



# One-Stop-Shop for Permitting Assistance

Working Waterfront Task Force

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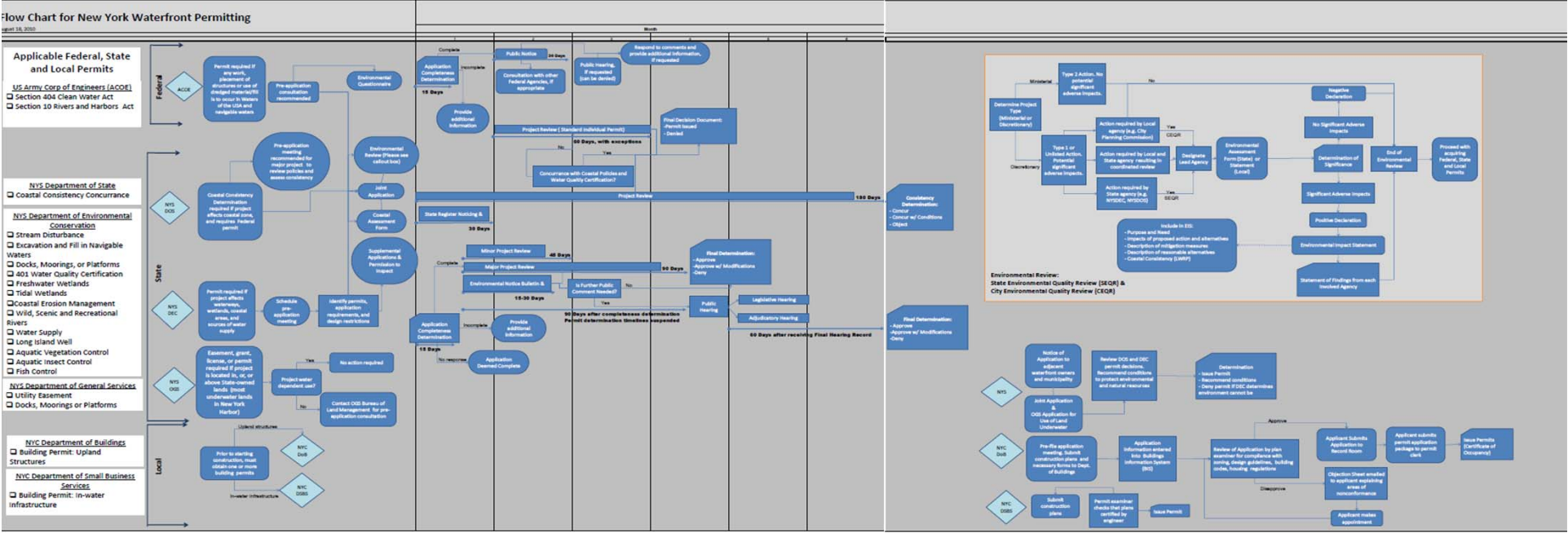


## Background

- MWA 2008 Task Force Meetings
  - Resounding Theme: Waterfront permitting process is broken
- MWA April 2010: *Improving Waterfront Permitting in the NYNJ Estuary*
- Mayor's Waterfront Vision and Enhancement Strategy in March, 2011
  - Maritime, Infrastructure and Permitting Committee



# The Permitting Process for Joint Application Permits





## How the Permitting Process is Broken

### Applicant

- Access to information
- Expect predictable processes
- Understand the rationale for decisions

### Regulator

- Understaffed & overworked
- Majority of applications lower quality

### Public

- Engagement early and often
- Ensure compliance w/ environmental standards



## What is the One-Stop-Shop

- A Website
- Central Location for Accessing Multi-Agency Permitting and Regulatory Information
- New Guidance Documents for Preparing Applications
- A Person who Picks Up the Phone
- An Advocate

### More Advanced Systems

- Online Portal for Submitting and Reviewing Applications
- Real Time Review of Applications



## Potential Content Development

- Project Questionnaire
- Project Handbook
- Application checklist
- Permit Flow Charts
- Guidance for site map and drawings for an application to be considered complete
- Drawings checklist
- Wetland Mitigation guidance and “compensation equation”
- Collective glossary of terms



## Potential Permit Assistance Services

- Answer basic questions
- Reviews and provides feedback on applications
- Translates technical language
- Coordinates review with resource agencies
- Expedites complex, multi-agency projects
- Mediates disputes
- Act as a broker for dredging and/or mitigation projects



## Discussion Questions

1. What content and online resources would be most useful?
2. What types of permitting assistance would be most useful?
3. How do we secure ongoing funding for the One-Stop?
4. Where should permitting assistance be housed?