboration with neighborhood now takes on heightened significance,
00:12:37> 00:12:40:	as we note that many of the neighborhoods with the
00:12:40> 00:12:44:	highest number of cases per capita are areas with the
00:12:44> 00:12:49:	lowest median incomes and the largest average household size.
00:12:49> 00:12:52:	Nationwide Kings County, which is actually Brooklyn,
00:12:52> 00:12:57:	is 11th among the top 50 in COVID-19 confirmed cases.
00:12:57> 00:13:00:	And it's second.
00:13:00> 00:13:06:	Of the top 20 concerning deaths by COVID-19.
00:13:06> 00:13:11:	Accordingly, we had to ensure that at minimum protocols precracked
00:13:11> 00:13:16:	prescribed by CDC state and local authorities were put in
00:13:16> 00:13:20:	place before resuming our on site operations.
00:13:25> 00:13:27:	As its basic operating protocol,
00:13:27> 00:13:32:	the neighborhood now team provided pro bono design that's engineering
00:13:32> 00:13:33:	and architecture,
	·
00:13:33> 00:13:37:	public health, legal, economic development expertise.
00:13:37> 00:13:42:	public health, legal, economic development expertise. And they were a lifeline of support to Restoration's reopening
	public health, legal, economic development expertise.

00:13:47> 00:13:52:	strategies on how to safely effectively transition out of the
00:13:52> 00:13:57:	lockdown and to move on to long term recovery efforts.
00:13:57> 00:14:04:	Practical strategies developed include. Safely reconfiguring space did identify and
00:14:05> 00:14:06:	protect personnel.
00:14:06> 00:14:11:	Outfitting community, indoor and outdoor areas for social distancing.
00:14:11> 00:14:16:	Identifying protocols for cleaning and maintenance of offices and program
00:14:16> 00:14:20:	sites in alignment with CDC and governmental mandates.
00:14:20> 00:14:26:	Employing best practices for HVAC and air flow and repurposing
00:14:26> 00:14:31:	vacant spaces as places for convening and cultural use.
00:14:31> 00:14:35:	Also, we wanted to clearly convey messaging as two essential
00:14:35> 00:14:36:	protocols.
00:14:36> 00:14:39:	We wanted to help create a sense of confidence for
00:14:40> 00:14:44:	returning staff through expert implementation and over communication.
00:14:44> 00:14:48:	And we also wanted to support reopening efforts of tenants
00:14:48> 00:14:52:	located on the Plaza as well as their remote sites.
00:14:52> 00:14:54:	As a result of a concerted,
00:14:54> 00:15:00:	hands-on approach. By our neighborhood now team restoration has been
00:15:00> 00:15:05:	able to safely reopen multiple remote program sites including
	our
00:15:06> 00:15:06:	jobs.
00:15:06> 00:15:08:	Plus at the Pfizer location.
00:15:08> 00:15:14:	Our Economic solutions center. At the Restoration Plaza campus as
00:15:14> 00:15:17:	well as free tax preparation site an RDO.
00:15:17> 00:15:23:	Each vaccination site, which to date has vaccinated over 8000
00:15:23> 00:15:24:	people.
00:15:24> 00:15:27:	In 21 days that it's been open.
00:15:27> 00:15:31:	I'd like to turn this back over to Farzana Gandhi.
00:15:31> 00:15:36:	Who will take you through some of our other works
00:15:36> 00:15:38:	with our bid organizations?
00:15:38> 00:15:41:	Thank you your nest. Your work is an inspiration to
00:15:41> 00:15:44:	us all and it was an absolute pleasure and continues
00:15:44> 00:15:46:	to be a pleasure to work with you.
00:15:46> 00:15:48:	So to kick things off,
00:15:48> 00:15:51:	back in the summer, our team started with a robust
00:15:51> 00:15:54:	community engagement campaign.

00:15:54> 00:15:57:	Given COVID issues we had to do this virtually,
00:15:57> 00:16:02:	and so we started with a number of Community
00.40.00 > 00.40.00	conversations
00:16:02> 00:16:06:	on zoom where we invited over 21,000 community residents.
00:16:06> 00:16:09:	Over 820 people tuned in live on Facebook,
00:16:09> 00:16:14:	and many engage directly through questions and even posts of
00:16:14> 00:16:16:	questions in the chat.
00:16:16> 00:16:21:	We invited stakeholders representative of a variety of diverse sectors
00:16:21> 00:16:23:	within the bedside community,
00:16:23> 00:16:28:	including arts and culture, small businesses and religious organisations.
00:16:28> 00:16:32:	What we heard was that you know small businesses were
00:16:32> 00:16:34:	having trouble meeting COVID compliance.
00:16:34> 00:16:39:	There was inconsistent signage. There were long queues on sidewalks
00:16:39> 00:16:42:	and then there were many issues that plagued the bedside
00:16:42> 00:16:46:	community even prior to the pandemic that were exacerbated.
00:16:46> 00:16:49:	Issues of trash collection deliveries,
00:16:49> 00:16:52:	double parking congestion, lack of access and heat,
00:16:52> 00:16:54:	and no landscape.
00:16:54> 00:16:59:	We started by developing opportunities hand in hand with the
00110104 7 001101001	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
00:16:59> 00:17:04:	Community to reclaim sidewalk space to find opportunities for sidewalk
	Community to reclaim sidewalk space to find opportunities for
00:16:59> 00:17:04:	Community to reclaim sidewalk space to find opportunities for sidewalk rights swapping as well as greening and developing safe
00:16:59> 00:17:04: 00:17:04> 00:17:09:	Community to reclaim sidewalk space to find opportunities for sidewalk rights swapping as well as greening and developing safe social
00:16:59> 00:17:04: 00:17:04> 00:17:09: 00:17:09> 00:17:13:	Community to reclaim sidewalk space to find opportunities for sidewalk rights swapping as well as greening and developing safe social distancing during community events.
00:16:59> 00:17:04: 00:17:04> 00:17:09: 00:17:09> 00:17:13: 00:17:13> 00:17:18:	Community to reclaim sidewalk space to find opportunities for sidewalk rights swapping as well as greening and developing safe social distancing during community events. We broadcasted our our efforts and our our proposals on
00:16:59> 00:17:04: 00:17:04> 00:17:09: 00:17:09> 00:17:13: 00:17:13> 00:17:18: 00:17:18> 00:17:19:	Community to reclaim sidewalk space to find opportunities for sidewalk rights swapping as well as greening and developing safe social distancing during community events. We broadcasted our our efforts and our our proposals on social media.
00:16:59> 00:17:04: 00:17:04> 00:17:09: 00:17:09> 00:17:13: 00:17:13> 00:17:18: 00:17:18> 00:17:19: 00:17:19> 00:17:25:	Community to reclaim sidewalk space to find opportunities for sidewalk rights swapping as well as greening and developing safe social distancing during community events. We broadcasted our our efforts and our our proposals on social media. Ask for robust feedback and we found that people were
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00:16:59> 00:17:04: 00:17:04> 00:17:09: 00:17:09> 00:17:13: 00:17:13> 00:17:18: 00:17:18> 00:17:19: 00:17:19> 00:17:25: 00:17:25> 00:17:30: 00:17:30> 00:17:34: 00:17:34> 00:17:37:	Community to reclaim sidewalk space to find opportunities for sidewalk rights swapping as well as greening and developing safe social distancing during community events. We broadcasted our our efforts and our our proposals on social media. Ask for robust feedback and we found that people were very. Very enthusiastic to present their their ideas and their questions, and this was very welcome. We found first of all that education and communication were
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00:16:59> 00:17:04: 00:17:04> 00:17:09: 00:17:09> 00:17:13: 00:17:13> 00:17:18: 00:17:18> 00:17:19: 00:17:19> 00:17:25: 00:17:25> 00:17:25: 00:17:30> 00:17:30: 00:17:34> 00:17:37: 00:17:38> 00:17:41: 00:17:41> 00:17:44: 00:17:44> 00:17:48:	Community to reclaim sidewalk space to find opportunities for sidewalk rights swapping as well as greening and developing safe social distancing during community events. We broadcasted our our efforts and our our proposals on social media. Ask for robust feedback and we found that people were very. Very enthusiastic to present their their ideas and their questions, and this was very welcome. We found first of all that education and communication were one of the most important elements in a post or during pandemic world and we tried to demystify many of the city guidelines through a series of three pamphlets for three different audiences for office workers and clients for
00:16:59> 00:17:04: 00:17:04> 00:17:09: 00:17:09> 00:17:13: 00:17:13> 00:17:18: 00:17:18> 00:17:19: 00:17:19> 00:17:25: 00:17:25> 00:17:25: 00:17:30> 00:17:30: 00:17:34> 00:17:37: 00:17:38> 00:17:41: 00:17:41> 00:17:44: 00:17:44> 00:17:48: 00:17:48> 00:17:53:	Community to reclaim sidewalk space to find opportunities for sidewalk rights swapping as well as greening and developing safe social distancing during community events. We broadcasted our our efforts and our our proposals on social media. Ask for robust feedback and we found that people were very. Very enthusiastic to present their their ideas and their questions, and this was very welcome. We found first of all that education and communication were one of the most important elements in a post or during pandemic world and we tried to demystify many of the city guidelines through a series of three pamphlets for three different audiences for office workers and clients for small

00:18:01> 00:18:04:	space or even interior storefront space.
00:18:04> 00:18:08:	In a in a time of much needed open space.
00:18:08> 00:18:11:	Here is just one pamphlet opened up and you see
00:18:11> 00:18:15:	that it details many measures for how a small business
00:18:15> 00:18:21:	could reopen safely from hygiene and cleaning protocols to
00.16.15> 00.16.21.	protective
00:18:21> 00:18:26:	equipment protocols, how to protect ones customers through contact lens,
00:18:26> 00:18:30:	contactless payment options, flexible work hours,
00:18:30> 00:18:35:	and staggering staff to PPE dispensing and even DIY Outdoor
00:18:35> 00:18:38:	set sidewalk setups and barriers.
00:18:38> 00:18:42:	On the flip side of the pamphlet we detailed very
00:18:42> 00:18:46:	easy to follow diagrams that showed how one way flow
00:18:46> 00:18:52:	and circulation could be demonstrated within bodegas and small beauty
00:18:52> 00:18:54:	supply stores.
00:18:54> 00:19:00:	Partitions could be developed within hair and nail salons with
00:19:00> 00:19:04:	areas that could be set up for queuing an.
00:19:04> 00:19:09:	Various measures could be represented for outdoor setups for restaurants
00:19:09> 00:19:10:	and cafes.
00:19:10> 00:19:12:	We worked with partner and partners.
00:19:12> 00:19:14:	It's developed signage for the community.
00:19:14> 00:19:18:	We even invited our community to pose for that signage.
00:19:18> 00:19:22:	And then we worked with restoration on their block to
00:19:22> 00:19:23:	D,
00:19:23> 00:19:28:	densify their spaces, find one way flow for circulation safely
00:19:28> 00:19:32:	through the various buildings on their block.
00:19:32> 00:19:37:	D 10s. Find spaces for various uses and setting up
00:19:37> 00:19:43:	clear signage across the Plaza to develop those circulation flows.
00:19:43> 00:19:47:	We did. We developed a set of environmental graphics on
00:19:47> 00:19:51:	the plazas a series of 6 foot squares that could
00:19:51> 00:19:55:	be populated by a local artist with local ideas of
00:19:55> 00:20:01:	murals that celebrated the sites historic significance.
00:20:01> 00:20:07:	We started painting those squares and outlines for squares on
00:20:07> 00:20:08:	the Plaza.
00:20:08> 00:20:13:	We held community build days to paint additional wayfinding and
00:20:13> 00:20:18:	even produce barrier building workshops with the community.
00:20:18> 00:20:22:	And we received donations to plant the Plaza,
00:20:22> 00:20:26:	which was a much needed greening and an uplifting of

00:20:26> 00:20:27:	spirits.
00:20:27> 00:20:30:	As you can see here by a quote from our.
00:20:32> 00:20:38:	Our founder or CEO. Bedford Stuyvesant restoration quarters
	during a
00:20:38> 00:20:39:	sinkler.
00:20:41> 00:20:43:	And we ended or we followed our.
00:20:43> 00:20:47:	We continue our work with a series of small business
00:20:47> 00:20:52:	workshops here to present the community with safe COVID practices,
00:20:52> 00:20:56:	both indoor and outdoor. And how to make that happen.
00:20:56> 00:20:59:	With permits and funding. Here we are seeing just a
00:20:59> 00:21:04:	sample that starts to show an understand indoor ventilation strategies
00:21:04> 00:21:08:	and DIY filtration systems and even a slide that starts
00:21:08> 00:21:11:	to talk through outdoor heating possibilities.
00:21:11> 00:21:15:	But whether you're using electric versus fast.
00:21:15> 00:21:19:	And we continue our work with local partnerships not only
00:21:19> 00:21:24:	to meet the various centers that the Bedford Stuyvesant Restoration
00:21:24> 00:21:26:	core allows us to engage with,
00:21:26> 00:21:29:	but and with the community beyond.
00:21:29> 00:21:32:	And we hope to develop a series of workshops and
00:21:32> 00:21:35:	programs to include our artists to develop murals,
00:21:35> 00:21:40:	memorials. An artist walks as we move forward to develop
00:21:40> 00:21:46:	additional social and environmental resiliency in our community.
00:21:46> 00:21:48:	With that, I'd like to hand it back to David
00:21:48> 00:21:50:	Brown from Woods Baggett,
00:21:50> 00:21:54:	who will speak a little bit about his work with
00:21:54> 00:21:55:	new trades now.
00:21:55> 00:21:57:	Great, thank you so much.
00:21:57> 00:21:59:	Hi, I'm really excited to be here to represent the
00:21:59> 00:22:03:	Washington Heights team and our efforts to support the local
00:22:03> 00:22:07:	community and the neighborhood now initiative in Washington Heights.
00:22:07> 00:22:10:	Our team consisted of cloth which is the Community League
00:22:10> 00:22:13:	of the Heights who are who was the Community group
00:22:13> 00:22:16:	and sort of facilitator of our conversations with the community.
00:22:16> 00:22:19:	The coordinating firm of Arab and the team of Stantec,
00:22:19> 00:22:23:	Ginzler Woods, Bagot and design advocates which approached public Space
00:22:23> 00:22:24:	office,
00:22:24> 00:22:26:	education, restaurants and retail.

00:22:28> 00:22:30:	So this quote by Yvonne Stone at the executive director
00:22:30> 00:22:31:	of Cloth,
00:22:31> 00:22:33:	really gave a lot of inspiration and motivation for our
00:22:33> 00:22:34:	work.
00:22:34> 00:22:36:	We are very concerned about her mom and pop small
00:22:36> 00:22:38:	businesses and their return.
00:22:38> 00:22:39:	What that can look like and also,
00:22:39> 00:22:42:	in reopening the community in a way that a celebratory
00:22:42> 00:22:45:	we're hoping that through this effort we can address not
00:22:45> 00:22:46:	just the small businesses,
00:22:46> 00:22:48:	but also give some kind of new look to the
00:22:48> 00:22:50:	neighborhood that reinvigorates our community.
00:22:50> 00:22:53:	And I think this idea of resilience and kind of
00:22:53> 00:22:55:	using that kind of reaction to a crisis as a
00:22:55> 00:22:57:	way to kind of transform for the better,
00:22:57> 00:22:58:	was something that we were.
00:22:58> 00:23:00:	It was very top of mine and the work that
00:23:00> 00:23:04:	we're doing collectively after numerous conversations with
	the community and
00:23:04> 00:23:05:	local business owners,
00:23:05> 00:23:07:	we understood that they had a lot of concerns around
00:23:08> 00:23:09:	and around the future.
00:23:09> 00:23:12:	Uncertainty because policy and regulations kept changing daily in the
00:23:12> 00:23:14:	early part of the pandemic so no one knew if
00:23:14> 00:23:17:	they were to make investments and build things like how
00:23:17> 00:23:19:	long that could last and so therefore it would be
00:23:19> 00:23:22:	worth the financial investment in public health and safety were
00:23:22> 00:23:24:	obviously top online as you as you could imagine at
00:23:24> 00:23:27:	that time. So those fear about kind of what and
00:23:27> 00:23:29:	a lack of understanding about what to do.
00:23:29> 00:23:30:	And how they could do it?
00:23:30> 00:23:32:	So these were a few kind of key points that
00:23:32> 00:23:35:	cannot came up in our conversations around safe extension
	of
00:23:35> 00:23:37:	restaurants into the street,
00:23:37> 00:23:39:	protecting them from traffic, you know,
00:23:39> 00:23:42:	creating an all weather pavilion so that we could actually
00:23:42> 00:23:45:	extend that investment kind of into the winter months at
00:23:45> 00:23:46:	the early part of this,
00:23:46> 00:23:48:	when we were first engaging in conversations.
00:23:48> 00:23:51:	The restaurant program only went until September,

00:23:51> 00:23:53:	so there's no kind of idea of how it could
00:23:53> 00:23:54:	be extended,
00:23:54> 00:23:57:	so we were trying to think about about that.
00:23:57> 00:24:00:	You're in public spaces to allow for social distance activity,
00:24:00> 00:24:04:	creatively communicating COVID-19 safety guidelines so
	very similar to what
00:24:04> 00:24:06:	Frazzano was showing with the signage,
00:24:06> 00:24:08:	which is just amazing. Making use of available into your
00:24:08> 00:24:12:	outdoor spaces for educational programs and improving coordination with the
00:24:12> 00:24:15:	owners of vacant storefronts so that we can facilitate temporary
00:24:15> 00:24:17:	uses and activities.
00:24:17> 00:24:20:	So this led to our approach to help the community
00:24:20> 00:24:22:	really understand what the opportunities could be,
00:24:22> 00:24:25:	both short term and long term and create a toolkit
00:24:25> 00:24:28:	that would enable them to develop their own solutions.
00:24:28> 00:24:30:	So we looked at how we can support restaurants and
00:24:30> 00:24:31:	retailers.
00:24:31> 00:24:34:	We looked at how we can Createspace for outdoor programs
00:24:34> 00:24:35:	for education and other uses,
00:24:35> 00:24:39:	and how we can create a safe and healthy public
00:24:39> 00:24:40:	public realm.
00:24:40> 00:24:44:	Our concept proposals included multiple tools at the opportunity locations
00:24:44> 00:24:45:	we identified,
00:24:45> 00:24:49:	including permit applications, design solutions and signage and implementation map
00:24:49> 00:24:52:	so they know you know the kind of steps to
00:24:52> 00:24:55:	take in order to kind of implement some of these
00:24:55> 00:24:58:	strategies on their own and visuals that would help get
00:24:58> 00:25:01:	the community excited about what the potential could.
00:25:01> 00:25:04:	Because I think part of it was people didn't really
00:25:04> 00:25:07:	know what what actually could you know could take place
00:25:07> 00:25:09:	in on these in these open streets.
00:25:11> 00:25:14:	So we developed, you know these resources to help people
00:25:14> 00:25:16:	kind of understand what to do.
00:25:16> 00:25:19:	You know which included tips on how to create their
00:25:19> 00:25:19:	own furniture,
00:25:19> 00:25:21:	where to kind of source the materials,
00:25:21> 00:25:24:	how much things cost so that they could get a
00:25:24> 00:25:27:	really good understanding of what they can afford to do.
00:25:27> 00:25:30:	You know, backgrounds on sort of the permit application so

00:25:30 --> 00:25:31: that people know, 00:25:31 --> 00:25:34: kind of how to do it and how to kind 00:25:34 --> 00:25:37: of apply to build the restaurants in the outdoor spaces. 00:25:37 --> 00:25:40: This is an overall map that the team developed to 00:25:40 --> 00:25:42: identify opportunity locations, 00:25:42 --> 00:25:44: including you know, places where we could. 00:25:44 --> 00:25:47: We thought it would be good ideas for open streets, 00:25:47 --> 00:25:49: places. We thought that there could be more kind of 00:25:49 --> 00:25:51: food and beverage activation. 00:25:51 --> 00:25:54: Certain different clauses that we wanted to activate and allow 00:25:54 --> 00:25:57: kind of businesses to kind of spill out into and 00:25:57 --> 00:25:59: sort of ways to kind of expand the pedestrian space 00:25:59 --> 00:26:01: to get more. 00:26:01 --> 00:26:03: Opportunity for people to spread out. 00:26:06 --> 00:26:09: Here's a plan and kind of image that Stantec developed 00:26:09 --> 00:26:11: as part of their public Space Research. 00:26:11 --> 00:26:14: This is looking at the Plaza de Las Americas, 00:26:14 --> 00:26:17: which was once a kind of thriving space in the 00:26:17 --> 00:26:18: in the Community, 00:26:18 --> 00:26:22: with farmers markets and and kind of temporary retail and 00:26:22 --> 00:26:23: outdoor dining that was, 00:26:23 --> 00:26:27: you know, just utterly decimated by COVID and became the 00:26:27 --> 00:26:28: real kind of barren spot. 00:26:28 --> 00:26:31: And in the neighborhood. So they're currently working. 00:26:31 --> 00:26:33: Actually with the United Palace, 00:26:33 --> 00:26:36: which is one of the. 00:26:36 --> 00:26:38: Kind of. 00:26:38 --> 00:26:41: Spaces, that's kind of acting on the edge of the 00:26:42 --> 00:26:46: Plaza and with Witikon nonprofit to kind of implement some 00:26:46 --> 00:26:47: of these ideas. 00:26:47 --> 00:26:49: And this is a proposal by Gensler to create outdoor 00:26:49 --> 00:26:52: classrooms or using easy to build furniture elements. 00:26:52 --> 00:26:54: And you know they're kind of looking at where they 00:26:54 --> 00:26:56: can locate in the community. 00:26:56 --> 00:26:58: Close too close to schools and close the book stores 00:26:58 --> 00:27:01: so there can be some kind of outdoor reading spaces 00:27:01 --> 00:27:04: and have kind of outdoor events and things like that, 00:27:04 --> 00:27:07: so this is also kind of in development and will 00:27:07 --> 00:27:10: be kind of built in the next coming months. 00:27:10 --> 00:27:11: And So what our team did, 00:27:11 --> 00:27:13: the Woods Bagot team kind of looking at restaurants as 00:27:13 --> 00:27:16: we first started looking at the regulations and really kind

00:27:16> 00:27:19:	of understanding what the rules were so that we could
00:27:18> 00:27:21:	communicate that to the Community.
00:27:21> 00:27:24:	And then out of that we developed this kit apart.
00:27:24> 00:27:27:	Switch included Barack aid that's required to kind of create
00:27:27> 00:27:29:	the open streets and we tried to create something that
00:27:29> 00:27:32:	was safe and mobile so it can be easily moved
00:27:32> 00:27:35:	and we try to allow embedded infrastructure like waste
	collection
00:27:35> 00:27:37:	and an potential like water sources and stuff for the
00:27:37> 00:27:41:	community that they could actually become something more than just
00:27:41> 00:27:44:	a barricade, but actually something that kind of provides additional
00:27:44> 00:27:45:	urban amenity.
00:27:45> 00:27:48:	We developed this Flatpack restaurant kit that where we had
00:27:48> 00:27:50:	this idea that would be really nice if there could
00:27:51> 00:27:52:	be kind of off-site fabrication.
00:27:52> 00:27:54:	And then when it arrived on site,
00:27:54> 00:27:56:	will be very easy for laymen,
00:27:56> 00:27:59:	people that don't have experience building things to kind of
00:27:59> 00:28:02:	quickly and easily assemble it on site and really minimize
00:28:02> 00:28:03:	the kind of on site work.
00:28:03> 00:28:07:	And then finally kind of flexible furniture design that allowed
00:28:07> 00:28:10:	to adapt to a lot of different configurations.
00:28:10> 00:28:12:	So then we showed we took kind of one test
00:28:12> 00:28:15:	block on Broadway between 164th 165th St and and really
00:28:15> 00:28:18:	tried to visualize how you know during the week it
00:28:18> 00:28:21:	could be used for open restaurants and help kind of
00:28:21> 00:28:24:	activate those spaces and then on the weekends you could
00:28:24> 00:28:28:	actually kind of pull out that mobile furniture and those
00:28:28> 00:28:31:	barricades and really kind of create this active,
00:28:31> 00:28:33:	thriving kind of neighborhood space.
00:28:33> 00:28:36:	And we try to show how vacant storefronts could be
00:28:36> 00:28:38:	used to help store some of the barricades.
00:28:38> 00:28:40:	And some of the mobile furniture so that.
00:28:40> 00:28:44:	During the week they could easily kind of pulled out
00:28:44> 00:28:45:	and and removed.
00:28:45> 00:28:47:	We also gave you know,
00:28:47> 00:28:50:	again, sort of information on sort of pricing and sourcing
00:28:50> 00:28:50:	materials.
00:28:50> 00:28:53:	There was kind of a whole set of instructions that
00:28:53> 00:28:55:	about how to kind of put these things together.
00:28:55> 00:28:58:	You know what size? You know the material that would

00:28:58> 00:29:01:	be required and so that became kind of part of
00:29:01> 00:29:05:	our toolkit and instructions that we that we help provide.
00:29:05> 00:29:07:	And then we really kind of went into the design
00:29:07> 00:29:10:	of the all season canopy is as something that you
00:29:10> 00:29:12:	know we kind of went into more detail at the
00:29:12> 00:29:15:	time. Again, this will sort of July August last year.
00:29:15> 00:29:19:	We really wanted to actually kind of start the conversation
00:29:19> 00:29:22:	about extending the restaurant program into the winter.
00:29:22> 00:29:25:	Through this design, people weren't really talking about at
	that
00:29:25> 00:29:26:	time,
00:29:26> 00:29:27:	so we started thinking about it.
00:29:27> 00:29:30:	Kind of double layer skin where air from the inside
00:29:30> 00:29:31:	could exhaust out,
00:29:31> 00:29:34:	but it still protect from the wind and create kind
00:29:34> 00:29:35:	of a heated space.
00:29:35> 00:29:39:	And that would be easily kind of fabricated out of
00:29:39> 00:29:42:	these kind of flat flat panel pieces of plywood that
00:29:42> 00:29:44:	will be pre cut off site.
00:29:44> 00:29:47:	Actually, over the winter silento just a local restaurant in
00:29:47> 00:29:50:	the neighborhood reached out and wanted us to try to
00:29:50> 00:29:52:	install one of these for them.
00:29:52> 00:29:55:	So that kind of led us into kind of reaching
00:29:55> 00:29:56:	out to Home Depot and events.
00:29:56> 00:29:59:	Cape, who provided the materials and even skate,
00:29:59> 00:30:02:	provided the fabrication installation so you know,
00:30:02> 00:30:05:	huge thanks to our sponsors for this project,
00:30:05> 00:30:07:	but we went into a kind of design development mode
00:30:08> 00:30:09:	with Arab and you know,
00:30:09> 00:30:12:	really kind of vetted through the whole idea of this
00:30:12> 00:30:14:	kind of very simple.
00:30:14> 00:30:16:	Is you know easy assembled plywood,
00:30:16> 00:30:19:	plywood, pavilion, all made with kind of slotted connections.
00:30:19> 00:30:21:	We really wanted to try to minimize the need for
00:30:21> 00:30:24:	tools and stuff so that anyone could kind of put
00:30:24> 00:30:25:	this together easily onsite.
00:30:25> 00:30:28:	Numerous zoom calls to kind of work through some of
00:30:28> 00:30:31:	the details which got to be a little more complex
00:30:31> 00:30:32:	than we expected initially,
00:30:32> 00:30:36:	but we kind of developed it into this design.
00:30:36> 00:30:39:	That you see here. This Is Us kind of prototyping
00:30:39> 00:30:39:	it,

00:30:41 --> 00:30:42: can come together easily and quickly, 00:30:42 --> 00:30:45: and that you know all the pieces kind of fit 00:30:45 --> 00:30:46: together correctly. 00:30:46 --> 00:30:48: And we developed this little animation to help. 00:30:48 --> 00:30:51: Hopefully this place, yeah. 00:30:51 --> 00:30:53: To help you know whoever was putting it together, 00:30:53 --> 00:30:55: understand how to do it and kind of see the 00:30:55 --> 00:30:57: sequence of how how it comes together. 00:31:10 --> 00:31:11: Next slide, then even escape, 00:31:11 --> 00:31:13: started to do the fabrication. 00:31:13 --> 00:31:16: So everything was kind of build out using a CNC 00:31:16 --> 00:31:18: milling machine and they're in their factory. 00:31:18 --> 00:31:21: They installed it kind of and staged it in their 00:31:21 --> 00:31:22: in their space. 00:31:22 --> 00:31:24: Just because this was kind of a prototype, 00:31:24 --> 00:31:27: wanted to make sure we could work through any any 00:31:27 --> 00:31:27: issues, 00:31:27 --> 00:31:30: but it came together pretty quickly and easily, 00:31:30 --> 00:31:31: they said. 00:31:31 --> 00:31:34: This is the team, the design team and the construction 00:31:34 --> 00:31:34: team. 00:31:34 --> 00:31:37: Kind of in their space. 00:31:37 --> 00:31:40: This is Sergio who didn't make it for the first 00:31:40 --> 00:31:40: photo shoot. 00:31:40 --> 00:31:43: And this is them actually installing it on site, 00:31:43 --> 00:31:45: which just happened yesterday. So we're really excited. 00:31:45 --> 00:31:47: The team design team is going out Friday to help 00:31:47 --> 00:31:50: paint it and sort of celebrate the opening of this 00:31:50 --> 00:31:51: new space for for Cilento. 00:31:51 --> 00:31:54: So really excited to have been a part of this 00:31:54 --> 00:31:55: project. 00:31:55 --> 00:31:57: Nearest the team that can help put it together yesterday 00:31:57 --> 00:32:00: from advance Cape and some friends of the restaurant owner. 00:32:00 --> 00:32:02: Nuts, and that's it for me, 00:32:02 --> 00:32:04: so I'll hand it back over to Jenn to help. 00:32:04 --> 00:32:06: Kind of facilitate the conversation. 00:32:10 --> 00:32:14: Thanks David, and thank you to all of our panelists. 00:32:14 --> 00:32:18: I'm going to ask everyone to now turn on their 00:32:18 --> 00:32:22: videos in turn on their monitors and their microphones. 00:32:26 --> 00:32:29: And I'd like to start with a couple of questions

you know, trying to test to make sure that it

00:30:39 --> 00:30:41:

00:32:29> 00:32:30:	and earnest.
00:32:30> 00:32:33:	I have my first question is for you.
00:32:33> 00:32:37:	So you and Farzana touched on the many structural inequality's
00:32:37> 00:32:40:	that impact the lives of many people in bed stuy,
00:32:40> 00:32:42:	such as the colocation of social,
00:32:42> 00:32:47:	economic issues like overcrowding and health disparities that
00.02.42 > 00.02.41.	go on
00:32:47> 00:32:48:	for many generations.
00:32:48> 00:32:51:	While these issues have really led to a lot of
00:32:51> 00:32:53:	inequality over the decades,
00:32:53> 00:32:57:	the two issues of health and economic opportunities have really
00:32:57> 00:33:00:	been quite pronounced over the past year.
00:33:00> 00:33:03:	So my question for you is how do you see
00:33:03> 00:33:07:	these design interventions address these issues and other issues of
00:33:07> 00:33:11:	any qualities in the community that the bed stuy Restoration
00:33:11> 00:33:14:	Corporation works in?
00:33:14> 00:33:21:	Well, they've allowed us to continue to serve those
	populations.
00:33:21> 00:33:27:	That have that are be set by any qualities that
00:33:27> 00:33:32:	are set by health issues and financial issues.
00:33:32> 00:33:36:	We've been able to get back on site.
00:33:36> 00:33:40:	We have remote sites and we have our our main
00:33:40> 00:33:40:	site.
00:33:40> 00:33:44:	We've been able to get back on site and to
00:33:44> 00:33:50:	start working face to face with people over the timeline
00:33:50> 00:33:51:	of the pandemic.
00:33:51> 00:33:56:	We have been focusing basically on doing a lot of
00:33:56> 00:33:57:	our work remotely,
00:33:57> 00:34:03:	but as we've seen even with something so simple as
00:34:03> 00:34:04:	just attacks site.
00:34:04> 00:34:08:	Certain things need to be done in person and with
00:34:08> 00:34:12:	the help of the neighborhood now team are wonderful team.
00:34:12> 00:34:15:	We've been able to.
00:34:15> 00:34:20:	Number one. Make staff feel safe so they want to
00:34:20> 00:34:26:	come back on site and also to provide additional protections
00:34:26> 00:34:30:	for clients and staff so they are able to resume.
00:34:30> 00:34:31:	Their work.
00:34:34> 00:34:36:	So it's essentially been it's.
00:34:36> 00:34:39:	It's been a great effort overtime and we hope to
00:34:39> 00:34:43:	be able to continue to work with neighborhood now to

00.24.42 > 00.24.45.	
00:34:43> 00:34:45: 00:34:48> 00:34:51:	expand on our phase reopenings. Maybe I can just add to that their nest.
00:34:51> 00:34:54:	I think that you know.
00:34:54> 00:34:58:	What what the pandemic really brought to light was that
00:34:58> 00:35:03:	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
00:35:03> 00:35:05:	you know the structural sort of systemic inequality is that
	many of our communities face.
00:35:05> 00:35:10:	Perhaps things that planners and architects and public officials knew
00:35:10> 00:35:10:	about,
00:35:10> 00:35:14:	but it really wasn't part of the public conversation,
00:35:14> 00:35:18:	right? And I think that that's been a positive that
00:35:18> 00:35:21:	has come out of all of this right,
00:35:21> 00:35:24:	that I think we are all now more aware of
00:35:24> 00:35:28:	these issues and it's really up to architects and designers
00:35:29> 00:35:31:	to kind of step up and be a part of
00:35:31> 00:35:36:	that conversation. And I think the way that design can
00:35:36> 00:35:37:	start to.
00:35:37> 00:35:41:	Create some some effect or change to the communities.
00:35:41> 00:35:46:	Benefit is through empowering the communities a lot of the
00:35:46> 00:35:49:	work that David shared right in terms of low cost
00:35:49> 00:35:50:	solutions,
00:35:50> 00:35:55:	DIY solutions, things that community members can build on their
00:35:55> 00:35:55:	own.
00:35:55> 00:35:59:	We've also been developing a kit of parts for quickly
00:35:59> 00:36:03:	deployable furniture for vacant lot proposals,
00:36:03> 00:36:06:	for example, that we hope to roll out in the
00:36:06> 00:36:07:	later springs.
00:36:07> 00:36:11:	The summer and really empowering the community through education and
00:36:11> 00:36:12:	community.
00:36:12> 00:36:17:	Communicating how these things can be done quickly.
00:36:17> 00:36:21:	Is is part of. I think the design solution.
00:36:21> 00:36:25:	Arizona you brought up a couple of different issues that
00:36:25> 00:36:26:	I'd love to.
00:36:26> 00:36:29:	I'd love to hear from the rest of the panel
00:36:29> 00:36:30:	on one of them was about.
00:36:30> 00:36:35:	Ann, where designers are typically located in the conversation and
00:36:35> 00:36:38:	the agency and the role that designers have and what
00:36:39> 00:36:41:	it means to empower a community.
	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
00:36:41> 00:36:44:	So if you, and maybe David could speak to that
00:36:41> 00:36:44: 00:36:44> 00:36:47:	

00:36:47> 00:36:49:	have your opinion on it,
00:36:49> 00:36:51:	but you know, with all of these,
00:36:51> 00:36:56:	obviously the terrible things that happened in 2020 that
	precipitated
00:36:56> 00:37:01:	this work and the structural inequality is that underserved
	communities.
00:37:01> 00:37:04:	Have faced how do designers or locate them?
00:37:04> 00:37:07:	How do you as a designer locate yourself in the
00:37:07> 00:37:08:	conversation?
00:37:08> 00:37:12:	And how might this impact your work in the future?
00:37:12> 00:37:15:	I'll go first, so I'll say that I think it's
00:37:15> 00:37:18:	interesting I I'm actually looking forward to farzana's answer
00.27.40 > 00.27.40.	on this
00:37:19> 00:37:19:	this,
00:37:19> 00:37:22:	'cause I think she's been doing this a lot longer
00:37:22> 00:37:22: 00:37:22> 00:37:25:	than we have,
00:37:25> 00:37:28:	and I think for us you know it's one of
00:37:28> 00:37:28:	the first times we've actually engaged in this type of work.
00:37:28> 00:37:31:	And it's a really different set of skills and tools
00:37:31> 00:37:34:	that required a lot more around kind of communication and
00:37:34> 00:37:35:	trust building I think,
00:37:35> 00:37:38:	and I think that was something that we actually see
00:37:38> 00:37:39:	YOU.
00:37:39> 00:37:42:	Candidly. We kind of struggled with at the beginning,
00:37:42> 00:37:43:	I think coming into a.
00:37:43> 00:37:46:	Washington Heights is sort of outsiders that we didn't have
00:37:46> 00:37:50:	that sort of trust built up with the local neighborhood,
00:37:50> 00:37:52:	and I think that probably to do this kind of
00:37:52> 00:37:54:	work really successfully.
00:37:54> 00:37:57:	You kind of have to be embedded in a community
00:37:57> 00:37:57:	instead of,
00:37:57> 00:38:00:	you know, be there for the long term and really
00:38:00> 00:38:02:	start to build those relationships.
00:38:02> 00:38:04:	That will kind of work.
00:38:04> 00:38:06:	There's, you know, things have to happen.
00:38:08> 00:38:11:	No one had a lot faster and a lot more
00:38:11> 00:38:14:	kind of sort of DIY or very much more hands
00:38:14> 00:38:15:	on than probably.
00:38:15> 00:38:19:	Architects are typically used to working building it yourself,
00:38:19> 00:38:22:	sourcing things yourself. You know getting costing,
00:38:22> 00:38:26:	you know, costing yourself stuff that need a lot of
00:38:26> 00:38:29:	times we rely on on other parts of the design

00:38:29> 00:38:31:	team or construction team to do so.
00:38:31> 00:38:34:	I think in that sense you know we had to
00:38:34> 00:38:35:	kind of,
00:38:35> 00:38:38:	you know, we're still, I think trying to learn.
00:38:38> 00:38:40:	Some of the right ways to do these things and
00:38:40> 00:38:40:	I will,
00:38:40> 00:38:43:	you know, hopefully will continue as we continue to do
00:38:43> 00:38:44:	this type of work,
00:38:44> 00:38:47:	but I think that's that's the main thing is
00:38:47> 00:38:50:	it just takes different types of skills and different hats,
00:38:50> 00:38:52:	an kind of much more kind of time to kind
00:38:52> 00:38:53:	of build those relationships,
00:38:53> 00:38:56:	I think.
00:38:56> 00:38:58:	Yeah, I think David's got it right.
00:38:58> 00:39:03:	I mean, I think that the community engagement portion of
00:39:03> 00:39:08:	this is is was instrumental right to getting it right
00:39:08> 00:39:09:	in some fashion?
00:39:09> 00:39:12:	I think community engagement is a skill.
00:39:12> 00:39:16:	It's it's difficult. You have to.
00:39:16> 00:39:20:	You know, kind of communicate in a way that builds
00:39:20> 00:39:20:	trust.
00:39:20> 00:39:22:	As David was saying, forms.
00:39:22> 00:39:27:	Partnerships identifies people that are already working in the Community
00:39:28> 00:39:31:	and sort of piggybacking on their work right,
00:39:31> 00:39:35:	rather than trying to develop your own in some ways
00:39:35> 00:39:39:	and really starting to speak to the Community as true
00:39:39> 00:39:42:	partners and true collaborators in the work.
00:39:42> 00:39:46:	So all of the proposals that we came up with.
00:39:46> 00:39:50:	We're very much through brainstorming with the community,
00:39:50> 00:39:53:	and so I think that engagement at the start of
00:39:53> 00:39:54:	a project is important.
00:39:54> 00:39:57:	It's also important during the project,
00:39:57> 00:40:01:	a lot of our build activities were done in partnership
00:40:01> 00:40:02:	with community members,
00:40:02> 00:40:04:	and then after the project,
00:40:04> 00:40:09:	it's really important for us as designers and planners to
00:40:09> 00:40:12:	understand that transparency is paramount.
00:40:12> 00:40:17:	Great sort of understanding or communicating the effect or
••••••	the
00:40:17> 00:40:21:	impact of the work is clearly important to community that
00:40:21> 00:40:25:	oftentimes gets bombarded with a lot of engagement,
00:40:25> 00:40:28:	but not a lot of results right?

00:40:28 --> 00:40:31: And so there's a lot of engagement party in that 00:40:31 --> 00:40:32: respect, 00:40:32 --> 00:40:35: and it's important to follow through. 00:40:38 --> 00:40:41: I'm I am AM. 00:40:41 --> 00:40:46: I'm I'm not certain that my response really answered your 00:40:46 --> 00:40:46: question, 00:40:46 --> 00:40:50: and I guess it's been cause. 00:40:50 --> 00:40:56: I keep seeing this effort as a response to. 00:40:56 --> 00:40:59: An ongoing problem. 00:40:59 --> 00:41:05: We've done I, I think a magnificent job in addressing. 00:41:05 --> 00:41:09: The results of. 00:41:09 --> 00:41:14: Systematic problems that have existed and I don't know if 00:41:14 --> 00:41:15: it's possible, 00:41:15 --> 00:41:19: but what I'd like for these types of initiatives to 00:41:19 --> 00:41:23: look at is the causes the causes of these these 00:41:23 --> 00:41:24: problems. 00:41:24 --> 00:41:30: There the reasons why minority communities were more greatly impacted 00:41:30 --> 00:41:32: by the pandemic is. 00:41:32 --> 00:41:37: Be cause of lower medium incomes. 00:41:37 --> 00:41:43: Insufficient wages, jobs that aren't. 00:41:43 --> 00:41:47: Up providing upward mobility and these are things that that 00:41:47 --> 00:41:50: restoration has continually struggled with. 00:41:52 --> 00:41:55: So I I would like I would challenge us to 00:41:55 --> 00:41:57: think about what can be done. 00:42:00 --> 00:42:02: Ahead of time, what can be done? 00:42:02 --> 00:42:08: What measures can be taken in advance of these types 00:42:08 --> 00:42:08: of? 00:42:08 --> 00:42:12: Matter is these types of problems having to be resolved 00:42:12 --> 00:42:15: and I'm I'm not sure what the answer is. 00:42:15 --> 00:42:18: I'm not sure how, how we how we address these 00:42:18 --> 00:42:19: things, 00:42:19 --> 00:42:23: but. Uhm? I think we need to think about how 00:42:23 --> 00:42:28: we can pull together our resources to resolve the causes 00:42:28 --> 00:42:30: of these problems. 00:42:30 --> 00:42:33: Even more so than addressing the results, 00:42:33 --> 00:42:36: which I think. Has been done really, 00:42:36 --> 00:42:40: really well by our team. 00:42:40 --> 00:42:43: But the the the causes still remain. 00:42:43 --> 00:42:48: The problems still remain, and those are things that that 00:42:48 --> 00:42:51: I'd like us to take a look at how we 00:42:51 --> 00:42:52: can really resolve.

00.40.57 > 00.40.04.	Trums are 1 thinks the other a weally exceptions to sink
00:42:57> 00:43:01: 00:43:01> 00:43:04:	Turn us, I think that's a really excellent point, and I was struck by something that Dan had in
00:43:04> 00:43:06:	his presentation,
00:43:06> 00:43:10:	which was the organizational chart that really started with the
00:43:10> 00:43:15:	Community groups at the top and put the facilitators at
00:43:15> 00:43:15:	the bottom.
00:43:15> 00:43:19: 00:43:19> 00:43:22:	And Dan a question for you is how this process
	might be replicable and in the future,
00:43:22> 00:43:26:	how it might serve a better definition of resiliency,
00:43:26> 00:43:30:	or when there are. Major disruptions to the status quo
00:43:30> 00:43:34:	and in response to their nests question.
00:43:34> 00:43:38:	Do you imagine or how do you imagine the a
00:43:38> 00:43:44:	process that could help address the actual causes rather than
00:43:44> 00:43:46:	just the outcomes?
00:43:46> 00:43:48:	Yeah, in some ways the model is relatively simple.
00:43:48> 00:43:52:	It's looking at people like their nest and Restoration Corporation
00:43:52> 00:43:54:	saying these guys know what they're doing.
00:43:54> 00:43:57:	Let's support them in whatever way we need it whenever
00:43:57> 00:43:58:	they way they need,
00:43:58> 00:44:01:	and so that means assembling a team of sometimes.
00:44:01> 00:44:04:	Maybe it's engineers, planners, designers with whatever.
00:44:04> 00:44:06:	Whatever it is that they actually called for.
00:44:06> 00:44:08:	So I think the model is replicable,
00:44:08> 00:44:11:	right? There are institutions throughout our city bids,
00:44:11> 00:44:16:	community development, corporations, membership groups that have been calling for
00:44:16> 00:44:17:	these kinds of help.
00:44:17> 00:44:19:	Very long time, this is something that we heard in
00:44:19> 00:44:20:	the Northwest Bronx,
00:44:20> 00:44:22:	our community partners said, you know,
00:44:22> 00:44:24:	I have been calling for this forever and now it's
00:44:24> 00:44:26:	like drinking from a fire hose.
00:44:26> 00:44:27:	We have so much so many services.
00:44:27> 00:44:29:	So how do we make sure that it doesn't just
00:44:29> 00:44:30:	feel like a firehose?
00:44:30> 00:44:32:	How do we make sure that it's part of the
00:44:32> 00:44:35:	culture of planning and development in the city that important
00:44:35> 00:44:38:	Community players like dyrness actually get the services and the
00:44:38> 00:44:39:	support that they need?
00:44:44> 00:44:47:	Thanks thanks Dan. You know as a as a wrap

00:44:47> 00:44:47:	up,
00:44:47> 00:44:50:	I think it's an interesting way to look at this.
00:44:50> 00:44:54:	You know everything that we've talked about I think has
00:44:54> 00:44:58:	gone so far beyond the traditional conversations around design.
00:44:58> 00:45:01:	It's talked about law, we've talked about finance,
00:45:01> 00:45:05:	public health, community, the importance of feeling safe and aligning
00:45:05> 00:45:09:	all of these services in service of community development.
00:45:09> 00:45:13:	And I think it's very important element Durness that you
00:45:13> 00:45:16:	added is that we also need to look very closely.
00:45:16> 00:45:20:	And address the causes, not just the outcomes and so
00:45:20> 00:45:23:	moving forward with this project you know,
00:45:23> 00:45:26:	Dan, you had said at the beginning this was a
00:45:26> 00:45:29:	6 initially conceived as six weeks print,
00:45:29> 00:45:32:	and now we're a year in and I just like
00:45:32> 00:45:34:	to ask the panelists.
00:45:34> 00:45:38:	In conclusion, what a successful outcome looks like to them
00:45:38> 00:45:40:	in this project.
00:45:40> 00:45:41:	And so I'll start Dan,
00:45:41> 00:45:44:	how about with you?
00:45:44> 00:45:46:	Yeah, one of the funny things about this project is
00:45:46> 00:45:49:	it was wonderful to build so much outs outside and
00:45:49> 00:45:50:	get to brag about the beautiful work.
00:45:50> 00:45:52:	But some of the things that I loved most where
00:45:52> 00:45:55:	some of those really hard and during challenges we have
00:45:55> 00:45:57:	a team that's trying to figure out how to deal
00:45:57> 00:45:59:	with an enduring rat in his station.
00:45:59> 00:46:01:	That's not. That's not something that you put in your
00:46:01> 00:46:02:	marketing materials,
00:46:02> 00:46:05:	but it's something that the community has wanted to deal
00:46:05> 00:46:06:	with for a very long time.
00:46:06> 00:46:09:	There's another group that's actually been collecting an inventory of
00:46:09> 00:46:11:	all of the vacant buildings in their neighborhood,
00:46:11> 00:46:13:	and now they can advocate around that.
00:46:13> 00:46:14:	They can say to the city.
00:46:14> 00:46:17:	Here's what we want to see different happening in our
00:46:17> 00:46:18:	neighborhood,
00:46:18> 00:46:20:	so it's the kind of less sexy projects for the
00:46:20> 00:46:22:	kinds of things that have been longstanding.
00:46:22> 00:46:25:	Those are the kinds of things that I consider to
00:46:25> 00:46:26:	be the great success of the project.

00:46:29 --> 00:46:31: Thank you, dear nest. 00:46:31 --> 00:46:34: I think we have to take what we've learned with 00:46:35 --> 00:46:38: regard to this pandemic and continue to apply it. 00:46:38 --> 00:46:41: I don't think things like this pandemic going to go 00:46:42 --> 00:46:42: away. 00:46:42 --> 00:46:46: I think we're going to have these types of challenges 00:46:46 --> 00:46:49: coming back to us time and time again and we 00:46:49 --> 00:46:52: have to think about how we set up our infrastructure 00:46:52 --> 00:46:56: for remote access. We have to think about just the 00:46:56 --> 00:46:59: way we maintain our facilities. 00:46:59 --> 00:47:01: We have to think about. 00:47:01 --> 00:47:05: The way we. 00:47:05 --> 00:47:06: I guess even just our our, 00:47:06 --> 00:47:11: our physical cleanliness and the other things that we've learned with regard to. 00:47:11 --> 00:47:12: 00:47:14 --> 00:47:18: Protecting ourselves against. 00:47:18 --> 00:47:22: These types of viruses and and and. 00:47:24 --> 00:47:28: Diseases that that we've had to deal with. 00:47:28 --> 00:47:34: So restoration is looking at rebuilding the entire block and 00:47:34 --> 00:47:39: what I've asked our development team to do is to 00:47:39 --> 00:47:42: think about how we need to rebuild. 00:47:42 --> 00:47:47: So that we are able to survive and continue to 00:47:47 --> 00:47:51: work in these types of environments, 00:47:51 --> 00:47:54: we also want to continue. Obviously our efforts to provide families in this Community 00:47:54 --> 00:48:02: with 00:48:02 --> 00:48:05: the ability to to save. 00:48:05 --> 00:48:07: So that they are able to. 00:48:10 --> 00:48:16: Just survive justifies it. We found that in many instances 00:48:16 --> 00:48:21: just having savings that you can rely on in in 00:48:21 --> 00:48:26: the event of an emergency or are critical and it 00:48:26 --> 00:48:31: is hard for us to understand the cause. 00:48:31 --> 00:48:35: I've never had to recently never had to. 00:48:38 --> 00:48:41: Suffer or or not be able to do something of 00:48:41 --> 00:48:45: consequence because I didn't have \$5 in my pocket. 00:48:45 --> 00:48:51: And this is the situation that many people in this 00:48:51 --> 00:48:54: community encounter so. 00:48:54 --> 00:48:57: I think that going forward a restoration needs to make 00:48:57 --> 00:49:01: sure that we're prepared for these types of situations in 00:49:01 --> 00:49:03: order to function properly, 00:49:03 --> 00:49:06: and we have to bring our programming to scale so

00:49:06> 00:49:09:	that we are able to assist more people in the
00:49:09> 00:49:12:	Community in ways that they desperately need.
00:49:12> 00:49:15:	And as I said, I don't think that these types
00:49:15> 00:49:17:	of situations are going to go away,
00:49:17> 00:49:21:	and I think now that we're better prepared to deal
00:49:21> 00:49:24:	with him and to continue with our efforts to support.
00:49:24> 00:49:27:	And rebuild the community.
00:49:31> 00:49:35:	Thank you for that Arizona.
00:49:35> 00:49:39:	Thanks Ernest for me success in this project is to
00:49:39> 00:49:44:	find solutions that aren't COVID Band-aids right that aren't just
00:49:44> 00:49:48:	trying to solve the problem at hand right now through
00:49:48> 00:49:50:	social distancing. So so on,
00:49:50> 00:49:54:	but rather get to the heart of the problem is
00:49:54> 00:49:56:	doing this was speaking,
00:49:56> 00:50:03:	you know, speaking about prior really developing partnerships and programs
00:50:03> 00:50:05:	and proposals that can.
00:50:05> 00:50:10:	You know, really create vibrant public spaces in the community,
00:50:10> 00:50:13:	creates local artists, murals you know,
00:50:13> 00:50:17:	memorials, ways to build, capacity for the community,
00:50:17> 00:50:22:	and build social resiliency so that you know the community
00:50:22> 00:50:26:	can really come together in a way unprecedented way.
00:50:26> 00:50:30:	For for perhaps the next disaster.
00:50:30> 00:50:32:	And so it's important, I think,
00:50:32> 00:50:35:	to plan and prepare and develop capacity.
00:50:37> 00:50:40:	Thank you for that and David.
00:50:40> 00:50:43:	Yeah, I think I just want to echo what you
00:50:43> 00:50:46:	know for as an Internet source saying I think you
00:50:46> 00:50:46:	know success.
00:50:46> 00:50:49:	For me, probably looks like just continued engagement and and
00:50:49> 00:50:52:	recognizing that you know there's always going to be more
00:50:52> 00:50:53:	work to do,
00:50:53> 00:50:55:	and you're never going to reach a point where you're
00:50:55> 00:50:56:	saying this is done.
00:50:56> 00:51:01:	You and I were talking earlier today about how.
00:51:01> 00:51:03:	We are a lot of people are talking about a
00:51:03> 00:51:05:	return to normal and how do we get back to
00:51:05> 00:51:06:	normal and pre COVID?
00:51:06> 00:51:08:	But what this is kind of exposed that there's a
00:51:08> 00:51:11:	lot of communities that probably that normal never really

existed.

00:51:11 --> 00:51:14: And Dan there's probably something they don't really want to 00:51:14 --> 00:51:15: go back to. 00:51:15 --> 00:51:17: They want to look forward and so how can this 00:51:17 --> 00:51:20: be kind of transformational in terms of community, 00:51:20 --> 00:51:23: building an and sort of relationship creation so that we 00:51:23 --> 00:51:25: can continue to kind of keep working on this on 00:51:25 --> 00:51:28: this project since it's going to be an ongoing effort 00:51:28 --> 00:51:28: for many years so. Thank you for that. And with that I'd like to 00:51:32 --> 00:51:35: 00:51:35 --> 00:51:39: thank Dan Farzona Dear Nest and David for their continued 00:51:39 --> 00:51:43: work and participation in the neighborhoods now projects and the Urban Land Institute for hosting this session. 00:51:43 --> 00:51:46:

00:51:46 --> 00:51:49: Thank you very much.

00:51:49 --> 00:51:51: Thank you. **00:51:51 --> 00:51:51:** Thank you.

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